



Springfield Township Historical Commission

May 7, 2024

MINUTES OF MEETING OF REGULAR MEETING

HC-41

Meeting held in the Caucus Room at the 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:	
David Sands	Commission Vice Chair	Heather Killinger-	Commission Member
Baird Standish	Commission Member		
Joseph Devine	Commission Member	Peter Wilson	Board of Commissioners
Al Comly	Commission Secretary	Mark Penecale	Staff Liaison

Not present: M. Harris, H Killinger

- 1) **Call by Order by the Chairperson** **Called to order at 6:05 PM by Vice-Chair David Sands. Roll was taken and absentees noted.**
- 2) **Approval of Minutes** **Meeting HC-40 (April 2, 2024) Motion by D. Sands, second by J Devine-approved**
- 3) **Update by Board of Commissioners' Liaison:** **Commissioner Pete Wilson will be serving as the New Liaison for the Board of Commissioners.**

Commissioner Wilson noted that not much had occurred in the intervening month that would impact the Historical Commission.

4) Review of Agenda

Mr. Penecale reported that there were no changes in status relative to Knipe (Willow Grove Ave) or Wild (Manor Road).

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

HC-41.1 Discussion of the historic preservation articles from a recent issue of CONTEXT (a magazine published by the Philadelphia Chapter of the American Institute of Architects). This article presented thoughts regarding the current state of historic preservation in the City, noting

- The City is looking at zoning as a tool to support preservation
- The City is still working to create an historic preservation inventory
- The City is looking to modify their eCLIPSE on-line permitting system to tag projects that would affect significant structures

HC-41.2 The discussion then returned to how best to move forward in Springfield Township. Continuing the discussion noted in item HC-40.1, there was consensus on the next steps:

- Continue with the integration of the historical review into the SALDO process. Mr. Devine offered comments to the Draft #4 (prepared by Mr. Penecale). These will be incorporated to create Draft #5—which will then be circulated.
- The issue of qualifying properties was discussed—with consensus favoring buildings constructed 1930 or prior, rather than using the 50 years from the date of submittal.
- Work needs to be done as to just what will be required as part of the SALDO submittal and what the impact of the designation means
- Next step will be to consider how this could be incorporated into the Zoning process, but only after the SALDO process has been finalized
- The Draft #5 (assuming that is the one) will then be forwarded to Mike Taylor (Twp Mgr) and from there to legal (Jim Garrity or Andy Fremuth). It will then go to the Planning Commission for their support, and if given it will be advertised before going to the Commissioners for their action. This part would occur as part of the other SALDO revisions that are being contemplated.

HC-40.1 Discussion of incorporation of preservation review into the SALDO continued, noting comments forwarded by Mr. Harris. Items HC-39.1 and HC-38.1 recorded earlier discussions on the matter—with HC-39.1 below identifying the primary points of that discussion. Summary points in the discussion were:

- a. Working to finalize the matter to have it incorporated in the SALDO
- b. Understanding what requirements would be included for that review. It was noted that this is similar to the review for shade trees, where, if certain conditions existed it would be forwarded to the HC, for example:

1 Property older than 50 years from the date of submittal

- 2 Property had some significance in or to the township—likely working with the PHMC criteria (architectural style, designer, event location)
- 3 Were the proposed development to be forwarded to the HC, there would be a reasonable requirement developed as to what information was needed for the HC review—building narrative, history of site, etc.
- c. Mr. Penecale will draft language for inclusion, since research at the County level failed to provide another similar requirement that could be edited for our use.
- d. It was noted that inclusion in the SALDO will result in compliance with the mandated timelines for HC review—meaning that additional meetings or similar arrangement will be necessary for a timely review.

HC-39.2 Haws Lane Carriage House The Commission was asked about the carriage house that currently stands on the Haws Lane site as to whether this would be a candidate for historical review

Update—April 2, 2024 While not discussed in detail, this illustrates a situation that would result in HC review under the proposed SALDO revision.

Update—May 7, 2024 No additional Discussion

HC-34.1 The Commission discussed the merits of the Pennsylvania Certified Local Government Program (CLG) administered by the Pennsylvania State Historic Preservation Office (PA SHPO) for the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission (PHMC). Attached to these minutes are the Guidelines & Procedures for Pennsylvania Communities and checklists relative to the requirements to participate in the CLG. Becoming certified in the CLG program offers opportunities in funding and technical assistance not otherwise available. It was agreed that more discussion was needed and closer review of our current status relative to the requirements would be undertaken.

Update—March 5, 2024 No discussion

Update—April 2, 2024 No discussion

Update—May 7, 2024 Priority is the SALDO revision at this time.

6) Citizen Comments

- None

7) Assignment of Member Action Items

- Resurrect earlier scoping documents for outside consultant to begin an inventory.
- Mr. Penecale will continue with his draft for the SALDO inclusion

- 8) **Agenda for next meeting** *All new agenda items shall be forwarded to Mr. Penecale at least one week prior to scheduled meeting date*
- 9) **Adjournment** Adjournment at 6:58 PM on Motion by Joe Devine, second by David Sands. **No Meeting date was agreed upon for June—there is a conflict for June 4. More information will be forthcoming when available—if not next meeting will be July 2**

Respectfully Submitted

Albert M. Comly, Jr., AIA
Secretary