

**WESTTOWN TOWNSHIP HISTORICAL COMMISSION**  
**Westtown Municipal Building, 1039 Wilmington Pike, West Chester**  
**Thursday, October 19, 2017 6:00 P.M.**

In attendance: Commission members Gail Guterl, David Walter, Ray Sarnacki, Paul Mullin

**I. Call to Order**

Gail Guterl called the meeting to order at 6:07PM. JoAnne Grube, Director of Finance, requested that the HC submit their proposed 2018 budget to the Board of Supervisors. After some discussion, Gail said the HC would put together a proposed budget within the next week.

**II. Approval of Minutes from Sept. 21, 2017**

Ray Sarnacki made a motion to approve the Sept. 21 minutes. Dave Walter seconded the motion. There were no comments and the motion was approved.

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

There was none.

**IV. Old Business**

**A. Westtown Day (October 1) recap**

Westtown Day was well attended, with gorgeous fall weather contributing to a fantastic day. Gail Guterl congratulated all those who worked so hard to make the event a success, specifically WTHC commissioners Erica Reilly and Pam Boulos. At their first October meeting, the BOS passed on compliments too. Paul Mullin conducted mansion tours. Ray Sarnacki reported that approximately 120 children did the “archaeological dig” and noted several ways to improve the experience next year.

**B. Veterans Memorial**

The landscape architect, Carter van Dyke, has submitted a site drawing to the Board for their review. The Revolutionary War monuments already obtained as part of the “Taylor” project will be included in the design. Funds for the design and construction of the Veterans Memorial will be provided for in the 2018 Township budget.

**C. Shiloh AME Cemetery Update**

The appointed committee continues with its cleanup efforts at the site. The owner wants 48-hour advance notice of all activities on site; this does not present a burden.

It is hoped that the Ground Penetrating Radar Study, to identify the location and extent of gravesites, will be conducted in November.

**D. Updated History of Westtown Township**

A search is needed to determine if the Township or the Chester County Historical Society holds the copyright to the Arthur James book, 1973.

**E. Historical Resources Map**

The commission noted the need to better define the categories on the Historical Resources List. The map currently on the Township's website may need some minor corrections. Dave Walter said he'd work with Pam Boulos to update the colored map which indicates the classifications of structures.

**V. New Business**

**A. Historical Presentation Awards**

No award was made in 2017 due, in part, to lack of criteria on which to base the award. Motion passed to appoint Dan Campbell to draft criteria, based on his professional experience in these matters.

**B. Oakbourne Mansion**

Ray Sarnacki reported on a visit to the Oakbourne Mansion grounds with Rick Brown, of Friends of Oakbourne. They located the former site of the pond, gazebo, and gas lines. Bob Doan, of the Public Works Department, reportedly knows where the mansion's trash pit is located. Ray wants to meet with him to locate the pit for possible future archaeological purposes. Ray and Paul Mullin are also searching for any remnants of the "Mercer School House" that existed at or near the junction of S. Concord and Oakbourne Roads until the 1850s.

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

There was none.

**VII. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:05pm.