

Willistown Township Historical Commission

Meeting Minutes

October 4, 2022, 7:00PM

Township Building 688 Sugartown Rd., Malvern, PA 19355

- A. The meeting was called to order at 7:00PM with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. In attendance were: Bart Van Valkenburgh, Chairman, Warren Claytor, Vice-Chairman, Dave Hopkins, Terry Kile, Shanna Lodge, Township Manager, Rick Mosback, Marie Quinn-Johnson, Secretary, Sharon Sukonick, Bob Smiley, Township Zoning Officer and Erik Hetzel from Willistown Conservation Trust and Mary Hundt from Township Parks and Recreation and the Township Open Space Reserve Board. Absent were Greg Prichard and Jody Vandergrift.
- B. The minutes of the August 2, 2022 meeting were approved.
- C. Shannon Lodge was introduced to the Historical Commission as the new Township Manager.
- D. Terry Kile was welcomed back to the Historical Commission.
- E. Erik Hetzel of the Willistown Conservation Trust and Mary Hundt of Open Space and Park & Recreation made a presentation on 864 Grubbs Mill Rd. at the corner of Goshen and Grubbs Mill Rds., known as the Llama Farm, that is listed in A of Q as the John Massey Farm. The number one thing that residents of the township responded that they wanted in the Township Conservation Plan Survey is Open Space. The farm has three parcels, one parcel of 6.5 acres with historical structures on it which is has been sold to a conservation buyer who will restore the structures, there is also a three-acre parcel which is sold to the adjoining neighbor to add to his property and a 6.5 acre parcel to be annexed to the Kirkwood Reserve. Because the land provides scenic views in addition to the historical structures, a vote was taken and passed that the township use Open Space funds to provide the remaining \$360,000 from their funds to use to create a Conservation Easement. An additional \$500,000 has already been raised. Warren Claytor is providing his professional services for work on one of the structures and therefore abstained from the vote.
- F. 1806 House Garrett House at Okehocking Reserve – needs a fence on the retaining wall in order to keep visitors from standing or falling on it. It was suggested to put boxwood plants on the high part of the wall and add a wire fence with a lockable gate on the stairs or perhaps a zig zag post and rail fence on or picket fence. Bart, Warren and Shannon will speak with George Martynick

- G. Bartram Covered Bridge – Repair Update. Very detailed Engineer studies have been done. A York County specialist, Lancaster County Timber Framers who rebuild covered bridges. Willistown in Chester County and Newtown in Delaware County have each budgeted \$125,000 to fix the bridge. A state grant provides \$100,000 which is coming this month. George Sharritt Public Works director of Newtown says the bridge will be protected and updated for another 100 years.
- H. 1883 House at Radnor Hunt, The Nike Site and the Greentree School in Willistown and the George Baker house on Duffryn Ave. as well as the General Store and Post Office at Duffryn Mawr at King and Duffryn Ave. are proposed to add to the historical structures. The members are encouraged to provide the addresses or parcel numbers of other properties which may be suitable candidates to add.

The next meeting shall be November 1 at 7:00PM at the Township Building

Respectfully submitted by Marie Quinn-Johnson, Secretary.