

## Historical Commission Monthly Meeting Minutes - 2 April, 2024

Attendees: Jane Yeksigian, member  
Mary Schlachter, member

In March of 2024, Mr. Michael Summerfield volunteered, and was approved by the London Grove Township Board of Supervisors as a member of the London Grove Township Historical Commission. Welcome Mr. Summerfield – we look forward to volunteering with you! The board plans to update Mr. Summerfield on the various efforts the team is working.

Lots of effort with respect to the America/PA/Chester County 250 planning. Ms. Schlachter provided a verbal update highlighting the:

- March 22, 2024 CC250 Zoom meeting.
- March 23, 2024 Chester County Historic Commission luncheon.
- We ensured the CC 250 London Grove Township resolution supporting Mr. Green, Ms. Schlachter and Ms. Yeksigian's participation in the CC 250 was provided to the Chester County Representative(s), Mr. David Blackburn and Ms. Heather Reiffer, Chester County 250 Senior Coordinator.

Ms. Schlachter's minutes of both meetings/events for the record will be presented electronically to the team, and filed with the London Grove Township Historical Documents.

We reviewed Mary Schlachter's draft efforts/tasks to support the London Grove Township to support the CC 250<sup>th</sup>, added a few additional topics and discussed next steps. Mary Schlachter's proposed topics will be a fluid document and will be reviewed, developed, and retained for our CC 250 files.

Ms. Schlachter flagged two meetings for our planning schedules:

- Friday, June 7<sup>th</sup> 2024 – 8:30 – 12:30 – **Getting Ready for 250 in Chester County!** Prepare for an exciting morning of idea generation and planning, and also hear from our local legislators! To discuss with our legislature representatives – ideas, collaboration and how we can support this effort.

Location: Thornbury Farm, 1256 Thornbury Road, West Chester PA 19382 and,

- Wednesday, Jun 26, 2024 – Chester County Historic Picnic – (CCPHN will provide updates for this function).

She noted the Chester County Heritage Preservation Network (CCHPN). developed a master “Heritage Preservation Tourism Plan” plan which was in the review and approval cycle. CCHPN indicates the planned approval date by the County Commissioners is April 2024. The objective is “to pull the ‘sites’ together to support tourism and the 250<sup>th</sup>.” The document is intended to be posted on the CC 250 Website.

Action: Jane Yeksigian and Mary Schlachter intend to visit the Chester County History Center in the next couple months to ensure we are XXX.

Subsequent to the April 2, 2024 Monthly meeting, the team (Doug Green, Jane Yeksigian and Mary Schlachter) met at the township building on Tuesday, April 9<sup>th</sup> to work on sorting and filing some of the township home files and artifacts.

In addition, the team discussed our notional plan to create a process and approach for hosting London Grove Township Historic Home and site visits with Mr. Battin (Township Manager), and Ms. Dawn Macjeczyk (Assistant Township Manager). They concurred with our draft approach. Agreed to elements include:

- Develop a strawman process
- Present to the Board of Supervisors for review and approval – 5 – 10minute update.
- The plan will include:
  - o Host visits twice yearly, self-driven, starting with a tour of the township building with a volunteer conducting a tour of the building (e.g. artifacts from the XX house, the art work, etc).
  - o Mr. Battin suggested hosting it on the same date as Chester County Historic Homes Visitor Day (Chester County Hospital runs). He suggests 3 or 4 houses per event. - Hours – 10 AM – 4 PM.
  - o Charge a fee to support a “Historic Home” plaque fund - \$20 - \$25 per car and \$10 per single, and that we inform historic homeowners

of our plan to create this fund to support historic home signage installation.

- Create a proposed list of properties/POCs. Ensure we create a policy for homeowner's coordination – tell them we will set up tents with volunteers outside the home to monitor guests.
  - How will we conduct outreach with the community? Promote the Historical home tour and the process in diverse web sites. Develop the historic home info for September, 2024 for which we will visit.
  - Proposed 1<sup>st</sup> year site/candidate homes: Friends Meeting Cemetery, Mark Sullivan House, Ann Preston House, African (?) Cemetery near Mary, the Creamery, her neighbor Waynes' property
  - Create visit map once the plan and homes are approved. (for the event) (POC Doug Green).
  - Doug was going to contact the Trust in DE that oversees the African Cemetery to see if they were receptive to our hosting visits at this site.
  - Contact the Kennett Square POC to ask about historic sign/plaque process/purchase – Reference: "National Historic District house plaque program." Ref: Kennett Heritage Center email of 1 Apr 2024 - " SEE " Plaques Tab in WWW.KennettHeritageCenter.org
- 21 September, 2024 was the proposed date for the inaugural event.
  - Jane Yeksigian volunteered to draft this process.

Ms. Mary Schlachter updated Mr. Battin, Ms. Macjeczyk, Ms. Yeksigian and Mr. Green on a phone call she received from a girl scout leader indicating the senior (aka Ambassador) girl scouts would like to make improvements to the Cemetery (name?) o Guernsey Road. They would like to improve signage and make stone repairs. Doug Green said he would attempt to locate and contact the cemetery owners (a church in Delaware – a trust?) to receive approval for this work. Dawn indicates the township maintains this property. We also will encourage the Girls Scouts to plant flowers, etc. This information will be presented at the May 8<sup>th</sup> Board of Supervisors meeting for their information/approval. Mary intends to follow up and the tentative work is scheduled to commence on **15 May, 2024**

Next Meeting: Wednesday, 1 May, 2024 @ 1PM in the Township Building.

Agenda:

- Approve the April 2, 2024 Minutes and review the updated 2 April 2024 Task/action Item listing
- Discuss findings for the cemetery on Guernsey Road to support the Girl Scout's request to make signage and stone improvements – (DE Trust Church?) – Doug
- Summer newsletter topic: America/PA/CC/London Grove250?
- Attendance at June Friday, June 7<sup>th</sup> 2024 – 8:30 – 12:30 – **Getting Ready for 250 in Chester County and the** Wednesday, Jun 26, 2024 – Chester County Historic Picnic/function
- London Grove Historic Home Tours - Visitor Process/Protocol (and a key effort for LGT support of CC 250!)
- Schedule in-house working sessions – residence photo filing, create the Goddard House File, develop and expand the approach for completing the CC/LGT 250 Topics.

Attachment: 2 April, 2024 Action Item Roster “Tasks for 2024”