

# **Delaware Township Historical Advisory Committee**

## **February 12, 2020 Minutes**

### **Pledge of Allegiance**

### **Roll Call:**

<del>Nancy Bond, Secretary</del>	Marilyn Cummings	<del>Marfy Goodspeed, Advisor</del>
Liza Davis, Chairperson	Tim Davis	<del>Joseph Vocke, Twp. Committee Liaison</del>
Robert Chamberlain	Chuck Taylor	

### **Meeting called to order at 7:37 pm**

**Visitors:** Alan Johnson, Dick Hannon, Jan Weber, Michael Cuba, Ginny Gifford, Mayor Charles Herman

### **Approval of January 8, 2020 minutes:**

Motion: M. Cummings; second: C. Taylor; corrections: change Flemington Inn to Union Hotel; approved: 4 yes, 1 abstain

### **Introduced guests:**

Alan Johnson - former Twp. Committee liaison, wishes to re-join committee

Dick Hannon - wants to learn more about his house; will work directly with Marilyn

Jan Weber - is interested in the committee, and is considering joining the committee

Michael Cuba - timber framer who collected wood samples from the Holcombe House

Ginny Gifford - moved to town recently; interested in nominating individual bridges to the NR

### **Ongoing Initiatives:**

Historic Cemeteries: Bob Leith, cemetery specialist from the Hunterdon County Historical Society, will attend in March.

Holcombe House: Dendrochronology samples were collected and are being prepared to ship to Oxford, England by the DT Historical Society for analysis.

Saxtonville Tavern: DTHAC requested additional information from the NJDEP regarding plans for the Saxtonville Tavern. Marilyn has been in contact with Mark Texel of NJ Parks and Forestry. The NJ Historic Trust is drafting the historic preservation easement. The NJDEP will respond to our letter shortly. We will email the correct postal address to Mr. Texel.

Reading School: Masonry and woodwork are underway, as will painting once the weather is warmer. Chuck and Tim are also working with the Historical Society to provide electric service without attaching anything to the building. It needs to be set up a certain way with respect to the pole on the site, or buried underground. Options are being explored; the Historical Society must raise funds.

Sergeantsville sidewalks, Route 523: Marilyn provided an update of the NJ Historic Preservation responses to her inquiries regarding the County project. Alan Johnson provided some background history on this project. It seems there is a disconnect between what was actually approved, and the understanding of what was going to be done regarding curbing and sidewalks. Marilyn and Liza

will work on a letter to the county.

Historic districts road work, Route 604:

Project contract is already awarded and could start anytime. Project involves sidewalks from the school to Rittenhouse Road, and a gravel path across the Village Green.

Historic bridges: Bob discussed communications he has had with the County regarding Bridge D-383 on Ferry Road. Truss bearing parts are deteriorating. The county is developing a scope of work and will contact Bob when they are farther along. Visitor Ginny Gifford would like to write nominations for individual bridges named in the Multiple Property Documentation Form for the Bridges of Delaware Township. We may meet in the near future to discuss this. Michael Cuba noted there is a new publication by the National Park Service called Guidelines for Rehabilitating Historic Covered Bridges available free. Liza offered to find it and send it to the HAC members and possibly the county.

Historical site signs/Township sign rehabilitation: Charles Herman related that the sign has been removed. Township is determining if it will be repaired or replaced. The posts were rotted out. Alan Johnson recalled that it was installed about 1979. Tim Davis recalled that it was refreshed in the late 1980s-early 1990s.

Stockton and Flemington Development updates: nothing new to report

**New Business:**

Liza presented the letter sent to the NJ Conservation Foundation supporting the initiative to attach a conservation easement to the Curtis Farm in Rosemont.

**Public Comments, Questions, Suggestions:**

**Committee moved to Executive Session to discuss a personnel matter.**

**Adjourned at approx. 9:45 pm:** Motion: C Taylor, second: R Chamberlain, approved unanimously.

**Next Meeting: March 11, 2020 7:30PM**