

**WESTTOWN TOWNSHIP HISTORICAL COMMISSION**  
**Westtown Municipal Building, 1039 Wilmington Pike, West Chester**  
**Thursday, August 16, 2018 6:00 P.M.**

In attendance: Commission members Gail Guterl, Paul Mullin, Pamela Boulos, Erica Reilly, Ray Sarnacki, Dave Walter; Township Manager Rob Pingar.

**I. Call to Order**

Erica Reilly (ER) called the meeting to order at 6:03 PM.

**II. Approval of Minutes from July 19, 2018**

Gail Guterl (GG) motioned to approve the minutes. Ray Sarnacki (RS) seconded the motion. The minutes were unanimously approved.

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

None.

**IV. Old Business**

**A. BOS Meeting Report**

RS reported that at the August 6 BOS meeting Tom Barber, former Township Supervisor, asked why the Township was spending money on the Huey property. The BOS answered all his questions. He gave the BOS an update on HC agenda items.

**B. Shiloh AME Cemetery Project**

Rob Pingar (RP) noted that no progress has been made on this project due to other priorities.

**C. History of Westtown**

Gail Guterl (GG) sent an assignment task list. Additions to the text are currently being developed by the members of the HC and with the help of Jonathan Hoppe. New information on the silver mine in Osbourne Hill will be included in the revised text, as well as a map of the various development names in the Township, information on the Mariner Pipeline, and additional information on the roads.

**D. Veteran's Memorial Project**

RP noted that no progress has been made on this project.

**E. Westtown Day Planning – October 7, 2018 – 11 am to 3 pm**

Another Westtown Day Planning Meeting will be held next Tuesday. Generous donations have been made including \$1000 from Carroll Engineering, and \$750 each from Wegmans and the Westtown School. Nearly all vendors/activities are coming back from last year with several new additions. Many local politicians are coming, but have been asked not to distribute campaign information. ER asked RP to confirm whether members of the BOS will be attending. ER asked whether we could add the historical award recipients to the HC's section of the website. RP agreed to do so.

**F. Huey Property**

The BOS supported RS's plan for the Huey Property. The next steps would involve a walking survey on the property during the fall. RS has been communicating with Heather Wholey at WCU to gauge student volunteer interest for the project.

**G. Mercer School – Oakbourne Gatehouse**

Paul Mullin (PM) and RS reported on their walkthrough of the Oakbourne gatehouse. They observed that the basement wood rafters appeared to have been sawn with a vertical saw, consistent with historic methods; however, there is not enough evidence to definitively confirm that the gatehouse structure once housed the Mercer School, even though the location appears to be the location designated on old plot plans and maps.

**H. Rustin Walk Interpretive Sign**

This item was added to the agenda.

RP has a meeting with Carter Van Dyke upcoming where he will be given paper copies of the Rustin Walk interpretive sign to provide to the Rustin High School. Mark Gross, RP, and Dave Walter (DW) came to a consensus on the location of the sign on Township property.

**V. New Business**

**A. Roadside History Markers**

DW proposed to earmark \$2000 of the HC's budget to install one roadside history marker per year (similar to the Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission signs) in the public right-of-way. He suggested that the Oakbourne Mansion should be the first property designated with a marker. The HC was in agreement that this

was a good idea for an ongoing project. Markers would have to be approved by the Board of Supervisors prior to installation.

**B. Historic Resources List**

This item was added to the agenda.

DW asked RP when the HC needs to submit proposed changes to the Historic Resources List and Map for Board review. Changes to the list require an ordinance amendment, involving advertisement of proposed changes, public comment period, and review by the Chester County Planning Commission. RP instructed the HC to provide him with the list of changes.

**VI. Announcements**

None.

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

None.

**VIII. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:21 pm.