



# Springfield Township Historical Commission

**January 6, 2026,** MINUTES OF MEETING OF REGULAR MEETING

**HC-56**

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

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**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:	
David Sands	Commission Chair	Matthew Harris	Vice Chairperson
Baird Standish	Commission Member		
Al Comly	Commission Secretary	Mark Penecale	Staff Liaison

Excused      Devine  
Guest:        Chris Weth

- 1) **Call by Order by the Chairperson            Called to order at 6:01 PM by Chair David Sands. Roll was taken and absentees noted.**
- 2) **Approval of Minutes            Meeting HC-55 (December 2, 2025) Motion by D. Sands, second by M Harris-approved.**
- 3) **Update by Board of Commissioners' Liaison:**  
**Our new liaison will be Sue Ratsavong**
- 4) **Review of Agenda**  
**The annual reorganization was held with the following results:**

**Chair            David Sands**

**Vice Chair    Matthew Harris**

**Secretary     Al Comly**

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

**HC-56.1        The main focus of the meeting was to prepare for the meeting with the Commissioners on January 12 to discuss the RFP for consultant assistance. Mr. Sands and Mr. Comly will attend the meeting. Primary discussion points will be:**

- Current studies have been limited in scope—not covering the entire township.**
- Doing this type of research with volunteers presents issues with consistency of results**
- This effort would create an inventory of important structures in the Township and would begin to prioritize those of highest importance.**
- Importance of this inventory record to the Township—similar to Utility Records, FEMA maps and similar documents.**
- Commissioners have raised questions about the 50-year threshold for the inventory.**

**HC-55 (HC-54.1)    Mr. Comly presented a summary of his review of the 1999 Study and the update of 2002-2003, noting:**

- Studies do not cover the entire township. Significant portions of Wyndmoor and Oreland were not included in the report.**
- Report is now close to 25 years old—significant changes could have occurred in the interim.**
- These studies could still be useful as a starting point for developing an inventory.**

Discussion focused on how best to move forward. Developing an inventory is still preferred. Mr. Comly will edit the previous RFP draft to attempt to capture the intent of the Commission.

Reliance on the SALDO revisions was discussed. It was noted that this would only have an impact if the project involved land development. It was agreed that having an overall list would be of value in the consideration of important township buildings.

**Update—December 2, 2025,        Motion to move forward with the RFP to have the document reviewed through the usual township process (administration/legal). Mr. Penecale to prepare a memo for Township Manager Mike Taylor stating that position. Motion Made by Joe Devine, second by David Sands. Motion passed on voice vote of the Commission.**

**Subsequent to the meeting, Mr. Taylor responded, requesting that member or members of the Commission, come before the Board of Commissioners to provide information supporting the RFP.**

**HC-54.2** Mr. Cook asked the Commission if there was any information regarding the status of the Carson Valley Property and the school on West Wissahickon Ave. Nothing has been shared with the Commission on this matter.

- **Update—December 2, 2025, There has been no meaningful communication regarding this matter. There is a legal action in court in the western part of Pennsylvania to determine the actual ownership of this group of properties.**
- **Update—January 6, 2026, No additional information was available.**

**HC-45.1 SALDO incorporation is in process.** Proposed revisions/ SALDO additions were presented to Planning Commission. Now in legal review **no Change**

**6) Citizen Comments**

- Mr. Cook asked about the status of the Carson Valley property. To date, the Commission has not received any information regarding the intentions of the property owners. It was suggested that the Township Manager may have more information about the property, but communication has been minimal from the owners. **(No Change)**
- **It was noted that the Springfield Township Historical Society would at least like to be authorized to take photographs of the site and the buildings, including appropriate interiors before any other actions are taken.**
- **Update—January 6, 2026, No change.**

**7) Assignment of Member Action Items**

- **Mr. Sands will meet with Mr. Comly to discuss the upcoming appearance before the Board of Commissioners**

**8) Agenda for next meeting: Focus for the next meeting will be the review of meeting with the Commissioners.** All new agenda items shall be forwarded to Mr. Penecale at least one week prior to scheduled meeting date

**9) Adjournment** Adjournment at 6:50 PM on Motion by Matthew Harris, second by David Sands. **Next meeting will be February 3, 2026**

Respectfully Submitted

Albert M. Comly, Jr., AIA  
Secretary