

SCHUYLKILL TOWNSHIP HISTORICAL COMMISSION
MINUTES OF MEETING
NOVEMBER 16, 2015

MEMBERS PRESENT: John Gregory, Khalil Hihi, David Kiefer, Sandy Momyer, Ginny Stearly, Jay Stearly

THERE WAS A QUORUM FOR THIS MEETING

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS: Barbara Cohen, Martha Majewski, Fred Parry

STAFF PRESENT: Mary Bird, Township Manager, Marc Faulkner, Building Inspector/Code Enforcement

OTHERS PRESENT: Dorothy Bedford, Craig Conover, Kim Kopple, Mike Meehan, Bill Pennewell

Sandy Momyer, Chair, called the meeting to order at 7 p.m.

MINUTES: Motion to approve minutes for September meeting was made by G. Stearly and seconded by K. Hihi. Vote all ayes. September minutes approved.

The October minutes were questioned by B. Cohen. We will check with Dianne Cram who was absent from this meeting and discuss at the December meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS –

- November 17 – SRHC – Superintendent of VF Park presentation at 7:30 p.m.

REPORTS – Marc Faulkner, Building Inspector/Code Enforcement, gave an update on a list of properties that have been on the agenda of the Historical Commission, some for up to six years. A list of the properties and the ensuing discussions is attached to these minutes. There are action items to be attended to as well. All will be followed through for discussion at the December meeting.

TROLLEY STATION UPDATE –

- a. S. Momyer reported that the Board of Supervisors approved \$7,000 for the contract to complete the current proposed work to the Trolley Station including the electrical connections. The \$3,000 not used in the 2015 budget has been added to the 2016 proposed budget to give us \$13,000.
- b. A report from the contractor states that the electrical work should be completed this week and is awaiting inspection
- c. S. Momyer attended a TAP grant meeting to learn about funding for Valley Park. We don't qualify for this money but other sources of funding were discussed such as the Schuylkill Highlands, PECO Green, and the Phoenixville Health Foundation.
- d. Mary Bird is forming a Task Force including the EAC, the Supervisors and the Historical Commission, to work on the planning of the Trolley Station and Valley Park. Each will have two representatives. J. Gregory made a motion to recommend S. Momyer

and D. Cram as our two representatives. The motion was seconded by K. Hihi. Vote all ayes.

PASD/MEADOW BROOK BARN – D. Dram spent the morning with Greg Huber, a state barn expert, examining the barn on the Meadow Brook property. She will report on this review in December.

OLD BUSINESS

- a. S. Momyer reported that 2015 Founders Day was a success and has built a dialogue with the Schuylkill Quaker Meeting that we will pursue. We will work with them to secure a roadway sign via the state.
- b. S. Momyer reported that the Board of Supervisors has a proposed budget that is expected to pass at its meeting on December 2. There is no increase in taxation. They also will be stressing securing grant monies for projects in the future.
- c. The Historic Commission would like to recommend Dorothy Bedford to a position on the commission. She has attended several meetings, submitted an impressive resume of her work and we have had the opportunity to interview her. S. Momyer made a motion that Dorothy Bedford be recommended to the Board of Supervisors to fill the position left vacant by Pam Applegate-Frasch. The motion was seconded by D. Kiefer. Vote all ayes. Sandy will write the recommendation to the Board for its approval.
- d. Schuylkill Freedom Trail – G. Stearly and B. Cohen reported that progress is being made and they will be meeting on December 6.
- e. S. Momyer reported that the Nolen Development is moving forward with 10 acres to be developed and 19 acres being given to the Township.
- f. S. Momyer will work on the narrative for the Mill Wheel monument

NEW BUSINESS

- a. The Historical Commission approved the Meeting Calendar for 2016 with the same two changes as in 2015. The January and February meetings will move to new dates due to national holidays falling on the regularly scheduled dates. We will meet on January 25 at 6:30 p.m. before the Open Space Committee and on February 22 at the regular time.
- b. Reappointments for the Commission are needed for S. Momyer, D. Cram, J. Stearly and G. Stearly. K. Hihi made a motion to approve reappointment of these members. The motion was seconded by J. Gregory. Vote all ayes.
- c. S. Momyer reported that Chris Densmore, Quaker Archivist at the Swarthmore College Library will be our speaker for the June 9 program at the Phoenixville Club. We will get the word out to a broad community to attempt to increase our audience.

Meeting adjourned 8:45 p.m. Motion by G. Stearly, seconded by J. Gregory. All ayes.

Next meeting is scheduled for Monday, December 21, 2015, 7 p.m., Municipal Building.
Minutes prepared and submitted by,
Sandy Momyer, Chair

