

MINUTES
May 9, 2007

Kennett Square Historical Commission
Borough of Kennett Square

- A. Call to order
 - 1. 7:04 PM
 - B. Present
 - 1. Dan Maffei, Chair, Barbara Abate, Linda Irwin, Laura Jackson, Susan Myers, Prissy Roberts, Lynn Sinclair, Rudi Steinberger, Carla Willard
 - 2. Absent: Sally Warren
 - C. Visitors
 - 1. Norris Smith, Charles Thompson, 424 S. Union Street, Mark Strengari, 422 S. Union Street.
 - D. The minutes of the 4/11/07 meeting were approved as written.
 - E. Treasurer's Report
 - 1. income: none
 - 2. expenditures: none
 - 3. balance: \$4040.45
 - F. Visitor Discussion
 - 1. Charles Thompson presented photos of his home at 424 S. Union Street with a list of items to be completed by Prestige Home Improvements. Items of special interest were new shingles on the second floor and vinyl siding in the eaves.
 - 2. The HC has no objections to the changes but made several recommendations:
 - a. the HC would prefer that the original materials be preserved rather than removed and replaced
 - b. second choice would be to cover the original materials so they may be restored at a later date
 - G. Opening Comments
 - 1. Sally Warren via e-mail has officially resigned from the Commission.
- OLD BUSINESS**
- H. Holiday Home Tour
 - 1. Carla presented the Commission with a check for \$1725.00 which was ½ the proceeds of the 2006 Holiday Home Tour. Carla was thanked for the highly successful event.
 - 2. Carla reported that Historic Kennett Square has agreed to release the HC from a verbal agreement to divide half the proceeds of the Holiday Home Tour. In the future, HKS will sell Tour tickets through their office, include the Holiday Home Tour in their Holiday advertising, and include the Tour on their web page. The fees for these services will be negotiated prior to the event.
 - I. Lecture Series

1. It was decided by the Commission to start the Lecture Series in September. The advertising, speakers and handout materials will be in place before the first presentation. Carla will assist Laura in lining up topics and speakers; Lynn will co-ordinate refreshments, Dan will do the graphic arts for flyers and make introductions. Discussions on advertising the Series include the following venues: newspaper ad, flyers delivered to every household, flyers to hand out at the Town Tour, posters (paint stores, Sears, Peter Lumber, Danby's, etc.), and Historic Kennett Square calendar.

J. Chester County Town Tours and Village Walks

1. Dan submitted a photograph and paragraph for the Tour mailing brochure. The Borough's phone number was used to receive calls. Notification of the Town Tour will be given to the Kennett Paper as well as Historic Kennett Square (Calendar of Events), the Borough for website posting, the Borough Manager, David Fiorenza (Rudi will contact), and the Merchants (Carla will contact).
2. The tour will commence at the Genesis Walkway at 6:00PM and the last tour will start at 6:45 PM. Areas to be covered: East State St., N. Broad St., E. Linden Street, N. Union Street to Fairthorn for refreshments. Linda will be in charge of getting volunteer docents.
3. Susan researched the availability and cost of buntings, flags and bolts of patriotic stars and stripes for the tour. It was decided by the Commission to inform the public of the event and let them decide what they would use.
4. Submit an article in the Kennett Paper about Flag Day and have the neighborhoods and merchants fly their flags and buntings.
5. Lynn discussed the talking points of the Tour script she is preparing for the June 14th event.
6. Susan presented information on research she has done on the availability and cost of Revolutionary War Re-enactors. She has spoken to Mr. Bowers from the Brandywine Battlefield and re-enactors from Elkton, MD. A decision will be made after cost and availability is finalized.
7. Linda will compose a flyer to notify the neighbors of the walking tour.
8. Lou Mandich will put Jake at the Willard's home to be displayed with their antique car.
9. Linda will be in charge of the registration table.
10. Prissy will call Joe Lordi & Dolores Rowe to ask them to be present for their book signing. Carla will set up a table for them on the porch.
11. Barbara will contact the Police Department about a month ahead of the events for any traffic issues, street crossings, etc. Barbara will also put up parking and directional signs the day of the event.

K. House Plaques

1. If gifts were to be given to homeowners participating in the Holiday Home Tour, Prissy outlined the 3 options as to how the gift money could be spent.
 - a. \$650.00 for 10 framed poster (current gifts to homeowners)

- b. Homeowners choose between a bronze house plaque (historic home); or, if a newer home, a plaque whose design would be determined by the HC (Lynn volunteered to do the house research and Norris would install the plaques if the homeowner could not). Matching money would come from the HC; this would be one way to identify historic homes and educate the community.
 - c. Put the \$650 toward an historic marker to identify an historic site, i.e., the Walker Underground Railroad House, Train Station, Kennett High School, etc. The Historical Commission would have to make up the difference in the final cost.
 - 2. The Commission felt the project would be expensive and that this was basically a decision of the Holiday Home Tour Committee as they were the group raising the funds. A decision was tabled until next month. In the meantime, the debate will go back to the HHT Committee.
- L. "Pave the Way"
 - 1. The Commission had no objections to Linda's suggestion to purchase a brick for \$100 for the Kennett High School fundraiser. The brick will read, "Kennett Square Historical Commission".
- M. Susan reviewed the nominees for the annual Historic Preservation Award. The Bontrager's home at 206 S. Union Street was voted as the first choice winner of the Preservation Award. Susan requested that the Commission be present at the May 21st Borough Council meeting when these awards will be presented.
- N. Dan will write a "Letter to the Editor" to the Kennett Paper in response to a recent editorial

NEW BUSINESS

- O. "Then and Now"
 - 1. Susan suggested we initiate a "Then and Now" campaign to start collecting and identifying old photographs and projecting them side-by-side with recent photographs. Displays can be made and articles can be written for the newspapers.
- P. East Linden Street Project
 - 1. Rudi will prepare a detailed report for the Commission at the July meeting discussing the East Linden Street home repair project and its results.
- Q. Adjourn
 - 1. 9:00PM

Respectfully Submitted,
Prissy Roberts

The next meeting is June 13, 2007 at 7:00 PM at the Genesis Walkway for a walkthrough of the Town Tour.

