

Lancaster Township Historical Commission

Minutes

April 5, 2021

- Commission Members in Attendance:
 - Karen Foerstel, Paula Miller, Tina Morrison, Dan Weigel, Sasha Sand
- Liaisons in Attendance:
 - Marianne Heckles, Lancaster History; Ben Webber, Lancaster Township
- Meeting called to order at 6:30 pm
- Approval of Minutes from Feb. 1, 2021, meeting
 - Motion to approve by Karen, Second by Tina, approved unanimously

- Old Business
 - Update on renovation of carriage house at 321 N President
 - Township has told the property owner that a structural engineer must be brought in to prevent further damage
 - A beam has been inserted to hold up the roof until it can be repaired
 - Update on Gables Cemetery
 - The graveyard is within the Township but owned by a third party.
 - After years of neglect, the Township Public Works Dept. has begun mowing the property.
 - PNC Bank, which had a trust over the property, says the trust has expired and that Jacob Gables now owns it.
 - The Township is not going to acquire the property due to the cost of repairs and ongoing maintenance.
 - Ben has contacted the non-profit “Grave Concerns” to suggest they acquire the property.
 - Decommissioned Township street signs
 - The Public Works Dept. is not interested in selling the decommissioned street signs that are in storage.
 - Historic Marker Program
 - Commission members will research companies that can produce the markers and determine the costs of producing the markers.
 - Ben will check if the Township Board of Supervisor is required to pass language to enact the marker program
 - Township Historic Resource Inventory
 - Discussion on how the LTHC can help create a Township Historic Resource Inventory

- New Business
 - Shenk’s Ferry People burial ground near Wabank Road
 - A new residential development call Southern Village is being constructed off of Wabank Rd., on the location of a former settlement of the Native American Shenk’s Ferry People
 - The PA Historical and Museum Commission conducted an archeological dig on the site several years ago.

- Discussion of placing a historic marker on the site. Would need to work with the Southern Village developer to place the marker on the site.
 - Wabank Rd. barn demolition inquiry
 - A barn along Wabank Rd. is in disrepair and the owner is interested in demolishing it.
 - The barn is not listed in the Historic Resource Inventory
 - Ben has recommended to the Township that the barn can be demolished per the property owner's inquiry.
- Adjournment