

Minutes April 20, 2021
Upper Merion Township Historical Commission

Date: **Tuesday, 4/20/2021 at 7:00 PM** (Virtual Meeting)

Name	Present	Regrets	Name	Present	Regrets
Kenn Brown		<input type="checkbox"/>	Matt McCaffery		<input type="checkbox"/>
Eileen Council	<input type="checkbox"/>		Dave Montalvo	<input type="checkbox"/>	
David Dolga	<input type="checkbox"/>		Greg Philips	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Pat Jordan		<input type="checkbox"/>	Tina Smith	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Laura Maggio	<input type="checkbox"/>				

Meeting began 7:10PM

Motion to approve Minutes from March meeting by Tina.

Seconded by Laura

Minutes from March 16, 2021 approved.

1) UMT joint commissions meeting report from Dave Montalvo, Tina Smith.

--Update given re meeting with Community Center Commission Chair (meeting suggested by Supervisor Waks) to have educational programs, displays featured for a specific time on the history of Upper Merion Township.

--Supervisor Bill Jenaway suggested the HC find a small place in the township building for the HC and KofP HS to create a permanent but periodically changing display with the history of Upper Merion Township.

--Historical properties suggested list of properties with primary importance for the township: the working list was compiled for the 1959 report from KofP HS to the UMT Planning Commission. That was cross-referenced to the UMT Comprehensive Plan for 2040 (dated August 2017) that had been on the UMT website until recently.

HC Chairperson, Pat Jordan told the BOS that the HC would work with the current list, suggest five to ten properties.

2) Update about new project working with the KofP HS and UMT Community Center Commission

--Project suggested by Supervisor Greg Waks, Liaison to Community Center Commission (CCC)

--Form sub-committee from HC to work with Paul Kubler, CCC Chairperson

--Initial ideas to display historical artifacts at the Community Center, possibly create an educational event for students, host a trivial pursuit event, other ideas to be brainstormed! Timeframe would be for completion in Q2 2022 at the earliest due to any funding that may be required per CCC Chairperson.

3) Historic Property Updates

--Moore-Irwin House --Discussion to continue once the report is received.

--Sunny Hill Farm: HC tour will take place on May 1st, at 10:30AM.

4) PHMC Marker for Rebel Hill

--Research continues, but due to office closings and no funds for deed searches, we are at a stopping point right now. We have about 50% of the application documented, filled out.
--Dave Dolga emailed the map location suggested by township at New Gulph Rd and Rebel Hill entrance to Rebel Hill.

5) Spring at Gulph Mills, Hanging Rock, PHMC roadside marker

--PHMC roadside marker titled Gulph Mills Village—Dave Dolga has talked with Dept. of Public Works Director who will confirm the safe storage.
--HC to advise BOS to inform PHMC of marker location move due to road reconstruction.
--Fieldstone reconstruction of Fountain previously located at the spring and plaque (Gulph Mills Civic Association)
Open item: Should a sub-committee be formed to work with UMT BOS, UMT Dept of Public Works, Gulph Mills Civic Association, PHMC and PennDoT to complete these tasks:
1) Confirm the two historic makers can be placed at the corner of S. Gulph and Upper Gulph roads within the identified set-back locations
2) Decide if a new type of plaque replacing the GMCA plaque be used rather than the old plaque. Discussion that this would identify the history commemorated and identify that it is not the original structure or location of the fountain.

6) Hanging Rock area: New business item—UMT purchase from VFA the small parcel of land on which the rock sits.

--Greg Philips said he would bring this item to the BOS for their consideration:

7) Update on *List* of UMT Historical Properties

--Update from Pat from report to BOS Joint Commission meeting of April 13, 2021

8) Grant money resource identification: Update from Greg Philips noted that the BCA grant information is on the UMT website.

No update about resources from PA State legislators about finding grants.

9) Document storage project: Dave Dolga and Tina Smith will continue to work on this with the UMT IT Manager as soon as our project is the next task for the IT development team.

10) Voices of Upper Merion Oral History Project discussion following April's agenda noted that this project would be tabled.

11) Greg Philips asked Dave Montalvo to give a review the zoning changes that impact the smaller lots on Rebel Hill as well as other locations in Upper Merion Township.

12) Dave Montalvo noted that Joe Brophy organized the effort for a PHMC roadside marker for the Anna Holstein house on Henderson Road. A BCA grant was applied for and received for funding this.

13) Dave Montalvo informed the HC about an Upper Merion High school Senior project to identify five historic locations in the township, then interview a person with knowledge of that location/structure, and videotape the interview at the historic location. Dave will confirm the five locations that will be highlighted.

Motion to adjourn meeting made by Eileen

Seconded by Laura

Meeting adjourned at 8:15PM

Items tabled:

1) Diversity Project with UMT Library

2) Voices of Upper Merion Oral History Project

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Pat Jordan", with a long, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

Chair - UMTHC

5-19-21