

Delaware Township Historic Advisory Committee
Minutes - September 14, 2022 - 7:00PM - Sergeantsville, NJ

Attendance

Liza Davis, chair
Tim Davis, v. chair
Nancy Bond, secretary
Anthony Anastasio

Bob Chamberlain
~~Alan Johnson~~
~~Deborah Kline~~
Chuck Taylor

Michael Cuba, advisor
Marilyn Cummings, advisor
~~Marfy Goodspeed, advisor~~

Visitors: Russ and Susan Lockwood, Valerie Tucci, Linda Setesak, Heidi Karpinich Smith, Robert Hornby Sr., Chuck Kline, Marion Steffanelli, Sally Horner, Virginia Gifford

Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of July 13, 2022 minutes approved unanimously

Officer Reports

Chairperson **mtg. dates: Nov 9, Dec 14.** Who do you know who might like to join the committee?

Vice-chairperson Tim Davis reported that Reading School continues to be mowed by Tony Szwed.

Secretary Nancy Bond reported that the Sergeantsville post office has to move, the lease ends Jan 30 2023.

The empty lot across from the post office is proposed to be heard for a variance by the board of adjustment on Oct 13, 2022. It has been proposed to build a 4-unit apartment. Chuck Cline stated that he welcomes the DTHAC comments at the upcoming zoning board meeting.

Recent Initiatives DTHAC Mission Statement

Ongoing Topics

- Historic properties:
 - Holcombe House (presentation to come)
 - Saxtonville Tavern - no report
 - Reading School - Chuck Taylor- mullions are being repaired and replaced, plaster work is next.
 - Locktown Stone Church - fundraising ongoing for the restroom facilities project
- Historic Cemeteries - County Historical Society continues efforts to have the township assume ownership of orphan cemeteries; has hired a lawyer; E. Amwell passed similar resolution
- County Engineering - Bob - County engineer to attend upcoming meeting
- Township sign update - needs to be hung in township building
- Painting frame repainting - no report
- NJDOT Rt 29 Alexauken Creek Rd project - Liza - DTHAC is on the Consulting Party list
- Informative brochure/webpage info. - 2023 goal

Presentation Michael Cuba and Marilyn Cummings: Tree Ring Dating and the Holcombe House (see over for presentation notes)

New Business Guest Chuck Kline suggested we take interest in a one room schoolhouse at the corner of rt 604 and Reading road, now in disrepair.

Adjournment

Next meeting: Wednesday, October 12, 2022, 7:00pm

contact the DTHAC at dthistoricadvisorycommittee@gmail.com

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Presentation with Marilyn Cummings and Michael Cuba

Wood core dating was done by Michael Cuba, a timber frame expert. The wood is drilled with a special tool, then polished. The sample is sent to a lab in Oxford in UK; the process is called Dendrochronology. The results changed the information we rely on concerning the 3 houses. Michael explained how the process was done.

John Holcombe house, across from the Lambertville Police Department, dated as 1764-1766, not as the 1724 date stone indicates. This is for the oldest part, the stone section. The corn crib is dated as 1762, making it very early and unique. The barn is 1763-1764. George Washington was a guest during the American Revolution.

Holcombe Jimison House, this was not dated since there were no good samples to core. The current proposed date is 1750, not 1711.

Richard Holcombe House also had conflicting dates: the middle stone part as 1808 and the tall section as 1811. This included information such as doors opposite each other to bring huge logs into the house. Having the guest speakers and guests added to the information we have available on our historic area.

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