

**TOWNSHIP OF LOWER MAKEFIELD
HISTORICAL COMMISSION
September 21st, 2020 - Minutes**

The regular meeting of the Lower Makefield Historical Commission (HC) was held virtually on Monday, September 21, 2020 via Zoom. Helen Heinz called the meeting to order at approximately 5 PM.

Those present: Helen Heinz, Chair & Treasurer
Becky Diamond, Co-Secretary
Joe Camaratta, Treasurer
Eric Rockenbach, Co-Secretary
Fred Weiss, Board of Supervisors Chair

Treasurer's Report - Helen voiced a concern about the money in our community fund. The yearly budget is \$500 per cycle. Christa gave Helen a folder containing all the past receipts. Recently money has been spent on the canopy, printing posters for the Slate Hill tombstones event and the township historical video.

Financial - No bank account of our own, the account in our community fund, money held by the Township. Balance - \$4667.90.

Minutes—Joe approved minutes from prior meeting. Becky seconded the motion.

Slate Hill Cemetery:

- The dedication for the tombstone replacements has been scheduled for this Saturday, September 26 at 1 pm. Fred will ask the township if we can get some chairs. Eric will donate some water bottles. Helen is working on a blurb about the six soldiers. Becky is bringing the canopy tent and two tables. Ann and Barb will plant flowers by the gravesites. Barb has been in contact with the press and politician outreach. Posters have been posted around the area and Helen will put up more in the borough. Posts have been put on social media. We will need to send out thank you notes after to McCaffrey's, Greg Hucklebridge and Wells Fargo Bank after the event.

Lower Makefield Historical Society vs Yardley Historical Society:

- At a recent meeting of the Lower Makefield Historical Society, Helen and Donna Doan were the only people at the time of the virtual meeting who voiced being against the merger of the two groups. A combined 501(c)(3) organization that straddles municipality boundaries, would limit the ability of the organization to apply for grants, state and federal assistance, and funding from other non-profits for projects in either municipality. This would seriously limit the new Historical Society's ability to support preservation efforts in Lower Makefield Township. Sandy Nuzzolo of YHS thinks it would be good to pool resources. Susan Taylor (also of YHS) wants to archive their collection and is seeking a grant. Helen recommends that all historical data be sent to BCHS to be properly archived and stay in a temperature-controlled environment. Becky thought that if YHS wants to spend money on archiving, then LMHS needs to be able to spend an equal amount on what they want.
- Helen suggested meeting with the township manager to expedite a 501C3, but Fred stated that the township has no interest. BOS sets a policy, and the HC advises and promotes historical causes.
- Joe recommended a meeting with the Patterson Farm Preservation 501(c)(3) to assess their interest in historical preservation projects outside Patterson Farm.

Prickett Property:

- Helen: The developer only mentioned one historic building in its application, which was sent in March, instead of including the barn, the carriage house, the well house listed on the 1980 report by the PA Heritage Conservancy. However, during the meeting, Jim Majewski sent a note to Helen stating that “he had a site walk that morning with the developer and they will allow a PHMC authorized Phase 1 archaeological survey. The root cellar is in front of the house and will not be disturbed by the project. The outhouse was no longer on the property in 2007. They would also be willing to meet with the HC to walk the site.” This is something we will be pursuing.

Long Range Goals

- Joe will look into potential projects with LMHS township control for his work with BCCC, particularly projects that have fallen through the cracks and structures within Edgewood Village. He will put together a list of structures

Meeting adjourned at 6 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Becky Diamond