



Springfield Township Historical Commission

FEBRUARY 16, 2021

MINUTES OF MEETING OF REGULAR MEETING

HC-12

ZOOM DIGITAL BROADCAST

NOTICE: The Historical Commission of Springfield Township is an advisory board appointed by the Board of Commissioners. The actions of the Historical Commission on any agenda items does not reflect a final decision. The Board of Commissioners must render the final decision on any agenda items

MEETING ATTENDEES

Name:

Name:

Scott Kreilick	Commission Chair	Joseph Devine	Commission Member
		Heather Snyder-Killinger	Commission Member
Al Comly	Commission Secretary	Baird Standish	Commissioner Liaison
Brandon Ford	Ass't to Township Mgr	Mark Penecale	Staff Liaison

In process of joining the call when it was terminated: Matthew Harris, David Sands

Guests: Chris Weth—interested party

- 1) **Call by Order by the Chairperson Kreilick**-Called to order at 6:04 PM by the Chair with roll taken.
- 2) **Approval of Minutes** from previous meeting (February 2, 2021). A motion for approval had been presented by Mr. Comly at which time the meeting was interrupted by "Zoom Bombers" who disrupted the meeting. This resulted in the meeting and the Zoom Link being terminated.
- 3) **Update by Board of Commissioners' Liaison** None
- 4) **Review of Agenda** No changes to the agenda

5) Discussion Items and Appropriate Action (“Previous Business” and “New Business” in earlier minutes).

HC-11.1 The primary agenda item was the presentation to property owners of potential list properties. While it was noted that only one such property owner was able to join the call, it was agreed that proceeding with the presentation was appropriate. Chair Scott Kreilick made the presentation, providing a brief introduction and highlighting the value of the program to the Township going forward.

- There are approximately 1600 structures in the Township built before the year 1920. The initial list was distilled to those properties listed in the Springfield Township Comprehensive Plan of 2015.
- Ordinance is intended to protect the historic integrity and character of the Township
- Ordinance is intended to create a benefit to listed property owners in the future use of their properties. The use of Special Exception in the ordinance places the burden on the Township to show why the use is not in keeping with the ordinance. If not listed, the owner would probably need to seek a Variance from the Zoning Hearing Board—meaning the burden of proof would then rest with the property owner for any use not currently dictated in the Zoning Ordinance
- Ordinance is not intended to get into control of colors and similar subjective issues. It will be expected that owners will maintain the properties to avoid deterioration of the property
- Owners will have access to prepared historical abstracts of their properties.

2021-02.16 Update—none, but it was noted that none of the invited property owners had responded to the invitations. No further presentations will be scheduled until a review of the process is done.

HC-11.2 Question was raised regarding the options to an owner of a property who initially opted out of the listing, then wishes to have their property listed. This question will be forwarded to the Township Solicitor for an opinion.

2021-02.16 Update—Township Solicitor's response received and is attached.

HC-10.2 Other publicity was discussed. Township newsletter (usually published in 3rd week of March), and The Chestnut Hill Local (willing to do a separate piece on the progress of the ordinance)

Update 2-2-2021: In process

Update 2-16-2021: No additional discussion

6) Citizen Comments *No guests at the meeting*

7) Assignment of Member Action Items

Mr. Penecale: follow-up on newsletter article and Chestnut Hill Local connection

- 8) **Agenda for next meeting** *All new agenda items shall be forwarded to Mr. Penecale at least one week prior to scheduled meeting date*

Continuation of discussion regarding how to “roll-out” this program to the public.

- 9) **Adjournment** Meeting terminated at approximately 6:10 PM due to “Zoom Bomb”. Next meeting will be March 2 at 6PM to discuss best means to move forward.

Respectfully Submitted

Albert M. Comly, Jr., AIA