

East Brandywine Historical Commission Meeting July 13th, 2016

Present: Jim Buczala, John Black, Ashley Harper, Mark Myers, Allie Proko, Dan Rhodes, and Carol Schmidt.

Also Present: Luke Reven, Assistant Township Manager, Catherine Quillman.

Learning Center HRIS (update)

- Planning to attend August meeting with drawings/visuals to understand impact to the view shed and to historical resources
- Need to start thinking about architectural treatments/adjustments we might want to see (depending on impact) such as: color pallet, architecture style, replacement of the main structure closure to the Laird Building (NW Side) and vinyl fence along North West Corner of the property. It was recognized that we do not yet understand the actual proposed building design, yet, but that some forethought regarding architectural concepts would be helpful for the August meeting.
- Request information that the Learning Experience representatives will be presenting at the August meeting to be submitted prior to the meeting in order to facilitate discussions.
- The need for a revised Historic Resource Impact Study will be determined at the August meeting depending on discussions at that meeting.
- Request a site visit before the August meeting; the HC members prefer a Monday meeting. Jim will contact Kristin Camp to arrange it.

Downingtown Agricultural & Industrial School (discussion of language for plaque)

- Carol provided a draft of language that could be used for an historical marker at the school's location (current Delaware Community College location).
- All present noted that the draft was very good. A deadline of the end of July was set for creating a final draft. Allie Proko will collect and combine edits.

Historic Resource Protection Standards; Ordinance Revisions (Update)

- On the 7th of July the revisions to the HR ordinances throughout the earlier half of this year were executed by the Board of Supervisors and passed as Ordinance 4 of 2016.

Fall Speaking Series

- The program is set; no updates at this time.
- Concepts for Spring 2017 were brought up. Ideas for speakers include:
 - Catherine Quillman,
 - MaryAnn Piccolo(?) who wrote a book on WWII in Chester County
 - Bruce Mowday (written many local history books).
- Payment needs to be processed for the fall series soon.

Historic Resource Research Update (HR-203, HR- 49, HR-45, HR-170, HR-161; add HR-13?)

- Dan had nothing new on this issue for this meeting.

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Demolition by Neglect Issue

- 469 Corner Ketch Road; the hole in the barn roof has been observed to grow. It is estimated that it is 15 feet wide and other deterioration has been observed as well. Jim will write letter to owners about our concern from the structure and to get an understanding of the issue from the owner.
- There's concern about Thomas Buchanan Reed House solely because it can not be seen from the road. It may be desirable to request an inspection in order to establish a base-line.
- In November, the historic resources at Locust Knoll Farm should be revisited to ensure that there is no longer a concern.

Ordinance Language for 399-67 (Additional Use Opportunities)

- Jim is continuing to work with the Ordinance Task Force to develop language on this issue.
- The concept of making low interest loans available to historic resource owners for the purpose of maintenance and restoration was discussed.

Recorded Interviews of Long-time residents

- Mike Dawson will be providing a list of potential interviewees to Carol. Allie Proko will develop a form letter to send out to potential interviewees and will work with Mike to conduct the interviews.
- It was also noted that existing recordings/transcripts should be compiled and cataloged in the HC files.

On-Going Administrative:

HC Files at Township Building

- Files organized into 5 series; 2 of these have been processed.

Action Steps:

Jim B will arrange a site meeting regarding the Learning Experience project. He will also request submittal of information to us regarding what they will be presenting at the August meeting.

Allie Proko will compile the edits of the African American Agro School sign text.

Carol S. will send the contact information for the fall speakers to Jim in order to process payment.

Jim B will write a friendly note on behalf of the HC inquiring about the status of the structures at 469 Corner Ketch Rd.

Jim B reach out to find County liaison to discuss seed money.

Carol S will type up Mike Dawson's list and give it to Allie P.

Allie P will develop a form letter to send to potential interviewees.

Jim B will look over HC pages on Township website for errors.

Minutes

- June minutes approved.