

Kennett Township Historical Commission

801 Burrows Run Road
Chadds Ford, PA 19317
www.kennett.pa.us



January 28, 2020

Commission Members Present: Jim Jacoby, Denise Klein, Diane McGovern, Sara Meadows, Judy Merhar, Fredda Pennock, Ed Rahme

Members: Absent: Lars Farmer, Jay Hughes

Visitors: Karen Marshall, Carolyn Roland, Scott Meadows (Sara's grandson who is a Boy Scout working towards a merit badge)

MINUTES

Sara opened the Meeting at 7:10pm in the Public Meeting Room

1. The minutes of the November 26, 2019 meeting were accepted with no changes. (There was no December meeting)

2. Treasurer's Report:

Fredda spoke to Amy, the Township's new Finance Director and reported:

- 2.1 \$3,200 had been approved for the 2020 budget.
- 2.2 \$1,200 had been requested, to cover CCHPN dues, our annual program and money for our joint effort with KURC to place a marker at the Pines.
- 2.3 A grant match of \$2000 for the Brandywine Battlefield marker was added.
- 2.4 The proposal for further investigation into the Isaac Allen House has been put on hold.
- 2.5 CCHPN dues for 2020 were paid in 2019, so our Current Balance: is \$3200.
- 2.6 Sara announced that she had been informed that plans for the Pines marker have been canceled for this year.
- 2.7 She also informed us that when the Battlefield marker has been installed, that project should end up as no cost to the Township.

3. Board of Supervisors Meeting

- 3.1 Sara reported that Bob Wise has been invited to attend the February 19th, BOS meeting to describe his proposal for the investigation of the Isaac Allen House.

4. Sub-Committee Reports

- 4.1 **Annual Program** – Fredda contacted Seth Hinshaw. He will be available to speak on barns. Alternatively, he can speak to the historic characteristics of historic architecture in order to date buildings.
Commission voted unanimously to have Seth talk about dating architecture.

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5. KTHC Business

- 5.1 **The Pines** – Sara reported: no new activity. The Commission asked Karen Marshall to have a discussion with the Township regarding the status of the use of the Pines and whether or not a sign could be created for the property.
 - 5.2 **Spar Hill Farm** – Diane reported that, at this time, no plan is in place for the demolition of the buildings. She added that demolition will likely be put on hold until next year.
 - 5.3 **Stonehouse** – Jim is in charge of this project. He will research to find a manufacturer for the marker and will submit his ideas along with proposed costs to fabricate the marker to Bentley Homes (the developer) for their approval.
6. **Clifton Mill** – Brandywine Battlefield Marker. Karen suggested that the Commission approach TLC (The Land Conservancy for Southern Chester County) and ask that they meet with the owner of the property to consider an easement to create a pocket park for the marker and pedestrian bridge to view Clifton Mill and its surrounding landscape.
 7. The question was raised: If the Township has open space funds, who in the Township should the Commission approach to fund the pocket park? Denise, Jim and Ed have been involved with this project and Denise was assigned the task of pursuing the project by contacting Jeff Yetter (of the LCAC– Land Conservation Advisory Committee to discuss the possibility of creating a location for the marker and the pocket park.
 8. Sara asked for a volunteer to attend the Municipal Historic Leadership meeting on February 8th. There were no volunteers so Sara will contact Lars and ask him to attend as KTHC's representative.
 9. Diane reported that former Chatham Financial CEO, Mike Bontrager's new organization, Voices Underground, (a sub group of his Square Roots organization) hired Greg Thompson to research the Underground Railroad in the area. Karen Marshall recommended that we let the Kennett Borough Heritage Center take the lead on coordination with Mr. Thompson to learn the goals for this new research.
 10. Diane reported that the small house, the Marshall Mill House, owned by TLC is being renovated. Sara will contact the Township permit department to make sure they are aware of the work being done.
 11. Sara shared a request received from the current owner of the Walter farmhouse at Stonehouse. The plans created by the developer show the removal of the back porch. The owner, Dominique Lapp, asked if it could be kept. Karen suggested that he needed to

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create new plans for review. Because of his expertise, Sara asked Ed to examine the plans and contact the owner to discuss the idea. The plans are filed with the building permit at the Township.

12. Sara will work with the Township to establish specific times for access to the History Room collection and to determine a new KTHC meeting time and/or location.
13. Because it was almost 9pm, election of KTHC officers was postponed until next month's meeting.

END MINUTES

The meeting was adjourned at 8:54 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ed Rahme, Secretary