

The regular meeting of the Cheltenham Township **HISTORICAL COMMISSION** for November 2021 was held tonight. Members present: Stephen Conrad, Timothy Esposito, Donald Jones, Liza Meiris, Geoff Shulik, Karen Shulik, Mary Washington, Joyce Werkman, Thomas Wieckowski. Guests present: Steve Quigley. Staff present: Brian Hinson, Director of Parks and Recreation and Kelly Rebitz, Administrative Assistant.

1. **Call to Order** – Mr. Wieckowski called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.
2. **Acceptance of Minutes** – Mr. Jones made a motion for the minutes of the October 14, 2021 meeting to be approved. Mrs. Washington seconded the motion, and the minutes were unanimously approved.
3. **Review of Financial Report** – None.
 - A. Donations at the Open House – Mr. Wieckowski said there was \$243.00 in contributions from the Open House.
4. **Committee Reports**
 - A. **Education** –
 1. Sponsored Lectures for 2022 – Mr. Jones shared his progress in planning two lectures.
 2. February Lecture – Mr. Jones recommends an in-person guest lecture at the Black History Month Program on February 10, 2022. He has requested the right to switch from an in-person presentation to virtual if her schedule prevents her from being able to be physically present. Mr. Hinson stated that Cheltenham Township is continuing with virtual meetings until further notice. He recommended the meeting be held virtually.
 3. May Lecture – Mr. Jones has not booked a presenter at this time. They will plan to hold the Preservation Month Program on May 12, 2022, in person, but will switch to virtual if necessary.
 - B. **Preservation** – Mr. Conrad said that he checked into the Goodman Property on Waverly Road and talked with former Cheltenham Township Commissioner Andrew Sharkey. There was no oral or written consent between Goodman Properties and Cheltenham Township to permit the Commission to take photographs to document the historic house. Township Commissioner Ann Rappoport asked Mr. Wieckowski to draft a letter to be used to reach out to Mr. Goodman with a request to be permitted to take photos the next time the house is vacant.
 - C. **Museum** – Mr. Wieckowski thanked Brian Hinson and Allen Brown for the great plaster job that was done at the Wall House.
5. **Chairman's Report**
 - A. **Fall Newsletter Available** – Mr. Wieckowski announced the completed newsletter, and that Mr. Esposito distributed an E-version of the fall 2021 *Wall Paper* newsletter.
 - B. **Report on Questers Tour** – Mr. Wieckowski said that the Questers group reserved an hour tour but enjoyed the museum so much they stayed two and a half hours. Before departing they made a donation.
 - C. **Update and Review on Repairs** – Mr. Wieckowski said Mr. Brown has a contractor that will perform the work on the roof and gutters.
 - D. **Loan to Wissahickon Historical Society** – Mr. Wieckowski, with Ms. Werkman's assistance, located a World War II era Wedding Dress that the Wissahickon Historical Society asked to borrow to use in their special World War II exhibit this month. Mr. Wieckowski thanked Ms. Werkman for her help in locating the correct wedding dress.
 - E. **Arcadia Walking Tour of Historic Glenside** – Mr. Wieckowski has been assisting Arcadia with a special project. The Public Art Department at Arcadia developed and printed self-guided walking tour maps with QR codes that open a recorded description of the location that corresponds to the code. Maps can be obtained by visiting Ely's Café or on the computer/smart phone by visiting www.arcadiapublicart.com/glenside-walking-tour.html.

6. **Staff Report** –
 - A. Fate of Township Buildings - Mr. Hinson shared information about a new citizens *Facilities Committee* that will meet Sunday, November 21, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom. He invited Commission members to attend the meeting and to consider joining so their opinions and ideas can be heard. Mr. Wieckowski said that he was going to set up a time with Mr. Hinson to go to Rowland Community Center to take an inventory of the artifacts in the building. He asked for volunteers to assist with the inventory and with moving the items out of Rowland Community Center and into a new location -to be determined. A conversation ensued.
7. **Old Business** –
 - A. Report on October 24th Open House Legacy Visitors – Mr. Conrad shared with the Commission that members of both the Shoemaker Family and the Bosler Family toured the Wall House. One of the families had done a lot of research on the Meschianza, a large farewell party held in Philadelphia during the Revolutionary War. Mr. Wieckowski said he would like to highlight Legacy visitors in the next newsletter.
8. **New Business** –
 - A. Demolition Permit: 200 Deaver Road -Remains from House Fire - Mr. Quigley spoke on the damage of the Carriage House. The fire damaged the house beyond repair. Discussion ensued on the history of the house and property. The cost to restore the Carriage House would be too great. The owners plan to build a new house on the property. Mrs. Washington made a motion to recommend approval of the demolition permit. Mr. Conrad seconded the motion which passed unanimously.
 - B. Website Revisions – Mr. Esposito is working with the Township to have the Historical Commission webpages updated. The update has not been completed at this time.
 - C. Zoom – Ms. Werkman offered the use of the Citizens for the Restoration of Historic La Mott (CROHL) Zoom account for the February lecture. Mr. Jones shared that the fee for one session is about \$15.00, if the Commission wanted to upgrade. Mr. Wieckowski will also research purchasing a Zoom upgrade for the Commission.
9. **Moment in History** – attached.
10. **Good and Welfare** – Mrs. Washington inquired about the Garden Club Holiday decorations. A conversation ensued. This year discussion included minimal decorations such as wreaths on the exterior of the building, but no decorations inside.
11. **Adjournment** – Mr. Jones made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Ms. Werkman seconded, and the motion was unanimously approved to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 p.m.



Robert Zienkowski
Township Manager

Submitted by: Kelly Rebitz