

Minutes March 16, 2021
Upper Merion Township Historical Commission

Date: **Tuesday, 3/16/2021 at 7:00 PM** (Virtual Meeting)

Name	Present	Regrets	Name	Present	Regrets
Kenn Brown			Dave Montalvo		
Eileen Council			Greg Philips		
David Dolga			Tina Smith		
Pat Jordan					
Matt McCaffery					

Guest attendee: Laura Maggio

Meeting began 7:10 PM

Reviewed, Approved the meeting minutes from February 2021

Motion to approve the Minutes: Dave M

Seconded: Tina

All present voted in favor. Motion to approve minutes carried.

Items for discussion

1) Upper Merion Township Historical Commission's Executive Summary

--Pat Jordan, HC Chairperson, will present the Executive Summary at the joint commissions meeting on April 13, 2021.

2) Voices of Upper Merion Oral History Project:

--Project tabled. Discussion followed on the need to identify how to move forward with the project.

3) PHMC Marker for Rebel Hill

--Tina, Laura continue to work on the list of primary resources for the application

--Discussion on finding primary resources for the historically black community of Rebel Hill, timeframe, noted that resources might be found with other local historical societies (Ardmore, Radnor, Montgomery County)

--Monies donated for deed searches to be documented, presented to BOS; money donated would need to be submitted to the township. The township would then make the funds available to the researcher conducting this work.

4) Update on *List* of UMT Historical Properties

--Discussion and suggestion for the HC to recommend the top five sites from the list of twenty-one sites identified in the UMT 2040 Comprehensive Plan, and from the sites listed in the KofP HS from their 1959 Report to UMT Planning Commission.

--Can the members of the HC tour these sites after prioritizing from the lists noted?

--Kenn Brown identified various sites, mentioned that he may have some of his written descriptions as a resource for the historical commission.

5) Historical Properties Updates

--Moore-Irwin House update on use of grant money received to do structural survey:
Dave D spoke with the township manager. This will be presented to the BOS at the March 18, 2021 meeting

--Sunny Hill Farm: Dave D spoke with the township manager and the Director of Public Works to identify a time when HC members could tour Sunny Hill Farmhouse, identify space requirements.

6) Question about how to research, source grants.

--Greg Philips mentioned the library has information regarding grant sources, and also noted that our PA State legislators would have resources. Greg said he would follow up with the PA State Senator and PA State Representative representing UMT.

7) Document storage and management on township server

--Dave D said that the UMT IT Director is working on updates for the township IT system
--Tina Smith will follow up with Dave on the timeframe and will work with the IT Director to draft the requirements. The requirements will then be submitted to the HC for approval to present to the BOS for their approval.

8) Spring at Gulph Mills

--Discussion identified there are two markers from that area: the PHMC roadside marker and a plaque that was installed by the Gulph Mills Civic Association on the structure of the fountain.

--Dave D. stated that in his conversation with UMT Dept. of Public Works Director, the contract between PennDOT and their subcontractor for the construction work might not allow the contractor to move the stones or plaque away from the immediate area.

--Dave D will follow up on more information from UMT Dept. of Public Works Director.

Motion to adjourn meeting: Tina

Seconded: Dave M.

All present voted in favor. Motion to adjourn carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 PM

Items tabled:

1)HC Sponsorship of an event with author of the book, Finding Om.

--Tina Smith is continuing to work with UMT Library Director on this.

--Table for now, Tina will track if any events can be scheduled, keep the HC and BOS informed

Note: Diwali 2021 is in early November

