

The regular meeting of the Cheltenham Township **HISTORICAL COMMISSION** for June 2019 was held tonight. Members present: Barbara Bartlett, Steve Conrad, Timothy Esposito, James McCann, Geoffrey Shulik, Karen Shulik, Jack Washington, Sr., Mary Washington, Tom Wieckowski and Stephen Workman and guest: John Cline. Staff present: Brian Hinson, Director of Parks and Recreation (attendance list attached).

1. **Call to Order** – Mr. Washington, Sr. called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.
2. **Acceptance of Minutes** – Mr. Washington, Sr. asked for a motion to accept the May 9, 2019 meeting minutes. Corrections were recommended. Under attendance: Mr. Stephen Workman did not attend the May 9, 2019 meeting. Ms. Shulik made a motion to accept the minutes as corrected; seconded by Mr. Conrad and unanimously approved.

Mr. Washington, Sr. welcomed guest John Cline to tonight's meeting.

3. **Review of Financial Report** – Mr. Washington, Sr. said \$102 was received from the Wall House donation box. Mr. Esposito reviewed the financial reports showing income and expenses for both the Historical Commission and the Wall House for the month of May 2019 (see attached).

4. **Committee Reports**

A. Education Committee – No Report.

B. Preservation Committee

- 1) **Proposed Zoning Map Amendment for 20 West Waverly Road, Glenside:** Mr. Conrad presented a proposal regarding 20 West Waverly Road requesting that the Board of Commissioners reject Goodman Properties proposed demolition (see attached). Mr. Conrad said not all residents are asking the Township to dismiss the idea of a Wawa convenience store on Easton Road, however, they oppose the idea of rezoning 20 West Waverly Road from residential to commercial. The Board of Commissioners will consider an ordinance amending the Township's zoning map during a public hearing scheduled on June 19, 2019.

Action: Mr. Conrad made a motion with a written proposal (see attached) that the Board of Commissioners reject the "Zoning Map Amendment to re-zone Tax Parcel No. 31-00-27910-4, also known as 20 West Waverly Road, Glenside, PA, from R-3 Residential to MU-1 Mixed-Use Zoning District"; seconded by Dr. Wieckowski and unanimously approved.

- 2) **Demolition Permits for 800 and 804 Cheltenham Hills Drive, Elkins Park:** Both properties are located on Cheltenham Hills Drive at the corner of Ivy Lane and Cheltenham Hills Drive. Mr. Washington, Sr. said there is no historical significance for these two properties and asked that photos be taken of both properties before they are demolished.

Action: Dr. Wieckowski made a motion to approve the demolition permit for 800 Cheltenham Hills Drive Elkins Park, PA 19027 and 804 Cheltenham Hills Drive, Elkins Park, PA 19027; seconded by Mr. McCann and unanimously approved.

C. Museum Committee – Mr. Washington, Sr. said the Wall House received a donation of a new display case made of mahogany and glass.

- D. Special Events – Mr. Washington, Sr. announced that flyers are available for Camp William Penn Day and Historical La Mott Day on September 21, 2019. It is sponsored by Citizens for the Restoration of Historical La Mott (CROHL) at Camp William Penn. He said Ms. Werkman is looking for volunteers to assist on that day.

Mr. Hinson mentioned that the Board of Commissioners would like to see the Historical Commission put together a special event at the Wall House celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Historical Commission. Mr. Washington, Sr. said he will appoint the Commission as a Committee of a whole to develop this Commemorative 50th anniversary event. Mrs. Washington suggested that a proclamation be drafted for the ceremony.

5. *Chairman's Report*

- A. Mr. Washington, Sr. thanked Mr. Conrad, Mr. Workman, Mrs. Washington, Mr. Esposito and Ms. Bartlett for assisting in entertaining 82 students and seven adults (teachers & parents) with a tour of the Wall House. Mrs. Washington attended a 4th grade graduation yesterday where they presented a PowerPoint of Myers Elementary School children visiting the Wall House. It featured the children engaged in using the yoke and buckets at the Wall House.
- B. Descendants from New Hampshire and California toured the Wall House. Mrs. Washington spent 4 ½ hours on one tour, which included a tour of the Shoemaker Cemetery.
- C. Mr. Esposito submitted a proposal for a historical marker. He said the annual meeting of Association of State and Local History is going to be in Philadelphia this year. Mr. Washington said the Commission does not need any new markers at this time.
- D. Acer Associates is asking for another antenna on the cell tower at on the 123-foot tall water tower in La Mott. There were no objections from the Commission.
- E. Mr. Washington, Sr. received a communication from the homeowner at 433 Ashbourne Road inquiring about replacing the windows on the home. The 1877 home is listed under the Cultural Resource Survey Program, but is not located in a historic district. Since the home is not in a historic district, there are no regulations regarding renovations to the property. Dr. Wieckowski asked that the homeowner be encouraged to respect the historic nature of the home and the neighborhood when replacing the windows. A letter will be sent to the homeowner letting her know that, while she will need to meet local building codes, the home is not governed by a historic district.

6. *Staff Report*

- A. No Report.

7. *Old Business*

- A. Mr. Washington, Sr. said coverage is needed during the summer for tours at the Wall House and to contact Mr. Conrad to volunteer. Mr. Esposito set up a sign in sheet online for the Commission members to view the Sundays that are available. Ms. Shulik asked if she and Mr. Shulik could take a tour of the Wall House with Mr. Washington, Sr. before assisting with any tours. Mr. McCann suggested that a video be made while Mr. and Mrs. Shulik are taking the tour with Mr. Washington, Sr. so the video can be used for training docents in the future. Mr. Hinson stated the

existing sign has been changed to state that the Wall House will be open for tours on the 4th Sunday of each month from 1-4 p.m.

8. *New Business*

- A. Mr. McCann shared some stereographs that came out of a cabinet at the Heller School. He said some have stereo cards with lantern slides that go with them. These cards can be used to show children how children in the past were taught.

Action: Mr. Conrad made a motion to accept the case, stereo cards and lantern slides he acquired from the Lutz Family; seconded by Mr. Workman and unanimously approved.

- B. Mr. Conrad said he and Mr. McCann discussed getting a new flag without the knowledge of the Commission and asked that Mr. McCann be reimbursed by the Commission.

Action: Mr. Conrad made a motion to compensate Mr. McCann in the amount of \$68 for the purchase of the new flag for the Wall House; seconded by Mr. Workman and unanimously approved.

- C. Mr. Conrad said he passed around a schedule at the last meeting with steps noted that tell docents what to do during tours at the Wall House. He asked if anyone wanted to make additions or corrections to the schedule.

- D. Mrs. Washington noted that the door to the cabinet in the Carriage House was broken and need to be repaired.

9. *Moment in History* – Mrs. Washington provided a written report (see attached).

10. *Announcements* – None.

11. *Good and Welfare* – None.

12. *Adjournment* – There being no further business, Mr. Conrad made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:31 p.m., seconded by Mr. Esposito, and unanimously approved.



Bryan T. Havir
Township Manager

Submitted by: Linda J. Vann

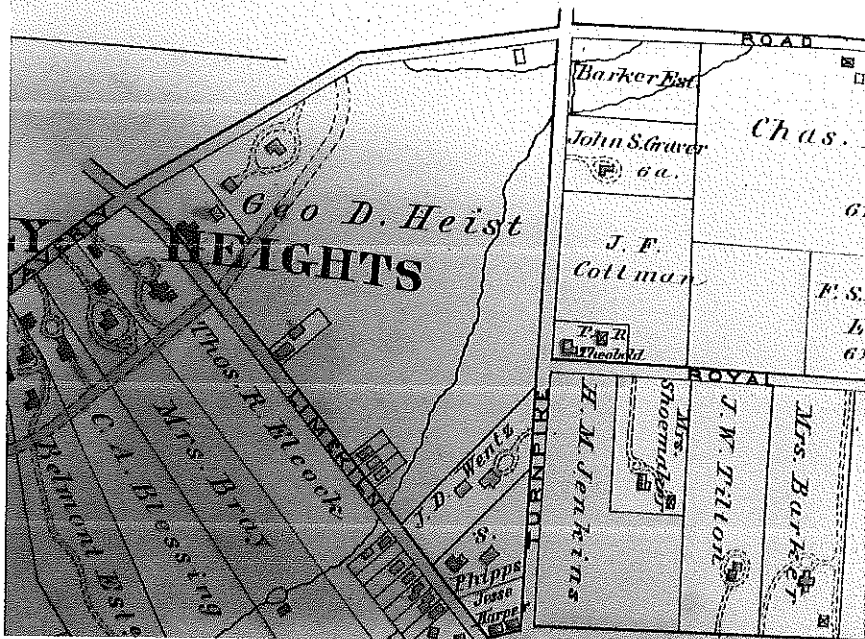
In reference to 20 West Waverly Avenue, Glenside PA, and the danger of its demolition

1. Oral history of the property (to be taken with a grain of salt):

The house was reputed to be a gate-house for the "Waverly Estate." Previous owners stated that the house was built without the use of nails. The property was "serviced" by an outhouse until a bedroom was converted to an indoor facility. Newer additions were modern heating, replacing a potbelly stove, and a front porch built in keeping with the historical structure.

(From Barbara Williams, formerly resident 24 West Waverly)

2. Earliest appearance on a local map, 1891 (from Tom Wieckowski)



1916 map of the intersection of Waverly and Easton (from Steve Conrad)



3. The developer's proposal (Planning Commission Meeting May 22, 2019) "one (1) access point on Waverly Road . . . [a] full access entrance would be located farthest away from the intersection [Waverly and Easton]." The developer would demolish and use the 20 W. Waverly parcel to construct the entrance and exit from the site. All maps and plans of the developer confirm demolition of this property.

4. Current view of the property:



5. Historic nature of 20 W. Waverly;

This property and house are the oldest on this block of Waverly. The house has retained (with the exception of the addition of a front porch) the look and feel of a 1890's residence. There are no similar houses in this section of Glenside.

6. local comments on 20 West Waverly:

- a. raised concerns about using the Text Amendment to circumvent the current ordinance [and] demolish the historic home for an entrance to the [Wawa]
- b. opposed to the demolishing of the home at 20 W. Waverly
- c. also against the demolition of 20 W. Waverly
- d. [the developer's plans] unfairly encroaches into an established residential zone

7. The Planning Commission;
Recommended denial of the text amendment, motion passed 4-2.

8. Why should the CTHC act now?

Once the property is re-zoned, the demolition of the property to create access and parking is a "done deal." The only thing the CTHC can do at that point is to not approve the demolition permit, which will have no effect in saving the residence. The next Commissioners meeting will be on Wednesday June 19th. If we choose to act, now is the time, rather than wait for the next meeting of the CTHC, in September.

9. proposed motion from CTHC

Whereas, the Cheltenham Township Historic Commission has previously stated that: "As a community, Cheltenham Township dates back to the days of William Penn. From that time to today, residents have constructed structures that we now deem of historic value. These very remains from our past are what many residents consider part of the attractiveness of our township. Demolition of this fabric through neglect or profit removes some of what makes our township special."

We earnestly recommend that the Board of Commissioners of Cheltenham Township reject the following:

"Zoning Map Amendment. The official Cheltenham Township Zoning Map is hereby amended to re-zone Tax Parcel No. 31-00-27910-00-4, also known as 20 West Waverly Road, Glenside, PA, from R-3 Residential to MU-1 Mixed use Zoning District."

Don't it always seem to go

That you don't know what you've got 'til it's gone?

They paved paradise, put up a parking lot

Joni Mitchell, *Big Yellow Taxi*, 1970



Citizens for the Restoration of Historical La Mott

Email: pt@usct.org
Telephone: (215) 885-2258

1618 Willow Avenue
La Mott, PA 19027



Save the Date

September 21, 2019

Camp William Penn and Historical La Mott Day

Visit Camp William Penn Museum
Cartridge making demonstration
Historic La Mott displays
Civil War Baseball demonstration

USCT encampment
Children's activities
Films
And more

Use contact information above for more information

Volunteers Needed

Please contact us at: pt@usct.org if you are able to help with this effort. Let us know if you are able to participate on the committee (one meeting per month*), able to participate the day of the event or are able to help with short tasks in the office or museum before the event.

All help will be welcome. Phone contact: 215 885-2258

Whether you are able to help or not, we hope that you will be able to attend the event. Be sure to bring the family. See you there.

(*Third Tuesday of the month, 6:30pm in La Mott)



Moment in History

13 June 2019

June 5, 1906 Commissioner's Minutes
Geo. Elkins gets permission to put a "dust proof coating" at his expense on Chelton Ave (Ashbourne Rd) from Old York Road to Washington Lane, a preparation that has been successfully used on various roads throughout the country.

June 8, 1926
Commissioners approved Park & Playground plan to develop tract at Waberly/Keswick Aves. as a park & playground including building a swimming pool.

Times Chronicle 7 July 1932

Elkins Estate Here Sold
Ashbourne Hall conveyed to Dominican House of Retreat

William M. Elkins has sold his country estate at Ashbourne Road and Juniper Avenue, Elkins Park, to the Dominican House of Retreats and Catholic Guild. (42 room residence and 28 acres



MEETING ATTENDANCE LIST

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

Thursday, June 13, 2019

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)
Mary Washington	Tom Wiercinski		
JOHN CLINE	quest		
Jack Washington			
STEPHEN WORKMAN			
JAMES J. MCCANN			
Stephen Oswald			
Tim Esposito			
Geoff Shulik			
Karan Shulik			
B. Bartlett			