

SPRINGETTSBURY TOWNSHIP
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
MAY 23, 2013

In attendance were Dr. Luther Sowers, Lee Davis, Turk Pierce, June Frick, Lois Miller and Mickey Monson of the committee; Sharon Tapp and Judy Rife, interested citizens; and Angela Liddick, representing the township.

The April minutes were approved on a motion by Lois, seconded by June.

Angie reported the only demolition permit was for a garage at 2605 N. Sherman St.

A discussion of planned demolition at 2419 Sunset Road, off Sherman St., revealed there was no problem.

In discussion of the plan to update the committee's Historic Resource List next month, Turk wondered why his childhood home at 3937 Ridgewood Road was not included on the committee's top 100 list of oldest buildings in the township. Mickey said we need to go through the committee's books.

Mickey reported that surprisingly, according to Historic York, Inc., the Schultz House does not qualify for an extra 20% tax credit, even though it was built in 1754. The "pent" which was part of the exterior of the house halfway up, is gone. In addition, the house originally had a chimney in the center, now there are chimneys on each side. In light of this development, the prospective buyer has backed out.

Dr. Sowers wondered about the boarded-up building next to Barnhart's Motel on Market St. This was possibly the headquarters of Gen. Gordon when Confederate troops came through this area prior to the battle at Gettysburg. June will check on that.

Stephen H. Smith gave a presentation on how to research land ownership. Smith, who writes a blog five times a week for the York Daily Record, worked 33 years at York International, but in 2001 he completed a history of his mother's family, the Barshingers, and this book won a genealogical society prize in 2002, so he retired from York International to write family histories. He said the York County Heritage Trust has records. Neal O. Hively has done great work in tracing land ownership from Colonial times into the 20th century. There was little change in property boundaries from the 1700s until 1966, then developers came in and changed things. A warrant was used to buy land from the Penn family, a surveyor produced a more detailed patent, and a deed was more precise yet, as he demonstrated by drawing the boundaries of the property purchased by Alva Long in 1950 from the Robertsons. Aerial photos are a big help. The York County Archives has deeds up to the 1950s on line; the Recorder of Deeds office has more recent deeds. The web site pennpilot.psu.edu has aerial maps, and U.S. topographical maps are also helpful.

The meeting was adjourned by Dr. Sowers.

Respectfully submitted,
Turk Pierce