



# Springfield Township Historical Commission

**May 5, 2026**

MINUTES OF MEETING OF REGULAR MEETING

**HC-60**

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 Chair		
Susanna Ratsavong	Commissioner Liaison	Will Ruthrauff	Commission Member
Al Comly	Commission Secretary	Mark Penecale	Staff Liaison

Excused: M. Harris; J Devine; B Standish

Guest; None

- 1) **Call by Order by the Chairperson**      **Called to order at 6:05 PM by Chair David Sands.. Roll was taken and absentees noted.**
  
- 2) **Approval of Minutes**      **Meeting HC-58 minutes (March meeting) were revised. Motion by Mr. Sands, seconded by Mr. Ruthrauff to approve the revised version. motion carried**  
**Meeting HC-59 minutes (April Meeting) were reviewed. Motion by Mr. Sands, second ed by Mr. Ruthrauff to approve. Motion carried**

3) **Update by Board of Commissioners' Liaison:**

Commissioner Ratsavong was in attendance. She noted some of the other projects ongoing at the Township level, including the Rec Center and the Solar project. .

4) **Review of Agenda**

5) **Discussion Items and Appropriate Action ("Previous Business" and "New Business" in earlier minutes).**

HC-60.1 Mr. Sands discussed his email distribute to Commission members on April 23 regarding the Characteristics of Historic Resources. This is in response to some concerns that the 50 year threshold was not appropriate. Mr. Sands' presentation relied upon the Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission (PHNC) description of a historic resource. A copy of Sands email is attached. MOTION by Mr.Sands, seconded by Mr. Comly to use the Class II analysis (essentially locally vetted resources as defined by PHMC) for the proposed survey of resources in the township was presented. Motion carried . Mr. Ruthruff abstained.

HC-60.2 Mr Sands proposed sending a letter to the Commissioners addressing:

Preparation of a list of properties in the Township—following the PHMC guidance referenced in Item HC-60.1—to be entitled "Properties of Interest Within Springfield Township"

Approval of the RFP for a historical consultant by the Commissioners

Amend Chapter 46 Historic Resources to include incentives for commercial properties that would include tax relief to generate greater interest in historic properties within Springfield Township

If the Commissioners chose to reject the above listed recommendations, the Historical Commission recommends the repeal of the Historical Preservation Ordinance.

Motion by Mr. Sands, seconded by Mr. Comly to prepare a letter to the Township Manager itemizing the recommendations above

HC-54.2 **Status of Carson Valley School** Nothing new regarding the status of this property

HC-45.1 **SALDO incorporation is in process.** Proposed revisions/ SALDO additions were presented to Planning Commission. Now in legal review **no Change**

6) **Citizen Comments**

- None

- 7) **Assignment of Member Action Items**
  - Mr. Sands will work with Mr. Penecale to prepare memo to Mr. Taylor (copy is attached to these minutes)
- 8) **Agenda for next meeting:** *It was agreed that the Historical Commission would skip the meeting in June to allow time for a response from the Commissioners/Township Manager.*
- 9) **Adjournment** Adjournment at 6:50 PM on Motion by Willim Ruthraff second by Al Comly. **Next meeting will be July 7, 2026**

Respectfully Submitted

Albert M. Comly, Jr., AIA  
Secretary