

The regular meeting of the Historical Commission was held tonight. Members present were: Alan Barrows, Barbara Bartlett, Cynthia Breen, Louise Cohen, Herschel Elias, Reynold Greenberg, David Harrower, Lois Hirsch, Dorothy Spruill, Joyce Werkman, Tom Wieckowski and Jack Washington, Sr. Staff present was: Bryan T. Havir.

1. **Call to Order.** - Mr. Harrower, Vice Chairman, called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. in the absence of Steve Banks, Chairman.

2. **Acceptance of Minutes** - Mr. Harrower made a motion to accept the April 8, 2010 meeting minutes with the following corrections:

Page 1, Section A, Item 1-4 to read as follows: 1) The Commission would like to receive copies of the Section 106 documentation 2) There is concern about proximity of the new building to the old building – fifteen feet and their relative scale, 3) There is concern that the rear porch is to be demolished as this will be detrimental to the integrity of the historic building and 4) There is also appreciation that the historic mansion is to be preserved and rehabilitated in a future phase. One abstention was noted by Mr. Harrower.

Page 2, Section B, last sentence to read, Additionally, paint color should match the body color of the tower; if, as it appears, the antennas will be mounted on the tower versus the “City Light” color that is used in silhouette against the sky.

Page 3, under Education Committee to read, The Citizens for Restoration of Historic LaMott (CROHL).

Page 6, under New Business, last paragraph to read, Mr. Michael Orpneck, owner of a historic property at 420 Paxton Avenue, Glenside, reported that the property was damaged by fire earlier this year. He requested a letter from the Historical Commission speaking to the history of the site. Mr. Harrower indicated that this property, which was the original

farmhouse associated with Knight's/Paxson's/Rices Mill, was included in the 2008 Cultural Resources Survey, and agreed to write a letter to that effect.

Mr. Washington seconded the motion. The motion to approve the minutes as corrected was unanimously approved.

3. *Committee Reports.*

A. Education Committee. –Ms. Cohen commented on the presentation scheduled for May 13, 2010 at Curtis Hall in honor of National Preservation Month featuring a lecture on the history of Wyncote by Mr. Wieckowski from his book he authored, Making Marathon, A History of Early Wyncote. Ms. Cohen reported on a recent meeting held to plan for the Myers School visit on May 20, 2010 to the Wall House. Mrs. Tuckman, a former teacher at Myers School and consultant to the Cheltenham School District, has volunteered to help develop children's programs for school and family visits to the Wall House. Ms. Cohen stated that the fourth grade curriculum will include colonial style games, housekeeping utensils and tools after the tour. Some of the commission members and docents will try to be in colonial dress.

Additionally, a Time Line is to be developed to better explain our long history. Suggestions for increasing interest in various periods of the House include playing music of each era, having a collection of costumes for children to try on and having a paper treasure hunt. A planning meeting is scheduled for May 16, 2010. (see attached)

Ms. Cohen circulated a sign-up sheet for the docent's schedule.

B. Preservation Committee. Mr. Harrower stated there was no report this month.

C. Museum Committee. – No report

4. *Chairman's Report* – No report.

5. Staff Report –

A. Mr. Havir reported that internet service cable installation for the Richard Wall House has been scheduled for Wednesday, May 19, 2010 or Thursday May 20, 2010 which includes digging a trench to bury the cable around the building and brick patio foundation and running the line in the vicinity of the copper downspout up to the second floor. The Assistant Property Manager will meet Comcast on the installation date.

B. Mr. Havir reported on the progress with the museum inventory cataloguer consultant contract. The consultant has submitted a partial invoice for twelve hours which noted dates of activity on work items. Mr. Havir and Ms. Karuza have exchanged e-mails on the payment submission protocol.

Additionally, the consultant has requested archival supplies and materials which include hat boxes, tissue, tape, tags and pens for the project. Mr. Washington made a motion to approve the purchase of supplies and materials in the amount of \$469.35 which was seconded by Mr. Harrower. The motion was unanimously approved.

Mr. Havir asked the members for direction on what committee or members should review the consultant reports and recommendations so that the commission members are fully informed of the recommendations. Mr. Harrower asked the members if they felt that the Executive Committee should review the recommendations. Ms. Spruill stated she had read the recent recommendations and was comfortable with the recommendations. Upon motion of Mr. Harrower, seconded by Mr. Washington, it was agreed to have the Executive Committee review the consultant's written reports and act on behalf of the Commission on recommendations made.

C. Mr. Havir reported on the window, door and woodwork restoration at Cheltenham Center for the Arts (a.k.a. George K. Heller School) bid results. The bids were vetted by the project architect consultant and Township Staff, and the Public Works Committee

recommended to the Board of Commissioners that the contract be awarded to Twining Construction Company, located in Newtown, Pennsylvania. The contract includes all wood windows being restored as well as nine vinyl windows being replaced with wood, in addition to restoration of the cupola and basement window. The recommendation to award the contract is scheduled for May 19, 2010 Board of Commissioners meeting. We expect to begin the project in June and complete the project by the end of the year.

6. New Business.

A. Mr. Havir stated that he wished to officially record in the minutes that the members of the Historical Commission had reviewed the demolition permit applications via e-mail over the last several weeks and supporting documentation for 421 Jefferson Avenue and 614-616 Arbor Road properties. Mr. Washington made a motion to recommend demolition of the above mentioned properties which was second by Ms. Cohen and unanimously approved by the commission members.

B. Mr. Havir also announced that a garage located on a property at 7768 Washington Lane was discussed at the Public Works Committee meeting last evening and due to imminent collapse, an order to demolish was approved and a demolition permit was to be filed within five days. The property owner was given thirty days to demolish the structure. Access from the adjoining property had been an issue. Photographs of the property were circulated at the meeting. And photographs were sent to Eileen Koolpe at the Old York Road Historical Society for its archival records. It is noted that the Mrs. Barbara Crane, owner of the adjacent property, who was in attendance stated that she and her husband were in favor of the demolition and there was access from the shared driveway. A motion was made to recommend that demolition should take place. The motion was unanimously approved.

C. Mr. Washington stated that an inquiry had been made into the "Lookout Tower" on Willow Avenue in Latham Park to see if it was part of Camp William Penn and/or that

May 13, 2010
Curtis Hall

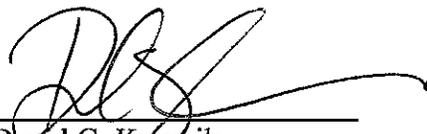
George Washington used the tower as a lookout during the Revolutionary War. Upon review of the Old York Road Historical Society archives and maps dated 1871-1937, the tower does not exist and, therefore, could not be part of Camp William Penn or anything earlier. Research indicates that there were large green houses on the Wistar Estate with a chimney to support the greenhouses and that this is the most likely origin of the current tower.

D. Ms. Werkman mentioned that the alarm system at the Richard Wall House Museum was activated and could not be cleared on Sunday, May 9, 2010. Information for the current monitoring company was not available. Ms. Werkman recommends that procedures be reviewed. Following discussion, Mr. Harrower asked Mr. Havir to have the Assistant Property Supervisor follow up on this matter.

E. Ms. Werkman also announced that there was a memorial service planned in honor of General Louis Wagner on Saturday, May 22, 2010 at 2:00 p.m. at the Ivy Hill Cemetery located at 1201 Easton Road.

7. **Adjournment** - There being no further business, upon motion of Mr. Washington, seconded by Ms. Werkman, and approved by the Historical Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

8. At 8:00 P.M., the meeting was then followed by a history lecture on Wyncote, presented by Tom Wieckowski. Mr. Havir counted seventy-seven people attending the lecture in celebration of Historical Preservation Month.



David G. Kraynik
Township Manager

Submitted by: Kathryn McDevitt



MEETING ATTENDANCE LIST

Historical Commission Regular Meeting @ 7:00 P.M.

Thursday, May 13, 2010

Curtis Hall

1250 W. Church Road, Wyncote, PA 19095

(Please Print Clearly)

Print Name	Mailing Address (only if different)	Telephone Number (only if different)	E-mail Address (only if different)
REYNOLD GREENBERG	846 ELM ^{LIMERIK} PIKE WYNCOTE.	215 886-1392	
Louise Cohen			
Joyce Warkman			
Jack Washington			
Lois H. Hersch			
Cynthia Breen			
Sophia Nemeyer			
Frank R. Nemeyer			
Jeanne Wieckowski			
B. Bartlett			
David Harrower		215-635-2814	HELIAST@ VERIZON.NET

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ELKINS PARK, PA 19027

HELIAST II @
VERIZON.NET

I AM COMPUTER ILLITERATE SO IT WOULD BE BETTER IF SOMEONE COULD CALL OR MAIL ME STUFF ABOUT FUTURE EVENTS.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORT, MAY 13, 2010

Tonight's program to honor National Preservation Month is on the history of Wyncote, Cheltenham Township, by Tom Wieckowski, member of the Historical Commission. His lecture is based on his recently published book, "Making Marathon; a History of Wyncote." The book will be for sale after the program.

A meeting was held to plan for the Meyers School visit to the Wall House. Attending were Lois Hirsch, Steve Banks, Louise Cohen and Lynn Tuckman. Mrs. Tuckman is a former teacher at Meyers School and consultant to the Cheltenham School District. She is interested in volunteering with us to develop children's programs for school and family visits to the Wall House.

We are not a "living history" museum but have several strengths that we should use, namely our stretch of 300 years of history that we demonstrate with artifacts and our tool collection. To satisfy the curriculum of the fourth grade we will introduce colonial style games, housekeeping utensils and tools. This will be done after the tour. Several student docents and commission members as well as Mrs. Tuckman have volunteered for the day which this year is May 20 in the morning. To prepare we will be meeting on Sunday afternoon at 2:00, May 16. We welcome more volunteers.

To enhance the experience further we will try to be in colonial dress. Also to be developed is a Time Line to better explain our long history. Suggestions for increasing interest in the various periods of the House are to play music of each era, have a collection of costumes the visiting children could try on that are appropriate to the era, and to have a paper treasure hunt.

Mrs. Tuckman has spoken to the principal of Glenside Elementary which is now meeting in Elkins Park and suggested for next year that the fourth grade could walk to the Wall House for a tour. We will have a meeting to review the Meyers visit and plan for next year.

Louise Cohen, Education Chair