

Kennett Township Historical Commission

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



June 25, 2019

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

Members: Absent: Lars Farmer, Jay Hughes, Denise Klein

Visitors: Paul Fritsch, Tracy Bhalla, Carolyn Roland

MINUTES

Sara opened the Meeting at 7:06pm

1. The minutes of the April 23, 2019 meeting were accepted with the following changes:
Treasurer's Report – Historic Preservation Network *Workshop*

2. **Treasurer's Report:**

Fredda reported the following expenses: \$250 Program and \$85 for dues for CCHPN membership.

Current Balance: \$1480.00

3. **Board of Supervisors Meeting:**

3.1 Sara reported no new information

4. **Sub-Committee Reports:**

4.1 **Annual Program** - Discussion of changing the timing of the program to the fall – May tends to be dense with activities – graduations, weddings, etc. Judy suggested that the annual program address the Fran Furness house on Route 82 – recently restored after a fire. No decisions were made

5. **KTHC Business**

5.1 **The Cox Tenant House** – Nothing new to report.

5.2 **The Pines** - Nothing new to report. We discussed possible uses for the building.

5.3 **Spar Hill Farm** – Breckstone Architecture completed a “Condition and Recommendation Report at the request of the Township. The conclusions were that the “should the site be repurposed” retaining 8 buildings and demolishing 16 buildings. (A copy of the report is available in the History Room) There was mention of a possible buyer for the house, some of the farm buildings and 10 +/- acres. This idea was

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discussed after Sara brought up her questions and concerns about how that subdivision would affect the amount and quality of public space; access to the public areas; what areas would become private space; the location of a new entrance and the potential cost to the Township. There are no definite plans for a potential subdivision yet, so no conclusion – just discussions at this time. The next Spar Hill Farm committee meeting is scheduled for July 15, 2019.

- 5.4 **Isaac Allen House** – Regarding RGA’s proposal for a structural investigation of the Isaac Allen House, Sara has communicated with both Chatham Financial and their real estate attorney. She reported that liability insurance for both parties connected with the investigative proposal, (Bob Wise, of RGA and Norman Glass) has been updated and if funding is approved by the BOS, work can begin immediately. The estimated cost is \$6400. Sara reported that this is a first phase for the restoration /preservation of the house. Decisions and agreements will have to be made and funding will have to be secured before any work is done. This investigation will provide information that will help the Township make decisions about the future of the house. Sara will present a request for funding for this current proposal at the next BOS meeting on July 17th.
- 5.5 **John Proud House** – Mike Pia’s house - The addition is under construction.
- 5.6 **Stonehouse** (formally the Sweetbriar townhome development at five points) – The James Walter farmhouse has been sold and repairs to the exterior have begun. The new owner is looking to scale back the alterations which the developers had planned.
- 5.7 **Stonehouse** - Jim Jacoby showed us his draft drawing of the proposed marker describing the history of the house which will be placed at the development, as was agreed when the development plans were approved.

END MINUTES

The meeting was adjourned at 8:06 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Ed Rahme, Secretary