



# Kennett Township Historical Commission Meeting Minutes

801 Burrows Run Road & Call In

July 6, 2023

7:00 p.m.

- Present:** Linda Dillow (on phone), Denise Klein, Karen Marshall, Judy Merhar, Fredda Pennock, Lori Stewart (on phone).
- Absent:** Diane McGovern, Ed Rahme
- Staff:** Diane Hicks, Amy Ferris
- Visitors:** Joe Duffy, Everett Butcher, Robert and Lisa Sheedy

1. **Call to Order:** 7:07 pm by Karen Marshall, Chair

2. **Approval of Minutes:**

The minutes of the June 01, 2023, were approved with no corrections.

**MOTION:** Denise Klein, seconded by Judy Merhar

3. **Meeting Minutes**

- a. Printed agendas and minutes were available.

4. **Property Reviews:**

a. **Property Review Update: 1077 E. Baltimore Pike**

Diane Hicks asked if there was an update to the property owner's request for a demolition permit. Karen indicated he had decided to repair the carriage house. Diane will follow-up.

b. **358 E. Hillendale Road:**

Application request most to August meeting. Denise and Judy commented they had visited the property and that the addition is to the 1960 portion of the residence. They did not report any concerns in terms of adverse impact.

5. **Christ Temple Church Presentation: Everett Butcher, 605 W. Market St., West Chester**

Following Mr. Butcher's 45 minute presentation and discussion with the Commission of the historic registration of the Christ Temple Church in terms of its importance to Kennett Township, the members present decided the new information about a second period of development in the life of the church in the early 1960's clearly involved township residents. Resident Joe Duffy asked Mr. Brutcher to submit his presentation to the township for future reference which was done.

**MOTION:** Denise Klein, seconded by Fredda Pennock and passed unanimously to amend the recommendation to the Planning Commission to recognize the Christ Temple Church as a historic structure in Kennett Township and to strongly recommend the history of the property be memorialized if it is demolished.

6. **Properties of Concern: No discussion**

## 7. Business Items

### a. Historical Demolition Review Process

After discussion it was decided to add phrases from the Kennett Township Comprehensive Plan about the importance of historic resources to the beginning of the document. The procedure was approved.

### b. Hamorton Village

Karen noted that the residents are very concerned about truck traffic on Route 1 literally shaking their homes and rendering them unsafe in the future. Trucks using illegal airbrakes is one of the main problems. She asked if Kennett police could monitor. She is going to reach out to Brian Styche at the CC Planning Commission to pursue a traffic safety study. This is a major problem. Commission members noted the use of air brakes is a problem throughout the township.

### c. Kennett Historical Society

Karen noted she met with Supervisor Gamble who is interested in establishing a historical society separate from the commission. She noted she discussed the Kennett Heritage Center which represents our township and is already doing a lecture series and research. The idea of refurbishing the farmhouse at Spar Hill was discussed as a home for the Historical Commission and new society and Geoff said he would support funding to develop a refurbishment plan although there were not funds for construction at this time. More to come.

### d. Historic Building Resource Guide

Linda discussed her idea of a guide to experts to work on historic homes for township residents. The idea of asking homeowners for vendors they recommended was suggested and there was discussion about developing a marketing outreach on social media for the Historical Commission. Discussion to continue at the August meeting.

### e. Spar Hill Farm: Diane not present discuss in August

### f. Historic Resource mapping update

Lori asked about next steps and Karen explained the county would create an interactive historic properties map from the information. Contact is Colin Murtoff, GIS Planner. CC Planning Comm.

### g. Brandywine Battlefield Marker

### h. Denise reported that the sign was being moved slightly to address the homeowner's concerns and a dedication planned for Sept./Oct.

### i. Star Spangled Invitation

Members noted they did not all receive the information from Karen about the 250<sup>th</sup> celebration of our nation in 2026. Discussion in August.

## 8. Treasurer's Report: Fredda reported Restoration Carpentry had been paid.

## 9. Public Comment: Robert and Lisa Sheedy presented the historic house book on their property at 947 Sills Mill Road. It is very impressive and thorough! Robert Sheedy expressed interest in joining the commission as did Everett Brutcher.

## 10. Adjournment: 9:00 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Marshall for Ed Rahme