

**Westtown Township Historical Commission Meeting Minutes**  
**1039 Wilmington Pike, West Chester, PA**  
**Thursday, 17 April, 2014**

In attendance: Commission members Dave Walter, Brian Guinta, Kevin McDonough, Gail Guterl, Dan Campbell, Township Manager, Rob Pingar, P.E., and three guests including Karen Marshall from the Chester County Planning Commission.

**I. Call to Order**

Dave Walter called the meeting to order at 6:05pm.

**II. Approval of Minutes (March 20, 2014)**

Dave made a correction to page two of the minutes, regarding the number of burials in the A.M.E cemetery. Gail made a motion to approve the minutes with correction, seconded by Brian. The motion was passed.

**III. Public Comment Non-Agenda Items**

None.

**IV. Old Business**

**A. Historic Properties Mapping Project**

The latest update of the list of historic resources has 105 properties. The list still needs a little work before being submitted to the Board for review. A new column was added for class:

- Class 1 – on or eligible for the National Historic Register
- Class 2 – of local historic value
- Class 3 – 100 years or older
- Class 4 – potential archeological site

Dave introduced Karen Marshall, from the Chester County Planning Commission (CCPC), and asked her provide an overview of what the County will do with the list. Karen stated that the list will be used to compile a Historic Resource Atlas, following a standardized format, which then can be customized to meet the needs of the Township. She provided a packet of information to the Commission, including an outline of the steps necessary for Township to follow for the creation of the atlas.

Dave stated that a letter needs to be sent to all the owners of properties advising them that they will be put on the map unless they have an objection. The HC discussed the wording of the letter. Dan agreed to work on a draft of the letter and email it to the Commission.

**B. Bozutto Development**

Ken Lawson, a Chadds Ford resident, presented his theory that burials of American soldiers who died at the Battle of the Brandywine on 9/11/1777 may be found on the Crebilly Farm site where the Bozzuto apartments are proposed. Discussion followed as

to the recommendations that the Historical Commission may make regarding this development.

The Historical Commission will make final recommendations after reviewing Bozzuto's responses in opposition to the HC's preliminary recommendations. Bozzuto will be invited to attend the May 15<sup>th</sup> meeting to defend their response and answer any additional questions the HC may have.

**C. Brandywine Battlefield Resolution**

At their April 7 meeting, the Board of Supervisors passed the resolution, requested by the HC, to use the township property on the west side of S. New Street and Dunvegan Road for possible inclusion as a Brandywine Battlefield tour site.

**D. Little Shiloh A.M.E. Abandoned Cemetery**

Dave Walter reported that the owner of the property continues to rebuff efforts of veterans groups to come on the property and maintain and decorate the graves of U.S. Colored Troops veterans who are buried there. Dave is working with Rep. Steve Barrar's office to see if there is a legal or legislative solution to gaining limited access to this abandoned cemetery.

**V. New Business**

**A. Suggestions for Building Permit Notification to HC**

Currently, there is no formal requirement to notify the Historical Commission prior to alteration of any property on the list of historic resources. Right now, the HC does not have the authority to intervene in any way. Suggestions for amendments to township ordinances will be discussed at a future meeting.

**B. Reappointment of Patrick McDonough**

The BOS have re-appointed Patrick to a three year term on the HC.

**C. Commission Membership**

The BOS is receptive to increasing the HC membership to seven; HC will interview candidates as soon as the ordinance amendment is finalized.

**D. Newsletter Articles**

After discussion, it was decided that Mr. Lawson would write an article for the summer issue of the gazette on the Battle of Brandywine and troop movements across Westtown Township.

Gail Guterl will write an article on "Darlington's Corners" for the fall newsletter.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45pm.