

EAST WHITELAND TOWNSHIP HISTORICAL COMMISSION

MINUTES

February 15, 2023

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was conducted in-person at the Township Building. It was convened by Jeff Dore at 7:05 PM

MEMBERS ATTENDING- Peter Spengeman, Nancy Dore, Jeff Dore, Mark Keilbaugh, Nick Groch and Reuben Garrett. No Township staff attended.

NEW BUSINESS and STAFF REPORTS

1. Minutes of January 18, 2023– The minutes were reviewed and approved.
2. Chester County History Center. Jeff passed out membership cards for the Chester County History Center . All members may enter and photograph pages or clippings from sources at no charge until the renewal date November 11, 2023. There are a number of discounts available plus passes for guests. Peter reported that it was an excellent research experience with staff assisting and providing possible resources

OLD BUSINESS

1. Ebenezer AME Church(plaque, building stabilization). The majority of the meeting was spent on this topic.
 - a) The members discussed and finalized one proposal for the wording of the sign with a reduction in # of characters. Mark agreed to post the wording on the sign template, Peter will forward to the church officials, Pastor April Martin and Bertha Jackmon for input.
 - b) Mark advised that he had reached out to Zach to contact the Developer regarding any unusual objects or artifacts that surface during excavation of the housing plots.
 - c) Goals include clearing the “jungle”, seeking a way to rebuild the fence completely, and buttressing and bracing the structure, cap and point the stonework, roofing. Etc. All members, because of the development and funds/work being invested into the structure, supported the concept of a new fence. Resources may include the church diocese, a Go fund Me page, township and/or the Developer. There needs to be an approach to the Developer. Nick shared that his

father was willing to write grants for funds and requested materials on the history of the church to get started.

2. Town Tours and Village Walks- Jeff clarified that he had communicated with Laura DeMatteo from the county and advised her we would not be doing it this year. He emphasized we were not set up to run a tour, but the commission agrees that we should shoot for next year.
3. Newsletter- Mark is looking for resources for the next one.
4. Gunkle Mill – Jeff updated the Members on future work on the flume and Ben Hassett's schedule.

The meeting adjourned at 8:15
PM

Respectfully submitted,

Peter Spengeman, Secretary