

SCHUYLKILL TOWNSHIP HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Minutes of Meeting - July 21, 2014

Members Present: Sandy Momyer, Ginny Stearly, Joann Brown, Khalil Hihi, Dianne Cram

Minutes from the May meeting were approved.

Announcements:

September 10th there will be a presentation at Phoenixville Country Club by Mike McGrath on mulching.

November 1st will be Schuylkill Township Founders Day.

Phoenixville Area School District

Andrew Billwoar and Stan Johnson presented preliminary plans for the proposed elementary school that will be built on the Meadowbrook Golf Club land. The plan includes a 152,000 sq. ft. building, athletic fields, play grounds and maintenance buildings. The historic house may be adapted as a maintenance office and the existing barn used for equipment storage. An open space area is proposed for the area around the tributary to the Pickering Creek.

60 Diamond Rock Road

Property owner Peter Bigalon and contractor Donald Eckerd presented their plans and photographs explaining the need to remove a deteriorating addition on the side of the house. The addition appeared to be a circa 1920s frame structure and will be replaced with a new structure similar in size and compatible with the existing historic house. The property is surveyed as Class 2. There were no objections from the Historical Commission.

Survey and Atlas Project

The Board of Supervisors has approved the amendment to the historical overlay map. Letters to all property owners will be sent out shortly. An article will be prepared for the Township newsletter.

Two historic property owners, Freedoms Foundation and Phoenixville Area School District, have expressed that they want to remove their properties from the survey. The wording of the ordinance allows for a property owner to petition for an "opt out". Discussion followed concerning the "opt out" provision but no clear definition or resolution was arrived at.

Schuylkill School Plaque

Sandy presented a draft of the wording for the plaque. It will include an image of Mr. Foster and the school. Sandy asked that we review it and give her comments before our next meeting. Interpretive Graphics is the company chosen to make the plaque. There is \$3000 available in the budget for this project.