

The regular meeting of the Historical Commission was held tonight. Members present were: Stephen Banks, Cynthia Breen, Louise Cohen, David Harrower, Lois Hirsch, James J. McCann, III, Patricia Miller, Heidi Morein, Dorothy Spruill, Jack Washington, Mary Washington and Joyce Werkman and Tom Wieckowski. Staff present was Bryan T. Havir, Assistant Township Manager.

1. ***Call to Order*** – Mr. Havir called the meeting to order at 7:35 P.M.
2. ***Annual Reorganization and Election of Officers.*** - Mr. Havir asked for the Nominating Committee (Cynthia Breen, Heidi Morein and David Harrower) to report on a slate of candidates for the Election of Officers for 2011. Mr. Harrower reported, on behalf of the Nominating Committee as follows: Stephen Banks for Chairman and the nominee for Vice-Chairman is David Harrower. Upon motion of Mr. Wieckowski; seconded by Ms. Werkman, there being no other nominations, the nominations were closed. Stephen Banks as Chairman and David Harrower for Vice-Chairman were unanimously elected. At this time, Mr. Banks assumed the chair and thanked all the members for their support.
3. ***Acceptance of Minutes*** – Mr. Banks made a motion to accept the January 13, 2011 meeting minutes as submitted. Under new business on page 5, Ms. Cohen questioned what was meant by post and knob electric. It was explained that the post (tube) and knob electric was a type of electric service that was installed between 1890 and 1910. It consisted of two wires, insulated with rubberized cloth which ran independently of each other along beams through the center of a house. The wires are encased in ceramic tubes where they run through the joists. Following the explanation, Mr. Banks moved to accept minutes; seconded by Ms. Cohen. The minutes were accepted as submitted.

4. *Committee Reports*

A. Education Committee – Ms. Cohen reported that e-mails as well as flyers were distributed regarding the Black History Month Lecture scheduled for February 27, 2011 at 2:00 p.m. at Curtis Hall and sponsored by the Jenkinstown Lyceum. Additional flyers will be located in the Richard Wall House. (see attached). Ms. Cohen passed around the Docent Schedule.

B. Preservation Committee Report – Mr. Harrower provided an update on the demolition permit for 60 E. Township Line Road. Mr. Harrower and Mr. Banks were to draft a letter to the owner suggesting consideration of the structure being adaptively reused, subdivided, or moved to another location, etc. Mary Washington conducted map research to determine and document historical importance of the site using Atlas maps dated 1897, 1909, 1916, 1926 and 1937. It was difficult to determine which building was the building in question. Ms. Washington did note that the main mansion was torn down. There was evidence of the Lodge on the 1909 map. Mr. Harrower added that he had a newspaper clipping indicating the building was there in 1906-1907. Mr. Banks will send a letter to the Owner.

Mr. Harrower updated the members regarding the property at 7300 N. 12th Street (aka 1203 Cheltenham Avenue) which was recently declared uninhabitable. Mary Washington conducted map research to determine and document historical importance of the site and main mansion using Atlas maps dated 1897 (shows 59 acre parcel), 1909 (parcel divided) 1916, (shows buildings-either carriage house or garage), 1926 and 1937. Mr. Harrower made a motion that the Historical Commission recommend that the Building and Zoning Department encourage the owner to consider adaptive reuse before demolition is considered; seconded by Ms. Werkman and unanimously accepted.

Mr. Harrower updated the members on the status of the Penske petition which was previously

discussed and may be listed on the February 13, 2011 Zoning Hearing Board agenda. Following a lengthy discussion, Mr. Harrower noted that the Historical Commission drafted a letter regarding its position about the negative impact on the character of the adjacent La Mott historic district. Mr. Harrower also stated that he believes the property in question is in the La Mott Historic District and that the BHAR should weigh in on the negative impact this petition would have on the historic district. Ms. Werkman asked Mr. Banks to take the letter to the Zoning Hearing Board meeting on February 14, 2011.

During Black History Month, Mrs. Washington noted that the Montgomery County Historical Society has some newspaper clippings on the (Montier) graveyard which is located on Limekiln Pike above Waverly and Glenside Avenue.

Mr. McCann asked Mr. Harrower if there was any progress on a discussion last fall regarding a possible nineteenth century historic stone building using 1849 maps on the site of Ashbourne County Club where the developer at that time had agreed to let the Historical Commission visit. Mr. Harrower stated that the building might be later than that and thanked Mr. McCann for reminding him about the building.

C. Museum Committee Report – Mrs. Spruill offered the following report:

- The World War II exhibit will be taken down in March.
- Jeffrey Kohn, Philadelphia Flag Day Association, will look at the museum's ability to safeguard the flag and she noted that there are shields on the windows.
- Mrs. Spruill stated that she had an opportunity to visit Abington Friends in December. The historian sent information about the burial ground and she passed around the information to be returned to Mrs. Breen for the files.

- Mrs. Spruill stated she had found some information from the Historic Commission in Northeast Philadelphia and passed that information around to members.
- Mrs. Spruill also reported that a new receipt book for the Gift Shop is available for the docents to use in recording gift sale transactions.
- Ms. Spruill reviewed and updated an existing policy on reporting incidents at the museum which includes a form that should be completed and forwarded to the Township Administration as soon as possible (next business day) if an accident occurs. Mrs. Spruill asked that volunteers and docents review the policy.

Following a lengthy discussion it was recommended that if there is a snow storm predicted for a Sunday, docents/volunteers are asked to use their best judgment about opening the Museum.

5. Chairman's Report – Mr. Banks had no report.

6. Staff Report –

A. Museum Collection Cataloguing Project - Mr. Havir reported that Ms. Karuza has been working on the project at the museum on Fridays and weekends. Ms. Karuza's contract will be extended until the end of June. Mrs. Spruill and Ms. Karuza have been working on a system designating box number and storage location for displayed items in collection when taken down. Ms. Karuza will need assistance with relocating boxes to the third floor. Mr. McCann offered to help. Ms. Karuza will contact Mr. McCann.

7. Old Business –

Mr. Harrower reported that the status of the demolition permit application submitted for the Heidelberg/Kerlin Farm is as was reported last month. The building still stands as of this date. Although historic preservationists are interested in the building, there are no financial resources available or commitments from donors to preserve or protect the building.

February 10, 2011 7:30 p.m.
Carriage House

Mr. McCann informed members that Patrick McCann will receive his Eagle Scout Troop #22 Award on Wednesday evening March 9, 2011 at 7:30 p.m. at the Edward Drach Scout Cabin along with Kevin Craig for the Walkway Project to the Carriage House at the Richard Wall Museum.

Mr. McCann reported that there was a good article in the Pennsylvania Magazine regarding Grey Towers which he passed around to the members.

8. *New Business* –

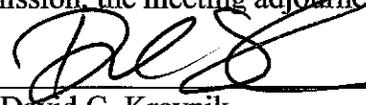
Ms. Werkman announced that the Citizens for the Restoration of Historical La Mott will host a program featuring Michael Coard, Attorney/Activist who will talk about Black/African/American history and heritage on February 13, 2011 at 3:00 p.m. at the La Mott Community Center. Handouts can be found at the back of the Carriage House.

Mr. Havar asked for a recommendation to approve annual renewal subscriptions to the National Alliance for Preservation (\$35) and the National Trust for Historic Preservation (\$80). Ms. Washington made a motion to approve the renewal subscriptions; seconded by Mr. Harrower. The motion was unanimously accepted.

Mr. Washington raised safety concerns regarding who is given security codes to the Carriage House.

9. *Citizens Forum* - None

10. *Adjournment* - There being no further business, upon motion of Mr. Washington, seconded by Ms. Cohen and approved by the Historical Commission, the meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.



David G. Kraynik
Township Manager

Submitted by: Kathryn McDevitt



Cheltenham Township Historical Commission



Presents a Celebration of Black History Month

Mr. Hugh Boyle will talk on



LINCOLN'S EMANCIPATION PROCLAMATION

During the talk, he will address the following questions:

What factors influenced its timing? Was it effective everywhere? What was the long term effect? What were Lincoln's views on slavery? Have modern American history studies anything to add to our understanding?

Mr. Boyle is the Executive Director of the Grand Army of the Republic, President of the Delaware Valley Civil War Roundtable, and a member of the faculty of the Civil War Institute at Manor College



An untitled watercolor (c. 1863), a man reading a newspaper with headline "Presidential Proclamation / Slavery".

Photograph of a reproduction of the Emancipation Proclamation



**** Sunday, February 27, 2011 ****

2:00 P.M. - Curtis Hall

1250 W. Church Road, Wyncote, PA

(the corner of Church Road and Greenwood Ave)

Free Admission • Handicapped-Accessible • Refreshments

For information visit the web site at www.cheltenhamtownship.org
or telephone Louise Cohen, 215-635-3168

This lecture is funded in part by a grant from Jenkinstown Lyceum



MEETING ATTENDANCE LIST

Historical Commission Regular Meeting @ 7:30 P.M.

Thursday, February 10, 2011

Carriage House

One Wall Park Drive, Elkins Park, PA 19027

(Please Print Clearly)

Print Name	Mailing Address (only if different)	Telephone Number (only if different)	E-mail Address (only if different)
Mr Washington			
Jack Washington			
Lois H. Hersch			
David Harrower			
Louise Chen			
Walter Kman			
Patricia Miller			
Thomas W. Wachman			
Helen Spill			
Steve Barker			
James J. McLaughlin III			

*Cynthia Breen
Heidi Moreau*