

Malvern Historical Commission
Meeting July 23, 2014
Minutes

Members Present: Lynne Hockenbury, Barb Leighton, Kurt Leininger, Barbara Rutz, Zeyn Uzman

Members Absent: Christian Arena, Helen McDonnell

Guests Present: Brabara Beaver, Matt Radano, Maddie Corsaro

The meeting was called to order at 7:45pm

I. Opening Remarks. Lynne noted that Christian had emailed to say his schedule will prevent him from continuing as a member of the MHC, and that she reminded him to submit his resignation in a letter to Sandy Kelley.

II. Approval of Minutes. June 2014 minutes were reviewed, discussed, and approved as corrected.

III. Financial Report. Lynne reported that the MHC savings account balance is \$4,889.70 after production of the new brochures for the town tour. Our "Borough budget" account balance is \$2,303.69, after spending \$5,696.31 (mostly for the new banners). Upcoming withdrawals will be for food at the Town Tour, and plaques for historical preservation awards. Helen has offered to assume our treasurer role, in Christian's absence.

IV. Old Business.

Town Tour & Flyers: Zeyn and Barb L. will distribute remaining flyers for the August 7th tour to remaining stores on King Street. Kurt distributed them to East King Street stores, on both sides of the street, as far west as King Street Trader. He and Helen also distributed the large flyers to most of the sponsors, including Giant, Wegmans, Trader Joe's, Wawa, and several others. The selection for Wegman's gift certificate was decided to be one each fruit tray and veggie tray, but no cheese tray. Lynne said over 250 people have signed up for the tour so far, and we have a maximum potential capacity of about 444 (with 12 trolleys at 37 each)

Historical Ordinance: Lynne reports that the Borough solicitor, Wendy McLean, had very few comments on the new proposed Ordinance, so it is ready to submit to the Planning Commission. The Ordinance will require only those properties exceeding 50 years old to be listed.

Summer Intern: Maddie summarized her work to date, including further deed research for property updates (all but three are completed), photographs of properties, and getting familiar with the new PastPerfect software. All MHC members thank her for her excellent work.

Maddie explained that a deed research includes getting a tax parcel ID number, going to the Recorder of Deeds office to pull the most recent deed and sale information, and tracking the chain of previous sales back in time. Prior to about 1910, property information must be searched on the computer. A key word to look for is "message" (building), to learn when a building first existed on a property.

Commemorative Coins: The new coins were received about two weeks ago, and everyone is very pleased with them. The GVHS student artists were happy to receive a complimentary coin, which Kurt sent with a letter inviting them to attend the September 16th Borough Council meeting and be recognized for their contribution.

Zeyn suggested we offer a free coin to each person taking the Town Tour, and Maddie suggested giving each one a “ticket” to claim their coin at the Borough Hall after completing their Tour.

Scavenger Hunt: Lynne and Pete are continuing to work on details of this event, planned for the afternoon of August 9th when the History Center will be open.

Preservation Awards: Kurt presented a copy of example plaque designs from a local company, LimeLight Recognition, on Lancaster Avenue in Frazer. After discussion, the group preferred a metal plaque with raised letters (similar to a coin). Kurt will obtain pricing and report back before a final decision, and keep Zeyn informed in Kurt’s absence during early August.

Lynne suggested we order about 20 plaques, to have plenty left over for future awards. A separate framed certificate will also be made to present to each property owner. The plaques will need to be ordered by early August since they have about one month lead time; the certificates can be made in a few days.

Sept 16th MBC Meeting: This meeting is where the preservation awards will be presented, and the mural artists (with Kristin Thomas) and coin student artists will be recognized, followed by a buffet. Matt has discussed food with General Warren Inn who is very interested, even though they are not located in the Borough. They have a shared heritage with the Borough, and they propose a “1889 meal” which will cost approximately \$30 per person.

V. New Business.

- The upcoming Open History Center days are August 9th and September 13th. Lynne and Barbara Beaver can assist on the former, and Zeyn and Barb L. on the latter.
- The proposed 2015 MHC budget will need to be submitted to Sandy by the end of August.
- The September 28th Harvest Festival could have a MHC table, but it’s not a “money maker” so not high priority.
- The Victorian Christmas is December 5th, and we expect to be asked by National Bank of Malvern to set up a table as in the past.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:45 pm. The next meeting is August 25, 2014.

Respectfully submitted by:

Kurt Leininger
Malvern Historical Society Secretary