



# Springfield Township Historical Commission

**JUNE 1, 2021**

MINUTES OF MEETING OF REGULAR MEETING

**HC-16**

ZOOM DIGITAL BROADCAST

**NOTICE:** The Historical Commission of Springfield Township is an advisory board appointed by the Board of Commissioners. The actions of the Historical Commission on any agenda items does not reflect a final decision. The Board of Commissioners must render the final decision on any agenda items

## MEETING ATTENDEES

Name:		Name:	
Scott Kreilick	Commission Chair	Heather Snyder-Killinger	Commission Member
Matthew Harris	Commission Vice Chair	Joseph Devine	Commission Member
Al Comly	Commission Secretary	Baird Standish	Board of Commissioners
Brandon Ford	Ass't to Township Mgr	Mark Penecale	Staff Liaison

Not in Attendance: David Sands, Commission Member

Guests: Joyce Bullock, Chris Weth—Interested Public attendees

Scott Denlinger, Esq—Township solicitor's office

- 1) Call by Order by the Chairperson Kreilick**-Called to order at 6:12 PM by the Chair with roll taken. In a housekeeping matter, the Chair reminded all of the need to end the meeting no later than 6:45PM to allow for the transition to the Planning Commission meeting that would be following this meeting. In a brief discussion regarding the future of meeting in-person, Commissioner Standish noted that state code required in-person meetings unless exempted by the state. No final word has been issued from the state as of this time
- 2) Approval of Minutes** from previous meeting: May 4, 2021 (HC-14) motion by Matthew Harris, second by Heather Killinger to accept--passed.

3) **Update by Board of Commissioners' Liaison** Commissioner Chair Standish noted:

- Mr Denlinger is attending this meeting at the request of Commissioner Standish.
- Commissioner Standish also reported on a recent meeting with the National Lands Trust (NLT)—noting the NLT may be a good resource to consider in developing future plans. Montgomery County Planning Commission was also noted as a possible resource for information about other historic ordinances and procedures in the County.

4) **Review of Agenda** No changes to the agenda

5) **Discussion Items and Appropriate Action** (“Previous Business” and “New Business” in earlier minutes).

**HC-16.1** Discussion with Mr. Denlinger regarding the inventory of sites (“the list”) and how it exists in the current ordinance. Summary points were:

- Ordinance talks about an “Official List”. Per the ordinance, this list is of property owners who have “opted in”. The property owner would “opt in”, there would then be a hearing with the Commission to determine if the site met the criteria to be on the list. With that determination, the property would then go to the Board of Commissioners (BOC) for approval and placement on “the list”.
- The Historic Commission (HC) could have an informal or “preliminary” list, but any enforceable status would require the hearing and BOC approval. HC cannot be in a position of pre-determination of status without the property owner “opt-in” and the hearing—noting the HC is the body conducting the hearing.
- Any change in the above to create a “protected list” or official list of significant properties would, in the solicitor’s opinion, require a revision to the ordinance.

**HC-15.1** Mr Penecale had been contacted by Joyce Bullock, 809 Campbell Lane in Wyndmoor regarding the status of her residence relative to the ordinance. Mr. Penecale had invited Ms. Bullock to attend the Historical Commission meeting tonight. He will send a copy of the package sent to the property owners for the earlier ZOOM presentation.

**6/1/2021** Ms. Bullock was on the call—noting that Marie Kitto had told her that the subject residence was the “oldest house in the Township”.

**HC-15.2** Update on 7800 Gravers Lane: unofficially, property agreement of sale anticipates retention of the structure and no subdivision of the property.

**HC-15.3** 8765 Montgomery Ave: Chestnut Hill Conservancy has expressed concern that this property may be placed for auction—reducing the potential to control the future plan or use.

**HC-14.1 Community Awareness--**Primary discussion item was the need to formulate a course of action to move forward with the Commissions' task. Other means of publicizing the process were discussed including:

- Leveraging the Chestnut Hill Local article through wider distribution to Township residents
- Making personal contacts to the initially identified property owners
- Prepare a video that could be done using U-Tube. Other township commissions have done this. Township has the capability to prepare and air U-Tube. This might be coupled with other social media to engage more of the public in the process

**6/1/2021 Update—no further action.**

**HC-14.2 Inventory list--**Discussion continued relative to the development of the list relative to protecting properties where the owner does not wish to participate by committing to the inventory list. It was agreed that some clarification was needed from the solicitor and/ or the Commissioners.

**6/1/2021 Update—this item relates directly with item HC-16.1. Other discussion reviewed background regarding the list and how that might direct the actions of the HC. Any discussion relates back to the HC-16.1 discussion which confirms that any official list must have property owner “opt-in” and BOC approval. The current ordinance does not provide for anyone to advance an agenda regarding a property that is not on that official list.**

6) **Citizen Comments** *Non, other than noted in item HC-15.1*

7) **Assignment of Member Action Items** **None.**

8) **Agenda for next meeting** *All new agenda items shall be forwarded to Mr. Penecale at least one week prior to scheduled meeting date*

**Continuation of discussion regarding how to “roll-out” this program to the public and the compilation of the historic inventory.**

9) **Adjournment** Next meeting will be July 6 at 6PM to discuss best means to move forward

Respectfully Submitted

Albert M. Comly, Jr., AIA  
Secretary