



East Fallowfield Historical Commission

Approved Meeting Minutes

January 10, 2018

2017 Historical Commission Members:

Joe McCormick, Chairman
Sue Monaghan, Secretary

Arthur DeLeo
Fred Bissinger

Lee Schlingmann
Buddy Rhoades

Becca Hunt
Connie McLaughlin

Chad Peterson

I. Call to Order

- Meeting called to order at 6:40pm

II. Meeting attendance

Joe McCormick, Sue Monaghan, Lee Schlingmann, Arthur DeLeo, Buddy Rhoades, and Connie McLaughlin present. Absent: Fred Bissinger, Becca Hunt, and Chad Peterson **Quorum met.**

III. Review of minutes of prior meeting

- No quorum available for the December 6, 2017 therefore there was no discussions of issues before the Commission.

IV. Discussion – Open Issues

- **Mortonville Bridge** –potential for additional work to change the façade of interior side of concrete “jersey barrier” walls to be more in keeping with original appearance.
 - i. **No update**
 - **Historic Resource Map and Windshield Survey**
 - i. **No update**
 - **Historical Commission Facebook Page**
 - i. **No update**
 - **Electronic Storage of Historical Commission documents and records**
 - 1. **No Update**
 - **2960 Strasburg Road** – renovation of the historic resource and former one-room schoolhouse had been started, but was left incomplete, and the project abandoned. The structure is now in danger of demolition by neglect as it has been left unprotected from the effects of weather and intrusion by vermin or unauthorized entry by trespassers.
 - I. **No update**
 - **People’s Hall** – a Class I historic resource which is included in the Ercildoun Thematic District (National Register of Historic Places), built in 1845 by the abolitionist group, East Fallowfield Anti-Slavery Society to hold their meetings, subsequently being home to various groups and meetings in the Township.
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- I. The Board of Trustees has been able to collect sufficient funding to continue operations well into the new year. The Board is in the process of applying for grants to hopefully fund the needed repairs.
 - II. It appears that some of the research undertaken by Jane Davidson and Peg Young has been stored in the building. It is unclear at this time if this is material that was a part of the Jane Davidson work product that the Township had paid for.
 - III. Many events are planned in the coming months, all are encouraged to check out the Peoples Hall Facebook page.
- **38 Rokeby Road – Class II resource**
 - I. It was noted that the work that been started without a HC review had ceased pending an application. However, the structure has been left open to the elements by the contractor.
 - **505 Mortonville Road – Class II resource**
 - I. Pursuant to request by the Code Enforcement Officer and the EFT Solicitor, the permit application for renovations was reconsidered. The HC has previously decided not to offer an opinion as to the issuance of a permit, as the work had been initiated and largely completed by the applicant without a permit. The HC was concerned with establishing a precedent by recommending a permit after the fact.
 - II. The HC was asked to prepare an additional letter citing the specific concerns the HC had identified with the methods and materials utilized in the renovation, as well as the specific ordinance provisions the Commission felt had not been adhered to.
 - III. Rather than making a specific recommendation relative to the issuance of a permit, the HC decided to state that they had no objection to the permit being issued.
 - IV. It was decided that Joe McCormick would draft a letter to the applicant, the BOS, and the Code Enforcement Officer detailing the requested information. The letter would be forwarded to all members for review, and a finalized version would be sent out.

V. Discussion - New Business

- **1375 South Baily Road – Class II Historic Resource described as vernacular style, constructed approximately 1800, property including barn, springhouse, privy, and sheds.**
 - i. Prospective buyer asked to be included on agenda did not appear
 - ii. Owner presented real estate photos and video of the property. Explained to the Commission that prospective buyer(s) had concerns about restrictions that the EFTHC might impose on renovation plans, and the financial uncertainty that such restrictions might create.
 - iii. The Commission explained that they really couldn't speculate on recommendations until a permit application named plans were submitted for any proposed renovation. It was further stated that the Commission is always willing to work with applicants
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to arrive at solutions which are mutually satisfactory, and that the review process is fairly informal.

- **265 Buck Run Road** - included in the Township's inventory of historic resources, described as a Class II resource, of the foursquare style, with aluminum siding, constructed approximately 1910, with a garage.
 1. Review pursuant to a building permit application forwarded by the Code Enforcement Officer. It was noted that a permit had been applied for in 2015; as no work had commenced, the permit expired.
 - ii. The applicant was not present to discuss renovation plans, but provided a narrative of the proposed renovation plans. The Commission questioned some of the information provided, but absent the applicant, decided to defer any decision on the recommendation to issue a permit subject to the applicant providing more detailed information.
 - iii. It was agreed that a letter would be sent to the Code Enforcement Officer and the applicant indicating that additional information was needed relative to architectural details and exterior finishes proposed by the applicant.
- **Chester County Historic Preservation Network (CCHPN)** – The Commission voted unanimously to approve the expenditure of \$85.00 for annual dues for the current year.
- **Chester County Historical Society** – The Commission voted unanimously to approve the expenditure of \$135.00 for annual dues for the current year.

VI. Adjourn Meeting – meeting adjourned at 7:30pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Joe McCormick

Joe McCormick
Chairman
East Fallowfield Historical Commission