



Upper Merion Township Historical Commission Minutes – January 2024 Meeting

Date: Tuesday, January 16, 2024 at 7:00 pm

Location: Henderson Room, Upper Merion Township Bldg (HYBRID)

Zoom Meeting ID: 854 8056 3647

Passcode: 906958

1. Call to Order 7:03

2. Attendance

Present: Laura Adlington, Rich Herman, Pat Jordan, Tina Smith, Kenn Brown, Dave Dolga, Greg Philips. **Guest:** Neil Sardiñas

Regrets: Matt McCaffrey

3. Reorganization

A. Tina nominated Laura for Chair; Pat seconded; All said Aye

B. Laura nominated Pat and Matt for Co-Vice Chairs; Rich seconded; All said Aye

C. Laura nominated Rich for Secretary; Tina seconded; All said Aye

4. Approval of September 2023 Minutes

A. Tina made motion to approve; Pat seconded; September 2023 Minutes approved

5. Old Business

A. America250PA

i. Discussion of collaboration with American Friends of Lafayette. Pat: parade around Conshohocken/Rebel Hill; St Patrick's Day parade (?)

ii. Greg: Potential gala with UMT Foundation, 2025.

B. New Member Recruitment

i. Discussion of new student member(s) and a potential Junior Committee

1. Rich: in conversation with a potential new student member

ii. New HC member will probably be approved by the BOS soon

C. Historic Properties

i. King of Prussia Inn

1. Neil Sardiñas: UM Parks & Recreation Advisory Board proposing trail signs at six historic locations, with BCA grant application due April 1. Seeking information (photos, research, maps) and help from UMT Historical Commission

a. The Schuylkill Canal's Catfish Dam and Lock

b. Philadelphia & Reading Railroad's Water Tank

c. Abrams Impounding Basin No. 22

d. Abrams Coal Storage

e. Upper Merion Limekilns

f. King of Prussia Inn

ii. BOS 2040 Comprehensive Plan & Historic Property Advisement

1. Meetings for the Comprehensive Plan will be open to the public

2. Discussed plans for Historic Properties within that document

iii. Powell House

1. Property is up for sale – no further updates

2. We will send our information on the Powell House to the township (Dave, Don) and the KOP-HS (Thanks, Pat, for doing that research!)
- iv. Moore-Irwin and the new BID budget
 1. It is now in the budget to relocate the historic stone wall
- v. Old Swedes –
 1. The KOP Historical Society is working with members of the Old Swedes to get it listed on the National Register. We have connected them with useful contacts to that end.

D. Events

- i. AMH/Library event 3/2 (Saturday, 2 PM)
 1. We will have a separate table for information – discussion of what flyers and information to prepare for the event
 2. Preregistration for the event will open February 2
- ii. Discussion of future displays using the display case at the Library

6. New Business

- A. Dave Dolga: PHMC Empowered History Community History Micro-Grants
- B. Police anniversary – 95th in 2026

7. Items Tabled

- A. Temporarily Tabled (Until Next Meeting)
 - i. Historical interest displays/speaker project partnership with Parks and Rec Department/Library for Fall
 - ii. Budget for 2024
 - iii. Historical Commission Webpage
 - iv. Township Building Display Cases
 - v. Police Department milestone anniversary
- B. Long-Term Tabled
 - i. PHMC Markers for Rebel Hill and Gulph Mills Encampment
 - ii. CLG Application
 - iii. Oral History Project
 - iv. Street names resource for future developments

8. Communications

- A. October, November, and December 2023 Meetings were cancelled so no Minutes will be forthcoming.
- B. Next meeting we should discuss the design for our banner (ie, for use at the Farmers Market and other events) and approval of the three bullet points about the Historical Commission mission

9. Adjournment – Tina made motion to adjourn; Pat seconded; Meeting adjourned at 20:15

X 

Laura W. Adlington, PhD
Chair, Upper Merion Township Historical Commission