

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMITTEE MINUTES

Feb. 23, 2012

In attendance were Dr. Luther Sowers, Mickey Monson, Lois Miller, June Frick, Steve Kohler, Lee Davis and Turk Pierce of the committee. Angie Liddick represented the township.

The Jan. 26 minutes were approved on a motion by Lois, second by Mickey.

No demolition permits were issued.

A check has been issued to the township finance department for the replacement of the Olde East York sign on E. Market St. near Eastern Blvd. Discussion of exactly where to erect this sign resulted in Lois suggesting moving it a little east of where the previous one was, to avoid conflict with other signs. Graphik Masters will be doing the work on the sign (the township will do the installation) and Greg from Graphik Masters will check for deterioration on the other sign, at the east end of East York.

Dr. Sowers said he has not yet been in contact with the owners of the AOY Properties barn on Industrial Highway but will be.

The inquirer about the Ridgewood Road ghosts was referred to the township's centennial book.

Mickey reported that Chris Mudd will be opening a furniture store on North Hills Road in back of the self-storage units (former Coca-Cola bottling plant). He will have an aviation theme, as this is on part of the property once occupied by the Whitehall Airport.

A discussion was held on the "Mary MacIntosh" building on E. Market St. June said there had been a question about possible toxins in the soil from the dry cleaning business and the township had responded to that inquiry last year. Dr. Sowers said Clair Buchart had built the building, and his daughter Wendy and daughter-in-law Barbara were trying to sell it.

Dr. Sowers felt the presentation by Bryan Van Sweden at last month's meeting was a lot of information, but the committee would step on someone's toes if it tried to implement some of the suggestions. Mickey thought we might get state grant money for our projects and Angie said if the committee would find one project to focus on we might get a grant. Mickey noted that state money was used for the original Olde East York signs.

Lee noted that parts of the Road House restaurant have been torn down as it undergoes renovation and wondered if a demolition permit was needed. Angie thought the building permit would cover all work at the site.

Lee also wondered what the construction was that was going on at Davies Drive, which is east of the Food Lion Plaza opposite Cinema Drive. Angie said the road would be extended to the area of the 9-1-1 center if they could get across the railroad tracks.

Lee also mentioned an outhouse and a spring house survive from the old Throne Farm on Old Orchard Road. The farmhouse was torn down in 1992. Lee also noted there is more to be done on the restoration of the Witmer School on Stonewood Road.

The committee gave Mickey approval to dispose of attachments to the old Olympus camera.

Mickey reported she has started rearranging the filing cabinets and Angie said she can put the reorganized material on the computer. Mickey said some old pictures have been identified and she found a copy of the original land grant for the York Valley Inn and some other old maps. Better storage is needed. Angie had a copy of a letter written by Helen Elfner in 1992 that outlined her family's history with the Valley Inn Farm. The family moved there in 1924.

Angie said she had an inquiry about the Strickler Burying Ground. Dr. Sowers noted this was between the prison and the old Miller's School. June pointed out no one should go on prison property without permission.

The meeting was adjourned at 2 p.m. on a motion by June with a second by Lois.

Respectively submitted,
Turk Pierce