



Springfield Township Historical Commission

JULY 6, 2021

MINUTES OF MEETING OF REGULAR MEETING

HC-17

Meeting held in the Conference Room at Springfield Township Building 1510 Paper Mill Road, Wyndmoor, PA 19038

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	Heather Snyder-Killinger	Commission Member
David Sands	Commission Member	Joseph Devine	Commission Member
Al Comly	Commission Secretary	Baird Standish	Board of Commissioners
		Mark Penecale	Staff Liaison

Not in Attendance: Matthew Harris, Commission Member, Brandon Ford, Asst Twp Mgr
 Guests: None

- 1) **Call by Order by the Chairperson Kreilick**-Called to order at 6:10 PM by the Chair with roll taken. It was noted this is the first in-person meeting since the Commission was formed
- 2) **Approval of Minutes** from previous meeting: June 1, 2021 (HC-16) motion by David Sands, second by Heather Killinger to accept--passed.
- 3) **Update by Board of Commissioners' Liaison: Nothing specific**
- 4) **Review of Agenda** No changes to the agenda

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

HC-17.1 Discussion continued from the June meeting as to how best to identify sites of interest in the Township, with the following noted:

- a) This might not be an official list, since that would require the approval of the Commissioners.**
- b) The “Official List” would be those properties where the owners had opted into the program.**
- c) How best to create awareness of development activities that might negatively affect a “property of historical interest”.**

HC-17.2 Discussion on the subject of retaining properties of interest when they are not on the “Official List” led to thought that the Historical Commission (HC) could be included in the distribution of submittals made to the Planning Commission (PC). Any response from the HC would be solely advisory—directed to the PC. The PC would be the determiner regarding inclusion of the HC comments in their recommendations to the Commissioners. This would present an opportunity to include the historical component in the review of submittals. Details would need to be developed to facilitate this approach

HC-16.1 Discussion with Mr. Denlinger regarding the inventory of sites (“the list”) and how it exists in the current ordinance. Summary points were:

- Ordinance talks about an “Official List”. Per the ordinance, this list is of property owners who have “opted in”. The property owner would “opt in”, there would then be a hearing with the Commission to determine if the site met the criteria to be on the list. With that determination, the property would then go to the Board of Commissioners (BOC) for approval and placement on “the list”.**
- The Historic Commission (HC) could have an informal or “preliminary” list, but any enforceable status would require the hearing and BOC approval. HC cannot be in a position of pre-determination of status without the property owner “opt-in” and the hearing—noting the HC is the body conducting the hearing.**
- Any change in the above to create a “protected list” or official list of significant properties would, in the solicitor’s opinion, require a revision to the ordinance.**

7/6/2021 Update: Discussed in items HC-17.1 and HC-17.2 above

HC-15.1 Various property owners have contacted Mr. Penecale relative to the ordinance. Other properties have come to Mr. Penecale’s attention as Township Zoning Officer. Where appropriate, information on the ordinance has been sent to the property owner and they have been invited to Historical Commission meetings:

809 Campbell Lane (Joyce Bullock) provided with information packet and attended ZOOM call 6-1-2021

7800 Gravers Lane Unofficially—property under agreement of sale that anticipates retention of the structure and no subdivision

8765 Montgomery Ave: Per Chestnut Hill Conservancy, property is to be placed for auction. No other specifics available

HC-14.1 Community Awareness--Primary discussion item was the need to formulate a course of action to move forward with the Commissions' task. Other means of publicizing the process were discussed including:

- Leveraging the Chestnut Hill Local article through wider distribution to Township residents
- Making personal contacts to the initially identified property owners
- Prepare a video that could be done using U-Tube. Other township commissions have done this. Township has the capability to prepare and air U-Tube. This might be coupled with other social media to engage more of the public in the process

6/1/2021 Update—no further action.

7/6/2021 Update—no further action—drop from future minutes

- 6) Citizen Comments** *None*
- 7) Assignment of Member Action Items** **None.**
- 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 and the compilation of the historic inventory.

- 9) Adjournment** Adjournment at 6:45 PM. Next meeting will be August 3 at 6PM to continue the discussion on the best means to move forward

Respectfully Submitted

Albert M. Comly, Jr., AIA
Secretary