



East Fallowfield Historical Commission

Approved Meeting Minutes

November 5, 2014

I. Call to Order

- Meeting called to order at 6:40pm

II. Meeting attendance

- Joe McCormick, Arthur DeLeo, Lee Schlingmann, and Buddy Rhoades present. Fred Bissinger, Garth Monaghan, and Sue Monaghan absent. Quorum met.

III. Review of minutes of prior meeting

- Unanimous vote to adopt minutes of October 1, 2014 meeting as “approved”.

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. Buddy Rhoades stated that he had been in touch with Sen. Dinnimin’s office concerning the potential for additional work on the bridge.
 - ii. Indicated that Senator Dinnimin’s office would contact Buddy with any further information.
 - **Frog Hollow Bridge (Speakman’s No. 1 Covered Bridge)** – construction had originally been scheduled to commence later this year. No construction observed to date.
 - i. Joe McCormick received an update from the PennDOT Project Management Consultant, Ryan Whittington, relative to the project schedule. In an e-mail message, Mr. Whittington stated that the Speakman Bridge project had been combined with another bridge renovation project for bidding purposes, and this has served to delay the project start. It was further stated that once a contractor is selected, which is expected to be by the end of this year, it will be at that contractor’s discretion which project will commence first. The earliest anticipated project start would be Spring of 2015, again depending on the project sequence planned by the contractor.
 - ii. Joe McCormick will request an updated construction schedule from the Project Manager.
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- **Historic Resource Map and Windshield Survey** – modifications to the Windshield Survey are needed.
 - i. Sue Monaghan located a disc with the survey, the information can now be updated as required.
 - ii. No modifications made as yet.
 - **Website Additions** – HC plans to enhance the Township website appeal by adding photos and other information pertaining to the Township’s historic resources.
 - i. The HC has been advised to propose the website modifications to the Board of Supervisors for approval. Buddy Rhoades noted that he had canvassed members of the Board of Supervisors, and had not heard any objections to placing information on the website.
 - ii. Website coordinator is able to upload pictures and information. There is a nominal charge for doing so. Sue Haldeman had previously spoken to Lee Schlingmann about how this might be accomplished, and she also told Lee she has no contractual agreement with the Township that provides such work is done without additional cost (the Historical Commission had previously been told there might be a contract under which this work could be accomplished without additional cost).
 - iii. Joe McCormick had previously stated he would put something together for the BOS to review relative to the information the HC would like to put on the Township’s website for their next meeting. This will be accomplished prior to the next meeting.
 - **Electronic Storage of Historical Commission documents and records** – discussed the idea of scanning and preserving documents to electronic media to prevent loss or damage of the records. This will be an ongoing project, further meetings will discuss the means and methods.
 - **2935 Strasburg Road** – Property owner and contractor appeared before the Historical Commission at the October meeting based on a request by Rob McLarnon, to discuss and review their renovation plans for the property.
 - i. Historical Commission found the proposed renovation plans would dramatically alter the street appearance of the property in such manner that, in the opinion of the Historical Commission, its architectural integrity would be lost.
 - ii. The property has been determined by the Historical Commission to be a Class II historic resource within the Township, part of the Strasburg Road Thematic District, identified as a Pennsylvania Farmhouse, built approximately in 1796, and previously known as the Anthony Burton House.
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- iii. Joe McCormick had previously sent a memo to Rob McLarnon detailing the concerns had with the proposed renovation to the property.
 - iv. Commission member Fred Bissinger has met with the owner at the property and made some suggestions on meeting the owner's objectives while preserving the front facade in keeping with the original appearance.
- **2960 Strasburg Road** – the owner of the proper has appeared before the Historical Commission at his request on two occasions to discuss proposed renovation and remodeling of the structure at his address.
 - i. The Historical Commission had previously determined that the property is listed as a Class II historic resource within the Township, built approximately in 1860, and previously known as the Mt. Carmel School, one of the Townships existing former one-room schoolhouses. The structure is included in the Strasburg Road Thematic District.
 - ii. Joe McCormick prepared a memo to Rob McLarnon detailing the concerns The Commission has with the proposed renovation plans.
 - iii. A limited permit will be issued to Mr. Swartzentruber for planned demolition to the porch on the front or north elevation of the building and for removal of the existing utilities.

V. Discussion - New Business

- **Chester County Preservation Network** – dues for annual membership. Vote taken on renewal – unanimously approved to renew membership for a one-year term.
- **RRCC History Seminar** – Seminar scheduled for November 11, 2014 entitled “The Underground Railroad in Chester County”. Point of information – commission members invited to attend.
- **Town Tour and Village Walk** – annual event by Chester County Historical Society – public invited, contact CCHS for details.

VI. Adjourn Meeting – meeting adjourned at 7:20pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Joe McCormick

Joe McCormick
Historical Commission Chairman