

Township of Pequannock
Historic District Commission

The regular meeting of the Pequannock Township Historic District Commission was held Wednesday June 7, 2017 at 7 p.m. at the Pompton Plains Railroad Station Museum with all members and council liaison present except Anita Daniel.

The minutes of the May meeting were accepted as sent by Lou Hebert and seconded by Bob Safarik.

1. Martin Berry House

a. Township agreement with the Historical Society status...This is pending. The agreement is being discussed at town hall and hopefully will be acted on soon.

b. The Historical society executive board had a tour of the house and found that Eleanor Bogert had left some very interesting and beautiful things including a corner cupboard.

c. Tour of the House by Municipal staff...Cathy Winterfield will look into a date for this. It is good to let as many people as possible see this treasure and talk it up,

2. Notifications of site plan or demo work on township historic properties....none received. Dave Wisneski said the house on Oak Ave. is still in question. He also mentioned a giant tree on Oak Ave (as per our last meeting talking about designating trees for recognition.)

3. Special Events Participation and Exhibits for 2017

a. Memorial Day exhibit in Grace Chapel...Thanks to George Janowicz, Ed Englebart, Bob Safarik and Jay Wanczyk for the set up. Sadly the parade was cancelled so it was not visited but pictures were taken.

b. We will participate in the Hoe-Down the third Saturday of September. The Historical society will also participate. It was suggested that they use the set-up they had for the Street Fair.

c. Pathways...Weekend of October 7 and 8

1. Plan for the possibility that the Martin Berry House grounds may be available.

2. Ed Englebart attended the last meeting and he reported that we need more signage (possibly on Route 23. He also mentioned two-sided flyers for store windows. The group also suggested costumes and a theme (Perhaps we could do the "station ghost") He also said that there would be no objection to having two sites open (Martin Berry House next year...hopefully)

3. Possible commission/society brochures available.

4. Museum Updates

a. Sewer Connection....still pending

b. County Bike Path update. The consulting engineer for the bike path visited the Museum during the street fair and said it would be ready next year for sure. This is very positive news from a good source.

c. Spring Outdoor facility inspection

1. Jay Wanczyk gave a detailed list of possible maintenance items that we might consider applying for a grant to update.

a. Some paint chipping on the façade and gutters.

b. The roof is not leaking but down the road we might consider restoring it to the original slate pattern.

c. The semaphore pole is cracked and could be a hazard in a bad storm.

5. Reports

- a. Open space Advisory Board...Bob Safarik had nothing to report.
- b. Historical Society updates

1. They had a new booth at the street fair. This was excellent with a new focus. We also realized we need new banners.

2. The speaker at the June meeting gave an interesting thumbnail history of New Jersey.

3. This group will hold no meetings in July and August unless they get access to the Martin Berry House. The executive board will meet.

4. It was discussed that they might have a booth at the fireworks for information only.

6. Other Business

a. Ed Englebart reported on the recent cemetery tour. He said numbers were down. He felt \$20 was too much...maybe \$10 or \$12. He also reported that the Morris School district runs a senior program and wants a tour on Oct 2 about Civil War Vets. They charge \$25 including the bus. Ed will ask for \$19 to donate to the Historical Society.

b. Ed Englebart, George Janowicz and Ken Montanya (of the Butler Historical Society) will give a Reaction Motors presentation at the Rockaway Township site.

c. Ann Kroll, a museum visitor asked if anyone knew about an airfield near Oping Rd. (None of us did.)

7. Donations

a. Butler Brown Cemetery Book

b. Schuyler family genealogy

c. A directory of soldiers and sailors of Morris County prepared by Jan Williams of Morris County Public Works

d. We also received many pictures from Eleanor Bogert's collection (found in the house).

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 by Bob Safarik and George Janowicz.

Respectfully submitted Jane Costello