

Minutes of the Hopewell Township Historic Preservation Commission
Tuesday, February 15, 2022

- I. Call to Order/Statement of Compliance. The meeting was called to order by Maximillian Hayden, Chairman, at 7:05 pm. The meeting was recorded.

- II. Roll Call. In attendance were Max Hayden, Bonita Grant, Theresa Vogler, Anita Crane, and Bob Warznak. Amie Rukenstein joined while the meeting was in progress. Julie Blake was absent.
 - A. Public Comment. Dan Pace, Alan Upperco and Dale Foster joined the meeting. Alan Upperco is the Treasurer of the Hopewell Valley Historical Society (HVHS). The HPC received correspondence forwarded by George Snyder from the US Board of Geographic Names (BGN) concerning naming certain bodies of water near Hart's Corner. The HVHS was also contacted by the BGN. These bodies of water are on land owned by Hopewell Township near the southwest corner of the intersection of Pennington Washington Crossing Road and Scotch Road. A resident of Mercer County (but not Hopewell Township) proposed the following names: Dublin Creek, Peanut Pond and Sun Pond.

Alan provided the HPC with information regarding the history of the property and the ponds thereon. The ponds were actually created in the 1960s for water management, although the house is the oldest in the Township. After discussion of the history of the property and the families that had lived there, it was the sense of the HPC that the proposed names should be opposed. Rather, they should be named after the families living on the property. As there are actually three ponds, they should be named, starting from the driveway, heading east, Burrowes (oldest spelling of the family name), Smith and Oldis. The brook creating the ponds should be Burrowes Brook. Amie Rukenstein will draft a resolution in support of these names for the Township Committee to adopt.

Dale Foster is with Greenman-Pederson, Inc., consultants for the Mt. Rose section of the Lawrence Hopewell Trail, which has received a federal grant. Dale is designing the section of the trail between Carter Road and Cleveland Road. Federal funding requires surveying under the 1966 Historic Preservation Act. Phase I was an archaeological survey. Richard Grubb's firm did a survey of any Native American artifacts. There are several 19th century structures near the trail location. In the course of the survey, there was excavation of 97 shovel test pits. Four historic artifacts from the early 19th century were found. This is considered low density, and not significant, and no further archaeological excavation was recommended. Regarding the historic survey, no properties eligible for the National Register are affected. Thus no further historic survey was recommended. The trail follows a previously existing utility access corridor. Dale requested the HPC to concur with these findings in order for the trail to proceed. He indicated

that an email would suffice. Max Hayden recommended that historical placards be placed along the trail.

III. Minutes for Approval - the January minutes were approved as revised.

IV. Correspondence - The correspondence from BGN was previously discussed. Correspondence from State Historic Preservation Office, requesting to join a meeting, possible the March meeting.

IX. Planning and Zoning Applications

a. Zoning Board Application Documents. Case 21-25, Block 43.22 Lot 9 - Rossi Pool 9 Meadow Lane - Bulk Variance. No comment

b. Planning Board Application Documents. - affordable housing. No comment. q However, the HPC has prepared a letter regarding the Van Wagonner house on the property. Aimee and Max will discuss this with Mayor Peters-Manning.

X. Old Business. Harts Corner School - should Public Works paint the doors and window frames? Concern is that they probably need more, probably lead paint. Question is whether it would help or be more damage. Max will reach out to Michael Mills to find out obligations in on the local register. Once on the register, anything done will have to come before the HPC.

Amie discussed the 1985 Survey plus the 1979 Survey of Titusville and made a spreadsheet. No addresses or Block and Lot.

Max reminded George Snyder about the Mile Marker

HPC resolved to give \$300 to Hopewell Valley Heritage Week.

XII Adjournment. The meeting was adjourned at 8:37 pm.