

**EASTTOWN TOWNSHIP HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
(ETHC)  
MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES  
October 12, 2022**

ETHC members in attendance: Palmer Dalesandro, Joyce DeYoung, Richard Di Stefano, Bill Friedrich, Stacey Rohrbeck, Anna Sicalides and Kathleen Weiss  
Also attending: Alex Bosco – Board of Supervisor (BOS) Liaison; Eugene Briggs – Township Staff Liaison; Michelle Bradley – President, Friends of Historic Waynesborough

- **Meeting was called to order**
- **September 14, 2022 minutes were approved.** Motion accepted by Bill F and seconded by Kathleen W and Palmer D.
- **Receive New Township Building Update**

Kathleen W reviewed what was sent to the BOS. She said that this was a big change from her prior review. Some of her concerns: the parking garage, not seeing that some of the historical elements were incorporated in the design, the railings, and the shape of the building. She would also like to see some of the old stone wall be incorporated in the new design and isn't sure if any stone is going to be reused. She will attend the next meeting and provide her input. Overall feels this new design is very modern. Gene B said that any of us on the ETHC can provide comments to him while copying the entire BOS and he will pass on. Gene B confirmed that this was the "first pass" and that with our input the design could change.
- **Discussion on Status of Historical Commission 2022 Projects**
  - Training – Joyce D had been assigned this topic and will update us in about a week. Separately, five members of the ETHC will be attending a training session on November 12 and potentially Alex B will be joining.
  - Resident Interaction – We have not any interaction in terms of individuals reaching out to us. However, Bill F recently spoke to two people in the Village about potential changes to the Village, and they were engaged and interested in further pursuing.
  - Resident Research – None has taken place since this last meeting.
  - Articles – Michelle B shared that the second article she wrote will be in the upcoming "Everything Easttown" publication. She has a third one ready. Joyce D submitted one about Berwyn as well. Joyce D also has an article about the Devon Inn in process that will be suitable for publication on the township website. Bill F said that we should have a bank of articles and

certain topics. We re-discussed doing a series about the businesses in Berwyn.

- Mapping Update – Bill F confirmed he has materials from Joyce D and Stacey R. Palmer D is done but needs to pull together. Rich D is still pulling together. All others owe Bill F their updates. Anna S reminded us that the Village of Berwyn was not assigned to anyone and that she will be employing a consultant.
- Certified Local Government / Zoning – nothing to discuss at this meeting.

#### ○ **Receive Liaison Reports**

- Board of Supervisors – They reviewed the new ordinances. Gene B will print 5 copies of said document for members of the ETHC. Gene B is concerned about the work that will be required of the ETHC as a result of the ordinances, specifically related to the Village. He reminded us that once the ordinances are adopted, we are in it. Anna S suggested some work being done offline in executive sessions but Gene said this most likely would not be possible as decisions need to be made in the “sunlight.” Alex B suggested sub-committees of 2-3 members. Another BOS topic was the ETHC make-up for 2023. It was confirmed that Stacey R, whose term is up at year-end, is not re-applying, which leaves the ETHC with one opening. Anna S and Palmer D will need to re-apply as their terms are also expiring as of December 31, 2022. We discussed the backgrounds / experience of the individuals whom we would like to have apply.
- Planning Commission (PC) – Kathleen W shared that the October 4 meeting ZOOM did cut out before the meeting was completed. They reviewed the omnibus. There was concern about the ETHC’s mission. Kathleen W feels that the PC doesn’t understand the ETHC’s processes and why certain assets are on the list. They are concerned about legalities if the omnibus goes through. They wanted to remove the Historical Commission component of the omnibus out of the ordinances. The public hearing is November 21. There is another PC meeting between now and then. Gene B suggested that Anna S reach out to Ann Rothman of the PC so the PC could have a better understanding of the ETHC.
- Environmental Advisory Council – Bill F is working on the trees projects in the Village.

#### ○ **New Business**

- Anna S suggested that for home/site visits there needs to be guidelines. Anna S will create and Joyce D will review. Bill F and Kathleen W also said they could be involved in the project.
- 422 South Waterloo – Anna S asked Gene B about the work being done on this property. Gene B said he will have the inspector look at it. Anna S would like to do a site visit; Gene B will facilitate.
- The firehouse is looking for someone in our group to help them preserve / honor the existing building as they work on their new building. Kathleen W volunteered. Palmer D shared that there was a recent article about this building that he will send onto her.
- Anna S reminded us of the township November 2, 2022 evening meeting that we have all been invited to. Most members can attend.
- Joyce D shared that we unfortunately cannot get a group rate to the TEHS.
- **Public Comment** – Margo Tyahla lives at 42 Bridge Ave in Berwyn and had questions about the omnibus and the timing. She wanted to understand what was going to take place in the upcoming meetings and what it would mean to her / those in the Village. She asked what kind of outreach we have been doing, and Bill provided background and history. Alex B also talked about the ETHC making presentations in public meetings. Margo T shared her concern that the “historic” homes are going to be held to a “higher” standard for renovations, and Bill F explained where the ETHC’s review would come in. He said “we want to be the best friend of the homeowner.” Alex B confirmed that the ETHC guidance is not binding on the homeowner. Margo T requested that for anyone who is on the list, he/she/they should be receiving something in the mail so as to know what is going on. She said she spoke to her neighbors and they were surprised and not aware of what is going on and are worried. Anna S explained that we mostly are concerned about new construction in the Village.  
Colleen Wellstein lives at 48 Bridge Ave in Berwyn and shared that she is Margo T’s next-door neighbor. Colleen W confirmed that there is concern, specifically regarding the cost factor with renovations. Colleen W received confirmation that the ETHC gives advice and then it is up to the homeowner to decide which direction to go. Colleen W said she was comforted with this information. Colleen W also said that many in the neighborhood didn’t know about these upcoming changes and feels out of the loop and that it would be helpful for those in the Village to get more information. Bill F asked if both she and Margo T could spread the word to their neighbors about upcoming information at the Easttown Library, and they agreed. Bill F said he would pull together a presentation by the end of the weekend and Palmer D would help. If all members of the ETHC attended this meeting then a public notice would have to take place with 24- hour forewarning. Gene B suggested taking the “public notice” route and we all agreed.

**MEETING ADJOURNED 8:41 PM ET.** Next meeting: November 9 at 7:00 PM ET

Meeting minutes submitted by Stacey Rohrbeck, Secretary // 2022-10-14