



Springfield Township Historical Commission

March 5, 2024

MINUTES OF MEETING OF REGULAR MEETING

HC-39

Meeting held in the Caucus Room at the Springfield Township Building, 1510 Paper Mill Road, Wyndmoor, PA 19038

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:	
Matthew Harris	Commission Chair	Heather Killinger-	Commission Member
David Sands	Commission Vice Chair		
Joseph Devine	Commission Member	Peter Wilson	Board of Commissioners
Al Comly	Commission Secretary	Mark Penecale	Staff Liaison

Not present: B Standish

Guests: None

- 1) **Call by Order by the Chairperson** **Called to order at 6:04 PM by Chair Matthew Harris. Roll was taken and absentees noted.**
- 2) **Approval of Minutes** **Meeting HC-38 (February 6, 2024) Motion by D. Sands, second by J Devine-approved**
- 3) **Update by Board of Commissioners' Liaison:** **Commissioner Pete Wilson will be serving as the New Liaison for the Board of Commissioners.**

Commissioner Wilson provided the following update on township activities that could impact the Historical Commission:

- a. Baird Standish has been appointed to the vacancy on the Historical Commission
- b. Haws Lane property is in the process of resolution. Township has received a grant for the purchase of a portion of the property to remove it from the development of the property
- c. Land development for Starbucks in Flourtown to move to the Key Bank parcel was approved by the Commissioners
- d. 1500-1506 Willow Grove Ave—realignment of property line
- e. 120 W Wissahickon Ave (Mt St Joseph's) is in process. Issue will be walking trail
- f. 384 Haws Lane—Subdivision going to Zoning Hearing Board on issue of undersized lot
- g. Commissioners accepted bid for trail on the former Tank Car Corporation site.
- h. 401 E Mill Road—issue of driveway to E Mill Road
- i. Daycare at 207 Ulmer Ave (Holy Martyrs) dealing with parking issues.

4) Review of Agenda

Mr. Penecale reported that there were no changes in status relative to Knipe (Willow Grove Ave) or Wild (Manor Road).

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

HC-39.1 Discussion focused on items noted in HC-38.1 at the February meeting as to next steps for the Commission, specifically:

- o Distilling the various lists to create a listing of the most urgent properties for consideration and potential preservation. Consensus seemed to favor a list of 300 or so properties.
- o Next steps should be to follow with the Subdivision Land Development Ordinance (SALDO) review to include historical review of properties

HC-39.2 The Commission was asked about the carriage house that currently stands on the Haws Lane site as to whether this would be a candidate for historical review

HC-38.1 The discussion focused on the follow-up to the presentation to the Board of Commissioners in December, including:

- o Provided background to Commissioner Wilson on the HC's efforts over the last couple of years. Input and insight from Commissioner Standish was very important in this discussion

- Importance of development of any inventory of properties important to the Township. It was noted that Township legal counsel believed that the HC could compile an inventory of properties—it simply cannot be presented as “the list” identified in the historical ordinance.
- Noted the dilemma between the retention of properties of interest versus property rights of the owners of these properties. Intent of the ordinance was never to usurp property rights.
- The Township Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance (SALDO) is being reviewed now for potential modifications or adjustments. Is it time to consider historic review as part of this process? Mr Penecale will contact the County to determine if there are some guidelines or information as to how this could be done.

Update—March 5, 2024 The inclusion of a historical review as part of the SALDO was discussed—noting that a process would be necessary to conform to the time requirements that are part of SALDO review. This would also necessitate a process of identifying the structures that needed historical review. This discussion will be folded into the HC-39.1 discussion moving forward.

HC-34.1 The Commission discussed the merits of the Pennsylvania Certified Local Government Program (CLG) administered by the Pennsylvania State Historic Preservation Office (PA SHPO) for the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission (PHMC). Attached to these minutes are the Guidelines & Procedures for Pennsylvania Communities and checklists relative to the requirements to participate in the CLG. Becoming certified in the CLG program offers opportunities in funding and technical assistance not otherwise available. It was agreed that more discussion was needed and closer review of our current status relative to the requirements would be undertaken.

Update—March 5, 2024 No discussion

6) Citizen Comments

None

7) Assignment of Member Action Items

- Resurrect earlier scoping documents for outside consultant to begin an inventory

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

- 9) **Adjournment** Adjournment at 6:58 PM on Motion by Joe Devine, second by David Sands. **Next meeting date will be April 2, 2024 at 6:00 PM at the caucus room in the Township Building**

Respectfully Submitted

Albert M. Comly, Jr., AIA
Secretary