

Washington Township Historic Preservation Commission

Meeting Minutes

November 7, 2018

This regularly scheduled meeting of the Washington Township Historic Preservation Commission (HPC), advertised in the *Daily Record* in accordance with the Open Public Meeting Act and posted on the Municipal Building bulletin board and the Washington Township (the Township) website, was called to order at 7:08 by Chairman Stokes and is being held in the lower level meeting room of the Municipal Building, 43 Schooley's Mountain Road.

ROLL CALL: Present- Cindy Boerner-Lay, Ed Lichon, Eileen Stokes, Kevin Salamon, Steve Nebesni, Sara Catherine Lichon, and Liaison Gregg Forsbrey.

Absent: Jessica Forman. Sara Catherine Lichon was welcomed as being officially appointed.

Public Comment:

The meeting was opened to the public for items not on the agenda and closed as no one was present.

Minutes:

On motion by member Salamon, seconded by member Ed Lichon, the Commission voted to approve the Minutes of September 5 as amended. Aye: Boerner-Lay, Ed Lichon, Forman, Nebesni, Szigethy, Salamon and Stokes. Nay: None. Abstain: Szigethy, Sara Catherine Lichon.

Liaison Forsbrey updated the Commission on several topics. Properties in German Valley Historic District have been notified to remove LED and neon signs. He is investigating the feasibility of a tax freeze or credit. At that point he would ask for endorsement from HPC. Note that the Township is tracking attendance records on committees and commissions. He also commented on the Affordable Housing requirements & change in overlay for 20 Schooley's Mtn Road. ECO housing units are counted towards Affordable Housing requirements. He also discussed the imminent removal of "Bert" the Eagle for safety reasons with the approach of winter following the Conditions Survey report by the Materials Conservation Co, LLC of Philadelphia. Liaison Forsbrey left the meeting.

Applicant: Zion, Parsonage, 13 Schooley's Mtn Rd, GVHD, B33 L44, fencing

Pastor Ingrid Wengert & Executive Committee President Fred Humcke presented an application to add approximately 175 feet of 48" high fencing to the rear on the parsonage property. Proposed fencing is black-clad aluminum on two sides, chain link on the rear and the fourth side is provided by a neighbor's existing fence. Fence placement would extend to either side in alignment with the rear of the building, along the south property line separating it from the driveway and across the back, parallel with the parking lot. A sample image was provided, as well as, an aerial and site plan. Much of the fencing will be obscured by vegetation a large part of the year. They are currently looking for a company to do the installation. The fencing is necessary to contain pets. Chairman Stokes researched early fencing on the property and neighboring streetscape. Until several years ago a clipped privet hedge separated the front yard from Schooley's Mountain Road, formerly known as Main Street. There are no images of fencing associated with the property. Historic images of neighboring properties show both arched metal and painted pickets. The Commission agreed the fencing style, color and location will have minimal visual impact on the house and historic district. The fencing as proposed meets all recommendations as to style and location as outlined on page 38 of the WT Design Guidelines. Member Boerner-Lay did discuss the difference between powder-coated aluminum and galvanized fencing, as well as, the need to consider post installation techniques.

On motion by member Boerner-Lay, seconded by member Szigethy, the Commission voted to approve 4 foot high black metal fencing as presented or similar style, and chain link rear fencing (at the applicant's discretion black metal is accepted overall). A Certificate of Appropriateness, RO 11-01-18 will be issued. Aye: Boerner-Lay, Ed Lichon, Nebesni, Szigethy, Salamon and Stokes. Nay: None. Abstain: None.

Chairman Stokes is preparing the 2019 budget for submittal and asked about any budget items. She also reminded anyone with reimbursable expenses for training or other items to please submit to the Finance Department ASAP.

The proposed 2019 meeting schedule is on the bottom of the agenda showing dates for changing regular meetings back to the third Wednesday of each month. Note: bylaws must be revised.

Respectfully submitted:
Eileen Stokes

Approved unanimously January 16, 2019 on a motion by Cindy Boerner-Lay and seconded by Neil Szigethy. Ayes: Boerner-Lay, E Lichon, S Lichon, Nebesni, Salamon, Szigethy, Stokes. Abstain: Forman.