

EAST WHITELAND TOWNSHIP HISTORICAL COMMISSION

MINUTES

August 17, 2022

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was conducted in-person with masking optional, and at the Township building. It was convened at 7 PM by Peter Spengeman, in place of Chair Jeff Dore, who is on vacation with member Nancy Dore.

MEMBERS ATTENDING- Sylvia Baker, Rueben Garrett, Peter Spengeman, Mark Keilbaugh, and Nick Groch, who was ill, but participated by phone.

EW STAFF ATTENDING- Zach Barner.

Guests: None

NEW BUSINESS

1. Minutes of July 22, 2022– The minutes taken were approved with a couple of changes.

STAFF REPORTS

1. Sign at Linden Hall- It was mentioned that the new Linden Hall sign, previously reviewed by the HC, was up. Members were genuinely pleased with it.
2. Mill Lane Station- Historic Resource #130 42-4-67 -Zach reported that new development is proposed near the station location. First, there will be a new police barracks on township property, which does not appear to be within 200 feet of the Mill Lane station. Secondly, a four house subdivision will be built called Sycamore Ridge right next to it. It is believed that some of the properties will fall within 200 feet of of the former train station. There was a request from the HC to maintain or enhance a buffer between both projects and the Mill Lane Station, maintaining trees, etc. The Commission reported out that the new police barracks sounded unlikely to present a historic resource issue. Zach agreed to return with further information .

OLD BUSINESS

1. Richardson House- Historical Resource #82- @ the formerly 99 Church Road Now #1 Sweetwater Way. It was reported that Zach and the Homeowner, Mr. Pope, met and he had been updated on the situation following the last Commission meeting.
2. Newsletter – Mark reported that he is looking for new topics on historical properties. He mentioned that Chester County heritage day will take place on September 17, and that he will be present at a table sharing newsletters at the Paoli Battlefield site where there will be reenactments. Members on the Commission stated they will review different historic topics-small or large. Ben reported he spoke with Rusty Smith, who owns the historic barn on Swedesford Road , who would be willing to provide information about the barn.
3. Ebenezer church (plaque , building stabilization, fence)The wording for the plaque is waiting on some final research and we are trying to get into the CC Historical Society and with the AME Church to do so. Nick hopes to report at the Sept. meeting regarding the contractor who was willing to do some stabilization work on the building. He believes that the “ shaker” on the adjacent property likely stopped the activity that may have threatened the foundation of the church. There is currently some foundation rubble present. There was extended discussion about the need to finish the fence but until cost or volunteer labor can be addressed it will still have openings in it.
4. Gunkle's Mill (ADA , maintenance) Ben reported the name of potential resource for mill work- a potential electrician who may donate his services.
5. Other issues- Jeff and Nancy are unavailable for normal September meeting date, which has been moved to Tuesday, September 27 at 7 so they can be.

The meeting adjourned at 8:35 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Peter Spengeman, Secretary

