

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, John Washington Jr., Joyce Werkman, and Dr. Wieckowski. Staff present was: Brian Hinson, Director of Parks and Recreation. (See attached attendance list).

1. Call to Order – Mr. Washington Sr. called the meeting to order at 6:31 P.M.

2. Acceptance of Minutes – Mr. Washington Sr. asked for a motion to accept the April 9, 2015 meeting minutes. Dr. Wieckowski made a motion to accept the minutes as corrected; seconded by Mrs. Cohen and unanimously approved.

3. Review of Financial Report – Mr. Esposito reviewed the financial reports. (See attached reports). The Historical Commission report shows a total income for Special Events of \$165, and expenses of \$83 for the telephone. Mr. Esposito questioned why the phone bill was so high. Mr. Washington Sr. said it could be an expense from the alarm system going off by accident. He stated that when the alarm goes off, it calls the alarm company which charges for that call. Mr. Washington Sr. said the alarm has been going off on a regular basis lately. Mr. Esposito stated that \$425 is listed for professional service on the financial report. Mr. Hinson said this amount is for the upcoming Historical Wyncote Bus Tour and cleaning service. Mr. Washington Sr. said the Janitorial Service cleans 3 times a week at the Wall House. Mr. Washington Sr. has concerns regarding the cleaning service people and the alarm constantly going off. Mr. Hinson said he will look into the matter. Mr. Washington Sr. encouraged everyone to make a contribution to the “Friends of Wall House” if possible. He said Mr. Esposito has made a contribution. Money donated will show up under donation. A \$25 donation was given in memory of Mrs. Dorothy Spruill. A donation of \$20 was placed in the donation box at the Wall House. Mr. Washington

Sr. mentioned that under the Wall House report; Dr. Wieckowski and his membership for the amount of \$45 is still being shown as a donation rather than “The Friends of Wall House”.

4. Committee Reports

A. Education Committee – Mrs. Cohen announced the special lecture tonight will be presented by Mr. Bruce Stocking on behalf of the Commissioner’s celebration of National Historical Preservation Month. She wanted to thank everyone for helping her put the program together. She thanked Mr. Washington Sr. who helped line up the speaker, Dr. Wieckowski and Mr. Esposito for helping make up the flyers and sending out messages. She also thanked the Parks and Recreation secretary for copying the flyers for the program. Mr. Washington announced that Mr. David Rowland could not be at the program tonight because the Jenkinstown Lyceum (who is sponsoring tonight’s program for the Commission) is also meeting this evening. Mr. Washington Sr. gave Mr. Esposito a “Preserve America E-News letter to place on the internet to broadcast the calendar of upcoming events.

B. Preservation Committee Report – Mrs. Washington talked in regards to the demolition for 1818 Beech Avenue. She and Mr. Washington Sr. took pictures of the garage that is to be demolished. She said it was hard taking pictures because the property was fenced in and had a lot of shrubbery surrounding the property. She said the property was in such bad shape that she and Mr. Washington Sr. agreed with the demolition. Dr. Wieckowski emailed Commission members to notify them. Mr. Washington Sr. said there were no negative responses from the Commission members. The Commission agreed to recommend to the Planning and Zoning Department that the demolition could take place.

C. Museum Committee Report – Mr. Washington Sr. said there is a Blue Star Banner in the Military Room. He has been in contact with the Philadelphia Region Blue Star Mother’s for additional updated information on the banner. He said pictures were sent and received along with

written response and text posted. The banner is displayed. The history of the Esty Field Organ is being researched. The smokehouse is being added to the interpretation during tours. The students will be informed. Summer Commission docents will need to include their presentations. The Commission has received Cheltenham Township Air Raid Warden maps of the Township showing what is believed the 40 sectors covered by Air Raid Wardens in 1942. The Township is providing Old York Road Historical Society with one of the maps. Mr. Washington Sr. wanted to drop American Alliance of Museums Magazine because it is not related to the Historical Commission. Mr. Washington Sr. asked for a motion to no longer receive the subscription of American Alliance of Museums Magazine. Ms. Werkman made a motion to no longer accept the subscription of American Alliance of Museums Magazine; seconded by Ms. Bartlett and unanimously approved. Mr. Washington Sr. asked for a motion to continue receiving the subscription of Preservation Pennsylvania Magazine. Mrs. Cohen made a motion to continue accepting the subscription of Pennsylvania Magazine; seconded by Dr. Wieckowski and unanimously approved.

D. Special Events- Dr. Wieckowski said the tour bus is full for the upcoming Historical Old Wyncote tour. He said it was gratifying to have the goal met for the bus tour. Dr. Wieckowski said Glenside Hall will be the starting and ending point for the tour. A reception will be held by the Wyncote Civic Association afterward.

5. *Chairman's Report* – Mr. Washington Sr. met with a representative of the Police Department regarding graffiti that still has not been removed. The Old York Road Garden Club held a clean up day in May. They planted bush called “Nandina” by the Spring House. The Garden Club won first place for Historic Preservation from the Garden Club Federation of Pennsylvania. Mr. Washington Sr. said Ancillae-Asumpta Academy had a tour of the Wall House Museum on May 17, 2015. Mrs. Washington gave a tour of the Breyer Estate which is now the Township

Building to the Ancillae-Asumpta Academy on May 6, 2015. They were the class of Ms. McCann who is also the daughter of Commission member Jim McCann. Mr. Washington Sr. met with the new cleaning service representatives to show them how to work the alarm panel. Appreciation is extended to Dr. Wieckowski for all his work in anticipation of the first Wyncote Historical Tour and Mrs. Cohen for working through tonight's program. The brass door knocker was found and replaced on the driveway door. Air Raid Warden maps were received. See the Museum report.

6. Staff Report – No report.

7. Old Business – None

8. New Business – Mr. McCann said there are two stone pillars that are coming apart outside the Wall House. He also said the ivy needs to be taken down outside the Wall House in the near future. The Garden Club will take care of some of the necessary work. Mr. Hinson said he will talk to Park Maintenance Superintendent regarding the issues. The Art museum booklet was discussed by Mr. Washington Sr.

9. Moment in History – Mrs. Washington will give a report to the Parks and Recreation Secretary. (See attached).

10. Announcements – None

11. Good and Welfare – None

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

May 14, 2015 6:30 p.m.
Curtis Hall



Bryan T. Havir
Township Manager

Submitted by: Linda Vann

Moments in History May 2015

5 May 1903

Juries were appointed to view and layout public roads

Board paid £5 per week to board horses

2 May 1905

Ordinance passed allowing trolley to change location where railway crosses Limekiln Pike and Bickley Rd

8 May 1906

Purchase of stop watches approved for police to enforce speed limit

7 May 1914

Police Committee given power to sell 3 horses and purchase a motorcycle

13 May 1920

Special meeting discussing building of new police garage

2 May 1922

Legal opinion has been given to the Finance Committee that women could not be arrested for non-payment of taxes



MEETING ATTENDANCE LIST

Historical Commission Regular Meeting @ 6:30 P.M.

Thursday, May 14, 2015

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)
F. Cohen			
M. Washington			
John F. Washington Jr			
Joyce Werfman			
Chick Washington			
Tom Wierawing			
Tim Esposito			
JAMES J. McCann II			
Lois H. HIRSEH			
Barbara Bartlett			

