

Marlboro Township Historic Preservation Advisory Commission Minutes of the Meeting of March 13, 2017

Attending Members: Chairman Douglas Tilton, Secretary Jack Appel, Carol Cincotta, Peter Cuttone, Kathleen Guth, Lynn Harold, Vice Chairman Thom Healy, William Waple. Excused: Dorothy McCue.

Chairman Douglas Tilton opened the meeting in the Marlboro Town Hall at 7:05 P.M. with the Pledge of Allegiance and the roll call. The minutes of the February 13 meeting were accepted as circulated.

Chairman's Report: Chairman Tilton reported that the Commission's proposed budget had been incorporated in the proposed municipal budget. The next step will be the Town Council's vote on the budget. He noted that part of the proposed Commission budget was included in the capital budget.

Committee Reports: William Waple pointed out that Walter Smyth, who attended the February meeting, has expressed interest in becoming a member. However, the Commission is limited to nine active members. Mr. Waple then explained that the enabling ordinance does permit a person to become a friend of the Commission with non-voting rights. Following discussion, it was agreed to have Mr. Smyth become a friend. William then reported on research he had done concerning the gun (technically called a "rifle") at the Veterans' Memorial in front of Town Hall. The weapon was manufactured in the early 1800's in Pennsylvania, was used in the Civil War and the Spanish-American War, and then served aboard a ship as a ceremonial cannon. It was acquired by the Marlboro American Legion Post in the mid-1950's for display in front of its hall. After the Post's demise, the gun was relocated to the Wycoff Building on Route 79 when it served as the municipal office and then was moved to the present Town Complex when it opened. He has a historical report on the weapon and will circulate it. Lynn Harold recommended updating the Commission's website. Thom Healy said he would get information to her and Carol Cincotta provided the name of the Township's webmaster. Lynn volunteered to contact him. Regarding the Frank J. Dugan biography, Chairman Tilton proposed giving a copy of the biography to the author, Jane K. Bragg. Kathleen Guth reported that work is still progressing on the history book rewrite. She sent proposed updates to participants in the editing workshops on February 21 and February 27, and will forward copies to the other members of the Commission.

New Business: William Waple reported that the historic roadside marker on Main Street in the center of Marlboro Village was destroyed and the Public Works Department replaced it. He suggested asking that Department if they could replace some of the other signs that are in bad condition. Chairman Tilton then brought up the matter of the proposed demolition of the Smock/Mackenzie House at 42 Vanderburg Road. A builder has submitted a request to the Township to demolish the 1750 house so it can build two houses on the property. The house is listed on the Township, County and State historical databases and the property is the site where marl was discovered in 1768. Members of the Commission inspected the property on March 4 and documented it via photographs and video. Thom Healy prepared a detailed report, with the help of Lynn Harold and input from other members. (That report was subsequently given to the Township administration.) All members present voted in favor of asking the Planning Board to table the demolition permit approval for a year as allowed by the ordinance.

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 P.M. The Commission's next scheduled meeting will be held on Monday, April 10 at 7 PM in Town Hall.

Respectfully submitted,
Jack Appel