

Malvern Historical Commission
Meeting of August 25, 2014
Minutes

Members Present: Lynne Hockenbury, Kurt Leininger, Helen McDonnell, Barb Leighton

Members Absent: Barbara Rutz, Zeyn Uzman

Guests Present: Barbara Beaver, Emmett Henry, Pat Marcozzi, Alicia Marziani, Patti Rossiter, Jill Shaddock, Chris Shaddick, Joan Zimnoch

The meeting was called to order at 7:45 pm.

I. Opening Remarks.

- A meeting of volunteers for the August 7th Town Tour was held prior to this monthly meeting to review what went wrong (and right) and get suggestions for future town tours, and for Lynne to thank everyone for their help with the tour. This meeting was well-attended, which included several members of the Paoli Battlefield Preservation Fund and Paoli Memorial Association.
- With so many guests in attendance whom the MHC members hadn't met before, Lynne asked everyone to introduce themselves.

II. Approval of Minutes. The July 23, 2014, minutes were reviewed, corrections noted, and approved as corrected.

III. Financial Report. Lynne reported the following updated information:

- The MHC's Borough budget has a balance \$2,188.50 as of this date.
- As of July 22nd, the MHC savings account has a balance of \$4,890.01. This reflects approximately \$750 spent for the tour brochures and flyers distributed to businesses for the trolley tour.

IV. Interviews of Potential MHC Members.

- Two of the candidates for vacancies, Joan Zimnoch and Alicia Marziani, were present and gave a brief summary of their experience, interests and qualifications.
 - Joan is a long-time Malvern resident whose family members also lived in Malvern when she was a young girl, which has given her many memories of the borough's interesting history.
 - Alicia is a recent history major graduate from West Chester University, and she is starting a certification program for historical preservation. She has lived in Malvern the past 7 years and previously resided in the surrounding area.
- The Borough Manager received two additional letters of interest from Kelly Schmitt and Gail Newman, and they will also be interviewed prior to recommending appointment of new Commissioner(s).
- Only one vacancy presently exists on the MHC, and two more vacancies will exist in the near future when Lynne and Barb L. announce their resignation.

V. Old Business.

- A. Historic Ordinance Update:** Lynne updated the status of the new Ordinance, which was started about seven years ago and is now under review by the Malvern Planning Commission for final approval and recommendation to Borough Council at their next meeting. Lynne explained that among the 370 “istoric properties” (over 50 years old) in the Borough, approximately 130 properties meet at least two of the ten criteria based on the Chester County survey of historic resources. The new Ordinance will affect only “major” or complete demolition, not minor demolition involved in homeowner alternation projects. Once the Ordinance is approved, the MHC will need additional meetings to review proposed developments involving demolition of listed historic buildings, simultaneous with Planning Commission reviews. The MHC will report its findings for each proposed development directly to Borough Council.
- B. Summer Intern:** Our summer intern, Maddie Corsaro, completed all the new property research needed for the proposed Ordinance, and created a list of directions for using the new PastPerfect software. Helen will be following up with that program and adapting it to our needs for property archives. We all very much appreciate Maddie’s excellent work on behalf of the MHC.
- C. Borough Council 125th Anniversary:** The September 16th MBC meeting will start early to allow for the presentation awards and buffet to be provided by General Warren Inn, which Matt Radano is organizing. The food will be hors d’oeuvres buffet to keep it simple. Up to 150 people could attend, if every awardee, donor, mural artist and Borough volunteer were to bring a spouse or guest.

D. Preservation Awards:

- Kurt summarized the process of selecting the plaque size and design, with the local firm LimeLight Recognition in Frazer. We are ready to place the order as soon as the revised artwork is approved by their fabricator. We selected a 5” diameter, 1/4” thick, cast bronze plaque, with dark bronze background. The raised artwork will have a semi-gloss finish suitable for outside mounting. Different mounting screws will be provided for mounting on either masonry or concrete, or on wood. Since the engraving companies are now getting busy with the new school year, we will be lucky to have the first four plaques ready by Sept. 16th.
- Zeyn has circulated example Certificates which we like, and they will be easy to prepare for presenting on Sept.16th. They will be matted and framed for hanging on an interior wall.

VI. New Business.

- **Open History Center:** The next open house on Sept 13th will be hosted from 10 am to 1 pm by Barb L. and Zeyn. Hosts for the next open house on Oct. 11th will be verified next month.

- **PBPF Timeline Event – Saturday, Sept 20th:** Lynne suggested we have a table set up at this event, between 10 am and 3pm (+). Several MHC members will attend the table on one or two-hour shifts, to sell coins, books, post cards, magnets, and offer free brochures and pamphlets left over from the town tour and other recent events.
- **Harvest Festival – Sunday, Sept 28th:** Zeyn has submitted paperwork for us to host a table at this event. Since it is only a few days after our next meeting (Sept 25th), we will gather items to be on display from the History Center after that meeting.
- **Charlestown Day – Saturday, Oct 4th:** After brief discussion, we decided to not have a table at this event, since it would be the third weekend in a row and is not located in the borough.
- **Victorian Christmas – Friday, December 5th:** Lynne reported that National Bank of Malvern has offered for us host a table, as we did last year. She doesn't yet know if the former miniature train would be available, or if they would expect our display from last year to be set up again.
- **2015 MHC Budget:** Lynne summarized the prior years' budgets, and after discussion we proposed requesting somewhat more than last year's budget for 2015. Next year we expect to have more activities including additional preservation awards (with certificates), and probably more expenses related to the new Historic Ordinance (photographs, copying and document reproduction, etc.)
- **2015 Lincoln Train Tour.** We haven't received further information on this planned event after email replies by Helen, Lynne and Kurt. Helen will make further inquiry to see if there is any interest in organizing a train stop in Malvern, even though the 1865 funeral train did not stop here.

The next meeting was rescheduled for Thursday, September 25, 2014, so Zeyn can attend since he is teaching at Villanova on Monday nights through November.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted by:

Kurt Leininger
Malvern Historical Society Secretary