

Malvern Historical Commission
Minutes
August 22, 2023

ATTENDANCE

Hugo Schmitt, chair – present
Barbara Rutz, vice chair – present
Catherine Raymond, treasurer – present
Ian Duncan, secretary – absent
Lynne Frederick, member – present
Jonathan Hoppe, member – present
Barbara Stergiades, member – absent

Chair Hugo Schmitt called the meeting to order at 7:34 P.M.

- I. Opening Remarks – Historical Commission has many topics to discuss this evening.
- II. Public Comment
 - A. Mr. Joe Ranaudo enjoyed the Malvern Fire Company Fair and looks forward to the future slate of events.
- III. Approval of minutes from previous meeting – minutes of June 27th meeting not available and will be reviewed and approved next meeting.
- IV. Reports
 - A. Financial Report – reports for May through August 21 reviewed. Reconciliation needed for past laptop purchase, which will be done once Borough financial audit concludes.
 1. Barbara Rutz motioned to accept as presented, seconded by Lynne Frederick. Motion carried unanimously.
 2. Items for purchase consideration:
 - Folders for map cabinet
 - New trash can for History Center
 - Displays for softball and basketball in History Center
 - Lynne motioned to approve purchases, seconded by Barbara Rutz. Motion carried unanimously.
 - B. Donations Received
 1. Transfer of some historical files from other Borough offices.
 2. Framed 1944 wiring diagram from the Pump House on Ruthland Avenue, courtesy Ira Dutter, Borough Public Works.
 3. Renewed \$229 Ancestry.com membership for the Historical Commission, courtesy of an anonymous donor.
 4. New desk chair for the History Center, courtesy of an anonymous donor.
 5. Metal wall cross removed from the Malvern Baptist/Valley Creek Church made by the Elmark Sign Company, Westtown, courtesy of Megan Quick.
 6. Malvern Farm Supply Co. Envelope, postmarked 1919, courtesy of an anonymous donor.

7. 1977 Paoli Massacre first-day cover, postmarked September 11, courtesy of an anonymous donor.
8. Four color slides of a September 1982 dedication parade showing Malvern Fire Company equipment on King Street at Karen Drive, courtesy of an anonymous donor.

C. Electronic Communication report

1. Facebook Follows: 1,824 – likes no longer tabulated by Facebook
2. Instagram Follows: 485
3. Yahoo email: junk
4. Malvern.org emails
 - Spam
 - Cara Dore, teacher at Charlestown Elementary School, Great Valley School District, inquired about local history curriculum for first grade students and will follow up.
 - Maureen Clark, also of Charlestown Elementary, wrote on same issue.
 - Bertha Jackmon wrote about a Preserving African American Cemeteries presentation.
 - Tia Manon wrote to inquire if the Historical Commission has a copy of an interview with her grandmother Mae Manon who lived at 151 Old Lincoln Highway (we do)
 - Tiffany Loomis sent a survey from the Main Street Revitalization Task Force

V. Old Business

- A. Borough Hall dedication plaque progress – Plaque is almost done; tentative scheduling for dedication before Borough Council meeting on September 5, with reception. MHC members to attend as able.
- B. Malverns Worldwide – no updates
- C. Preservation Awards – only one respondent confirmed attendance for the presentation of the awards at the September 19 Borough Council meeting.
- D. Historic Ordinance – no updates
- E. Action Log – Hugo updating Historic Resource List; adding de-framing and cleaning of waterworks wiring diagram to list.
- F. Waterworks building
 1. Jonathan Hoppe will revise and send written history of the building to the commissioners to pass on to Borough Council
 2. Commissioners discussed the precision of recommendations to be made to Borough Council about the future of the building.
 3. Recommendations to be made to Borough Council:
 - The Historical Commission wishes to preserve and reuse the pump house structure in some capacity.
 - An architectural historian should be engaged to offer steps towards how to accomplish this. One that we are aware of who has done work in the county and through CCHPN is Seth Hinshaw.
 - Based on four suggestions provided in the Randolph Woods Master Plan on page 42, the best suggestion is one of

"Interpretive Partial Demolition" so stabilize and save some portion of the structure.

- Lynne Frederick moved to present the recommendations to Borough Council, seconded by Jonathan Hoppe. Motion carried unanimously.

G. 150th Anniversary of Malvern's Naming & 40th Anniversary of the MHC – potential for a November event placed under further advisement.

VI. New Business

- A. Valley Creek Church renaming plaque – Valley Creek church installed the plaque on a boulder on its lawn during the third week of August, 2023
- B. Malvern Fire Company Access Lane renaming to LeBresco Lane – Lynne Frederick moved that the Historical Commission recommend to Borough Council that the FD-04 Access road be renamed LeBresco Lane, and that clarity be obtained whether it is being renamed for Joe LeBresco Sr. only or both Joe and Linda LeBresco. Seconded by Cathy Raymond. Motion carried unanimously.

VII. Events

- A. MHC Open Hours – June 22nd – two visitors at closing time; Hugo began organizing files for transfer to Paoli Battlefield Preservation Fund; August 19th – Eight visitors, with note that advertising on Borough Hall sign was helpful in generating interest. Moving forward, when History Center open hours are advertised on this sign, the Historical Commission will have two members in center. Next open hours: September 16th, October 14th, November 11th, December 23rd
- B. PBPF Town Tour & Village Walk – rescheduled to August 24th
- C. Malvern Fair – July 11; regular Historical Commission meeting was canceled, and commissions attended.
- D. Jon's talk with Chester County History Center, July 25 – some commissioners tuned into virtual talk and asked questions.
- E. Craft & Mercantile, September 15 – commissioners to set up table for the event.
- F. Preservation Awards presentation at Borough Council –September 19th
- G. Paoli Battlefield Heritage Day, September 23 – commissioners will set up table for the event
- H. Christmas on King, November 25th

VIII. Adjournment

- A. 9:09 P.M. Motion to adjourn made by Catherine Raymond, seconded by Barbara Rutz; motion carried unanimously.

Next regular meeting: September 12th, 2023.

Respectfully submitted by Jonathan Hoppe, Acting Secretary