

**WEST WHITELAND TOWNSHIP
HISTORICAL COMMISSION
MINUTES
August 10, 2020**

MEMBERS PRESENT: John Kabli, Joe McCormick, John Prendergast, Jonathan Martin, Roberta Eckman

TOWNSHIP STAFF: Justin Smiley, Township Planner
Phil Yocum, Historic Consultant, Commonwealth Heritage Group
Joshua Anderson, Board Liaison

I. Call to Order – the meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. Due to the Coronavirus pandemic, the meeting was held virtually, via Zoom. The meeting was open to the public with the Zoom link listed on the agenda posted on the Township’s website.

II. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

III. Old Business

1. Applicant: Lochiel Farm – Historical Interpretive Sign Review

Loralynne Yost presented the draft interpretive sign for review. All Commission members felt it was a great effort and thanked Ms. Yost for her work.

After much discussion regarding details of the sign, the following was agreed upon:

- The Hunt picture will be kept in color (as opposed to black and white) provided the pixels allow, and if not, a second picture will be added.
- The word “demolished” will be added to the text regarding the Harness Shop
- Language regarding the “trough” will be deleted as neither pictures nor details of how this actually functioned could be found – Ms. Yost will research the “trough” further to see if she can find more clarification on this.
- “1911-32” will be changed to “1911-38” as it was discovered that Livingston still owned the property in 1938.
- Ms. Yost will research further on the origin of the name “Lochiel” for addition to the sign
- A link to the Township’s website will be added to the sign for those who wish to discover more about the site.
- “Male” or “boys” will be added to the Church Farm School dormitory text
- The location of the pictures of the Harness Shop and the Mansion will be switched
- Pictures will be outlined with a thin black border
- Date of the residential development construction will be added to the sign
- The sign will be two-sided, will be erected straight up and down as opposed to “table top” so as to minimize fading and deterioration, and will be located behind the Historic Conservation Area on the way to the proposed tot lot.

Ms. Yost will make the recommended changes for the September 14 meeting agenda if time allows. If not, she will email the revisions to Mr. Smiley for distribution to the Commission members for their review.

IV. Approval of Minutes for July 13, 2020

Motion: To approve the minutes of July 13, 2020 (McCormick/Martin)

Vote: Passed, 4-0-1 (Eckman abstained)

V. Historical Commission Concerns

Ms. Eckman advised that Janice Earley has made a video of the history of the Township (a virtual tour) and is looking for volunteers to read various script passages for the video. The Commission members as well as Mr. Anderson and Mr. Yocum all volunteered to help.

Mr. McCormick noted damage incurred at the Newlin Grist Mill in the recent storm. There was discussion of more storms forecast and the need to keep watch on the various historic resources within the Township.

Mr. Kabli noted that a good job was done on the Malvern Federal building blending the old and new sections together. Mr. McCormick said it was great to see the multi-modal trail to the Exton Train Station nearing completion.

Mr. Yocum gave an update on the historic survey project. He said Ms. Strawley is still waiting for word from PHMC that the formatting is compatible with PHMC standards, and she expected to start surveying properties in the next 1-2 weeks. It was pointed out that the Township needs to move forward on this project with or without the State's blessing. Mr. Smiley said that Jeannine Speirs is also reaching out to Corey Kegerise, with PHMC, to encourage a more rapid response.

Mr. Kabli discussed the future of farms in light of the COVID-19 pandemic.

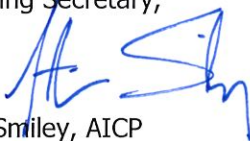
A visit to the Arrandale Barn is scheduled for August 12, from 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT:

Motion: To adjourn the meeting. (McCormick/Martin)

Vote: Passed, 5-0

Recording Secretary,



Justin Smiley, AICP
Township Planner