

EAST WHITELAND TOWNSHIP HISTORICAL COMMISSION

MINUTES June 21, 2023

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was conducted in-person at the Township Building. It was convened by Jeff Dore at 7:00PM

MEMBERS ATTENDING- Peter Spengeman, Jeff Dore, Nancy Dore, Mark Keilbaugh, Nick Groch, Sylvia Baker.

NEW BUSINESS and STAFF REPORTS

1. Minutes of May 19, 2023– The minutes were reviewed and approved with minor changes.
2. August Meeting- Jeff announced that Nick will chair the next meeting as he will be away.
3. Juneteenth Presentation – Members felt that the Bertha Jackmon and Tia Manon did a great job in discussing the history of the Ebenezer AME church and received an excellent reception by Township officials. It is believed this will benefit both the church's and the commission's efforts to maintain and improve on thi historic resource.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Ebenezer AME Church(plaque, building stabilization.
 - a) Fence, Building Stabilization and Property- Peter was on a zoom with Pastor April Martin with the AME Diocese and they appropriated an additional \$5000 for ongoing landscaping with the fence and other projects also on the list. It was decided that a new fence was better than an old, repaired fence and if the church would wait there may be additional sources of funding to purchase and install it. This will be reported to the church. Nick spoke of his desire to convince contractors to do work labor free and that now was a good time to seek additional resources. Orange construction fence will be placed around the foundation during work, and should allay concerns about living with current inadequate fencing for a few more months. Mark

will be approaching John Neild from the Township for access to plain fill that could be used for the construction bridge from the road.

Nick's estimate for the fence

- b) Plaque - Mark Keilbaugh reported on progress. The plaque should be ready and delivered by the second half of July.
2. Gunkle Mill – Jeff reported that he will be involved with the ADA project at the Mill the first couple of weeks in July. He will be obtaining building permits as necessary for the ramp area. The Eagle Scouts are involved with the Carriage House as well as Township Property Head John Neild.
3. Newsletter- Mark reported on latest progress . He indicated there is a small waiting list now for inclusion presently.

The meeting adjourned at 8:25 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Peter Spengeman, Secretary