

The regular meeting of the Cheltenham Township Historical Commission was held tonight. Members present were: Barbara Bartlett, Louise Cohen, Tim Esposito, Lois Hirsch, James McCann, John Washington Sr., Mary Washington, and Dr. Wieckowski. Guest Ms. Patricia Miller. Staff present was: Brian Hinson, Director of Parks and Recreation. (see attached attendance list).

1. Call to Order – Mr. Washington called the meeting to order at 7:30 P.M.

2. Acceptance of Minutes – Mr. Washington asked for a motion to accept the February 12, 2015 meeting minutes. Dr. Wieckowski had a question about who spoke on the topic regarding Camp William Penn photographs. Mr. McCann asked that the name of Mr. Becton be spelled correctly in the February 12, 2015 meeting minutes on page number three, under item # 11. Dr. Wieckowski made a motion to accept the minutes as corrected; seconded by Mr. McCann and unanimously approved.

3. Review of Financial Report – Mr. Esposito reviewed the financial reports. (see attached reports). The report shows \$20.00 was deposited in the “Friends of Wall House” account for February. One book was sold and \$83.00 for the telephone bill was paid. There was \$250.00 for professional services. Mr. Hinson informed the Commission that the amount of \$250.00 was for the fire alarm system. Mr. Esposito reported that \$6.00 was the total deposit and \$333.00 was the total expense for the month of February. Mr. Washington informed the Commission that the Tri Centennial monies are already in an interest bearing account at Citizens Bank. Mr. Hinson said Citizens Bank no longer pays interest on this account and fees are charged if a certain dollar amount is not maintained in the account.

4. *Committee Reports*

A. Education Committee – See attached.

B. Preservation Committee Report – No report.

C. Museum Committee Report – No report.

D. Special Events- Dr. Wieckowski said he is working on getting a bus for the upcoming Wyncote Historical Tour in the spring. Mr. McCann said he will assist in the search for transportation. He thanked Mr. Hinson for his help with making progress with putting the program together. Mrs. Cohen suggested an E-blast be sent by Mr. Esposito once the details are complete in setting up the program.

5. *Chairman's Report* – Mr. Washington Sr. reported that the revisions to the Student Docent Handbook and Spring Newsletter are almost completed and will be distributed soon. Mr. Washington reported several maintenance tasks needed for the Carriage House such as door realigned to go in the pin holes, weather stripping and broken chairs. The Conklin chair was returned back to the Wall House. Mr. Washington Sr. acknowledged that a resident donated to the museum several air raid Warden Posts maps of various sectors in Cheltenham Township dated 1942. Three sets will be made and distributed to Old York Road Historical Society, the Township Planning and Zoning Department and to the Historical Commission for the Wall House. Mr. Washington will send out a thank you note on behalf of Cheltenham Township to the individual who donated these maps. They will be included in the 3rd floor military exhibit at the Wall House. “The Preservation Alliance for Greater Philadelphia” Vol. I magazine will be displayed in the Wall House. Mr. Washington stated that the Commission member appointments and re-appointments were made by the Commissioners at the January meeting and an updated membership list will be distributed shortly. The member list will include phone numbers, street

address and available emails. Currently, three contributions have been collected for the “Friends of Wall House”.

6. Staff Report – Mr. Hinson stated that the updated Student Docent Manual was approved by the Manager’s office and distributed to the Board of Commissioners.

7. Old Business – Mrs. Cohen asked if the Wall House will be open more in the spring for tours as previously discussed. Mr. Washington stated more tours will be available if there are more volunteer tour guides to assist at the Wall House. Mr. Washington said he and Dr. Wieckowski agreed that the students can give tours with their manual in hand.

8. New Business – Ms. Miller reported that she has had some of her books that she would like to convert into film/documentaries. Ms. Miller asked if she could take pictures of the Temple Tyler Art School site for an upcoming film/documentary with a digital camera. Mr. Washington told her she has to get permission from the Township Managers office. Ms. Miller will send a letter of request to the office of the Township Manager and to the Commission. Mr. Washington asked if the Commission would like to move the meeting time to 7:00 p.m. which is an earlier time. He said if it is agreed, the time change must appear on the Township calendar which is being drafted now. The Commission chose to keep the regular time of 7:30 p.m.

9. Moment in History – Mrs. Washington gave a report. (See attached).

10. Announcements – Mr. Washington announced that Mr. Hinson received a letter in reference to the property at 1509 Ashbourne Road (Stephano property) which will be demolished soon. He mentioned if anyone is interested in viewing the property and wants to take pictures before it is demolished the dates for the visits are March 23rd and March 26th between 8-10 a.m. and 2-4 p.m. visits are “enter at your own risk” and you must sign of a release liability form with the property owner. Mr. McCann thanked Dr. Wieckowski for his great program he presented on behalf of the Old York Road Historical Society.

March 12, 2015 7:30 p.m.
Wall House

11. *Good and Welfare* – None

12. *Adjournment* - There being no further business, Mr. Washington Sr. asked for a motion to adjourn. Mrs. Washington made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Mr. McCann.



Bryan T. Havar
Township Manager

Submitted by: Linda Vann

EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORT

The next lecture sponsored by the Historical Commission and the Jenkinstown Lyceum will be in honor of National Preservation Month on Thursday, May 14, at 7:30 in Curtis Hall. The speaker is Mr. Bruce Stocking. The title of the talk and power point presentation is "Preserving the Past." Mr. Stocking is the historian of the W. S. Hancock Society and active as a reenactor of the Civil War. He has been active in the preservation and restoration of several monuments related to the life of General Hancock. He is the host of a radio program on history called H20.

The program will call for an honorarium for Mr. Stocking depending on the balance of our Lyceum grant and a refreshment expense of \$30.

Moments in History

Times Chronicle Saturday March 29, 1902

Agents Occurrences

William Klenkeing, Mr. P. A. B. Widener's gardener, has his greenhouses looking very attractive, so that people crane their necks to see the flowers.

His name is remembered by the pond on Tokony Creek Parkway.

Times Chronicle Thursday March 25, 1937

"No Man's Land" Officially Named
In Honor of John A. Stahr

"No Man's Land" a strip of highway in Elkins Park has a name after many years. The interesting part is that four Past Presidents of the Commission have now been so honored. The records show:

Rowland avenue in Rowland Park, named after Howard Rowland, first President of the Cheltenham Commissioners, who served from 1900-1904.

Widener road, in Elkins Park, named after George D. Widener, President of the

Board from 1904 until 1912, when he perished in the wreck of the Titanic.

Brooke road in North Glenside, named after H. Carroll Brooke, who served as President continuously from 1922 until his death late in 1936.

Stahr road in Elkins Park, named after John A. Stahr, formerly of Glenside and now of Philadelphia and who served as President from 1916 until 1922.



MEETING ATTENDANCE LIST

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

Thursday, March 12, 2015

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)
Patricia Miller		484-784- 7340	mpatnaide7@aol.com
Jackie Washburn			
Tom Washburn			
B. Bartlett			
Louise Cohen			
Mary Washington			
Jim McCANN			
Timothy Esposito			
LOIS HIRSCH			