

East Whiteland Township Historical Commission

EAST WHITELAND TOWNSHIP HISTORICAL COMMISSION MINUTES

October 21, 2020

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was conducted virtually via Zoom, and the meeting was convened by Jeff Dore, chair by 7:00 PM

ATTENDING: Zach Barner and Brittany Carosello, Township Planning; Members- Jeff Dore, Nancy Dore, Peter Spengeman, Sylvia Baker, Mark Keilbaugh. Guests: Mark Thompson and Gerry O'Connor.
Members Not Attending: Kurt Ulrich, Ian Scott, Terri Schatz.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **Review & Approve Minutes** from September 6, 2020- The Minutes were approved with a couple of language changes
2. Review of Proposal for 86 Townhomes to be built at old Bishop Tube site, adjacent to Old Friends Cemetery on Malin Road. Presentation by Mark Thompson and Gerry O'Connor, Developers. In this first discussion of this development, the Commission raised objection to the road expansion which would reduce space next to cemetery wall, and thus make the cite more vulnerable. Nancy questioned why the road could not be modified on the Bishop Tube side of the road. After discussion Mr. Campbell and Mr. Thompson agreed to rework the proposal. As the townhouses will be adjacent to the graveyard, they also promised to provide what history they could regarding the cemetery and Friends to the Commission. They said that the Dept of Environmental Protection is reviewing remediation measures and soil cleanup, and that no construction would begin until decontamination is complete. Developers agreed to provide documentation at a future meeting.
3. Mark discussed his willingness to develop a downloadable online newsletter relating to the history of the township and commission work, which hopefully would be issued quarterly. He hoped that the first newsletter would come

out in January. The Commission enthusiastically agreed and supported his efforts.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Jeff reported that Gunkle Mill is moving forward. Bids to dredge silt and build retaining wall came in at double the cost, so two options remain:
 - i. Leave wall as is.
 - ii. Use cinder block for the structure.

He also reported that this work is projected for the spring.. The DEP permit was obtained. The wheel has been built and will be transported to Kentucky for storage.

2. AME Cemetery. Nothing new to report other than the Peter will be part of a "Hallowed Ground" podcast this Saturday to learn about the many African
3. Zach informed the Committee that Stevens Antiques/Stonebridge will be undergoing renovations as is the 29 Restaurant , with whom we met with a few months back.
4. Another discussion regarding the ruin of a residence and spring house on Lapp around the corner from Old Morehall took place. It was believed that it would be beneficial for the Commission to learn more about this house. There was belief that it was the home of a Samuel Coffman.
5. Update on St. Gobain Ashlawn Property #81- Zach reported that there was no knowledge of any Improvements or work being done on this property. Peter said the architect agreed to get back to the commission regarding a stone wall being built on the front of the house.
6. Jeff reminded everyone of the borax and cleanup work date at Gunkle Mill this coming Saturday.
7. The Township purchased 50 Evans/Schatz Township histories for officials and interested parties.

Respectfully submitted,

Peter Spengeman, Recorder