

Historical Commission Meeting Minutes

3/24/09 - The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm.

In Attendance: Lloyd Roach, Mark Gross, Scott Garrison, Donna Landon, Will Snook. Also in attendance was Jackie Roach.

Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes of the 2/24/09 meeting was made by Will Snook, seconded by Mark Gross and approved by all in attendance.

Discussion of Cultural Resources Plan Inventory

The Google map, identifying the inventory of Cultural Resources, will have pop-up windows allowing for the addresses and other notes relevant to a property to be displayed. Will Snook and Ed Zaloga are developing this map

325th Anniversary of Birmingham Township

The Planning Commission has cancelled the celebration for 2009 and it will be rescheduled for 2011 in light of the information that the township was organized as a municipal district in 1686.

Will Snook and Mark Gross will look into the cost to reproduce the book, "A History of Birmingham Township, Chester County, PA."

There is information available on line from the Library of Congress regarding the history of Birmingham Township.

It was discussed that the Historical society has atlases with maps, which may be worth reproducing for the township history or possibly the wall of history within the township building.

Web page for Historical Commission

The township offered to host a web page for the Historical Commission. Will Snook volunteered to set up a page, which will include a brief history of the township, links to significant information for example: members of the commission, mission statement, upcoming events, etc. Beacon Technologies serves the township website. Will Snook and Donna Landon will work on HC website sample pages.

Criteria for Historical Significance

National Register of Historic Places is a source for defining historical significance.

Birmingham Township ordinance defines historic resources. This definition should be incorporated.

Chairperson of American Historical Association - Barbara Franco (also Executive Director of the Pennsylvania Historical Society & Museum) is a good resource person.

Mark Gross will attempt to merge these sources and come up with criteria for evaluation of historical significance.

Specialty License Plates

The specialty license plate and the competition for the logo design ideas will be presented to the Board of Supervisors. Selling the plates in the year leading up to the 325th

anniversary could help promote the event. The idea of a press release to the Daily Local for added publicity was mentioned.

Photo Time Line Display in Township Building

Some ideas discussed included:

The Arcadia "Then and Now" books as possible source of photos.

Thomas Marshall's photographs of township sites.

Timing the completion of the display with the Anniversary celebration

Proposed Meeting at the Historical Society

Meeting will have to be scheduled before the closing time of 5 p.m. It was agreed that we should meet at 4 p.m. at the Historical Society for a brief tour then have dinner before our regular meeting. Mark Gross will make arrangements.

Chester County Historic Preservation Network Membership

Lloyd has joined the CCHPN.

We will invite Karen Marshall from Chester County Parks and Recreation, Heritage Preservation to make a presentation at one of our meetings.

Review of 2009-2010 Goals for Historical Commission

Arden Forge – proposed as office building

Update and reproduce "A History of Birmingham Township, Chester County, PA."

Wall of History at the township building.

Specialty License plate with design contest for plate logo.

Markers for historical sites that will coordinate with those designed by the Brandywine Conservancy for the O'Dell property.

Proposed Budget for 2009-2010

Lloyd and Mark will attend the 4/20 meeting of the Board of Supervisors.

Items that need funds:

Reproducing "A History of Birmingham Township, Chester County, PA."

Copies of maps and photos

Membership in the Historical Society

Design cost for license plate

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Minutes submitted by

Donna Landon

Secretary