

Minutes August 17, 2021
Upper Merion Township Historical Commission

Date: **Tuesday, 08/17/2021 at 7:30 PM** (In-person/Virtual Meeting)

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

Meeting began 7:30PM

Motion to approve Minutes from July meeting by Matt; seconded by Tina
Motion Passed 6-0.

1. Discussion regarding the Oral History Project, comments on the “Approaches and Concerns” document.

--Scope of the project as an historical project

--Guidance for building community after identifying oral histories relating discrimination, racism.

--Identification of the need for other community resources as project partners with Historical Commission

2) Upper Merion Township’s second PHMC marker will be installed at the property that was Anna Morris Holstein’s house on October 7, 2021.

--No response from BOS to the request Historical Commission submitted in July to co-sponsor the reception with King of Prussia Historical Society.

3) Historical Commission web page on UMT website—BOS liaison stated that Historical Commission should work on the prototype with PIO office, then submit for approval before the page is published.

4) Historical Displays, UMT building—Dave Montalvo and Dave Dolga confirmed that the space allocated in the township building was available for historical displays. The Historical Commission will work with the King of Prussia Historical Society on the Anna Morris Holstein display--targeted date would be in September.

5) Hanging Rock area, S. Gulph Rd markers: update from Dave Dolga that the PHMC marker re-installation will be taken care of, co-ordinates sent to PHMC by the township. However, the attempts to contact the Gulph Mills Civic Association have not been successful.

--Question outstanding if this plaque will be installed near the original location?

6) Rebel Hill PHMC marker project update on research about the historically black neighborhood—research does not support this before 1924. Laura Maggio will continue research on this aspect as well as the studio lots as part of the development of Rebel Hill.

7) Dave Montalvo presented a list of 20 historical properties in Upper Merion Township. The Historical Commission will advise the BOS on the significance of these for historical preservation for the 2040 Comprehensive Plan.

8) Update from Dave Dolga on document management for HC on township server: IT Manager will contact Dave D about this project when time becomes available.

9) Moore Irwin House

Update from BOS Liaison was that the report has not been received by the township, that it is held up due to changing construction costs, awaiting report from one of the architects.

--The Historical Commission urges the Board of Supervisors to follow up with Murray and Associates this week on the completion of the Architectural and Structural survey commissioned at the March 18, 2021 BOS Business Meeting.

--The Historical Commission advises that the Board of Supervisors asks Murray and Associates for a timeline to complete the report and that this timeline is in a written document. The deliverable date recommended is September 15, 2021.

The motion was made by Matt McCaffery to advise the Board of Supervisors of the above listed items concerning the completion and receipt of the Architectural and Structural Survey on the Moore Irwin House.

Laura Maggio seconded the motion.

All were in favor; motion passed.

10) Engaging Community with Saving Moore-Irwin House:

--The Historical Commission requests that the Board of Supervisors establish a working committee with members of the Historical and Shade Tree Commissions along with the Department of Parks and Recreation and also with some members of the community who are not on township citizens' commissions or employees of the township.

--The Historical Commission requests the Board of Supervisors' approval to create a survey asking Upper Merion Township citizens what their vision is for the use of the Moore-Irwin Property.

The motion was made by Matt McCaffery to advise the Board of Supervisors of these two points concerning the engagement of the Upper Merion citizens on the future of the Moore Irwin House.

Laura Maggio seconded the motion.

All were in favor; motion passed.

Motion to adjourn the meeting made by Matt, seconded by Laura. All were in favor, motion to adjourn passed.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 PM.

Items tabled:

- 1) Diversity Project with UMT Library
- 2) James Toner resume re Historic Preservation, architecture
- 3) PHMC Grant for document scanning, storage