

**WESTTOWN TOWNSHIP HISTORICAL COMMISSION**  
**Westtown Municipal Building, 1039 Wilmington Pike, West Chester**  
**Thursday, September 21, 2017 6:00 P.M.**

In attendance: Commission members David Walter, Gail Guterl, Ray Sarnacki, Paul Mullin, Pamela Boulos, and Township Manager Rob Pingar. Erica Reilly attended via phone.

**I. Call to Order**

Gail Guterl called the meeting to order at 6:06 PM.

**II. Approval of Minutes from August 17, 2017**

Ray Sarnacki made a motion to approve the August 17 minutes. Dave Walter seconded the motion. There were no comments and the motion was approved.

**III. Public Comment (non-agenda items)**

None.

**IV. Old Business**

**A. Westtown Day Planning**

Erica reported that over \$4,500 in donations have been received to date. The planning committee met at Ida Fritsche's house to finalize details. All signs have been completed for tables and activities, and there are only two volunteer spots open on signupgenius. Bubbletopia, a bubble sculpturist, is a last minute entry to the line-up and will be stationed in front of the mansion. Ray reported that Mark Gross constructed the archaeological dig box. Ray went to Newlin Grist Mill to observe how they conduct their dig. Erica will email all volunteers a parking pass. Pizza Peddler will provide sandwiches and drinks for volunteers the day of the event.

Next Thursday Sept. 28 at 6 pm there is a volunteer meeting at Oakbourne mansion. Dave and Gail are still seeking a recipient for the historic award. Ray suggested a house on Dunning Drive with a re-created a spring house.

**B. Historic Resources Photos**

Make hardcopies of photos and place them in the property folder in the Historic Resources file drawer.

**C. Rustin Walk Interpretive Sign**

Carter Van Dyke (CVD) was supposed to have a proof to Dave Walter by last Friday, but it has been delayed.

**D. Veteran's Memorial Update**

Rob reported that CVD presented a slide show to the BOS and provided a proposal for the design. A meeting will be held to critique the design before signing the proposal. Dave asked Rob to send the conceptual site plan so that he can forward it to the project donors, who have been anxiously awaiting news on the memorial.

**D. Shiloh AME Cemetery Update**

Rob stated that Mr. Minacci (property owner) has been informed that the Historical Commission is ready to conduct ground penetrating radar and begin exploring the site. The township solicitor is corresponding with Mr. Minacci's lawyer. The township executed an indemnity agreement with the Minaccis, and requested that a township representative be on site whenever work is being done. He has concerns over the number of people working on the property. Dave Walter will photograph the property before and after. Ray asked about the end goal for this property, stating there do not appear to be any gravestones left. Dave said a neighbor has one, and there may be more below ground. The vision is to restore as many gravestones, the old church foundation, gravel drive and parking area, and have an interpretive sign.

**V. New Business,**

**A. Updated History of Westtown**

Arthur James wrote a history of Westtown in 1973. Gail suggested appending that document to include Camp Elder, Shiloh AME, Battle of Brandywine, etc. This would be a long-term project.

**B. Land North of Robins Nest Lane**

Rob Pingar noted that the sliver of land north of Robins Nest Lane has a spring house on the property. This property is owned by West Chester University, but the fact there is a structure on the property was previously unknown by the township.

**VI. Public Comment (All Topics)**

None.

**VII. Announcements**

None.

**VIII. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:12 p.m.