



West Chester Historical Commission Meeting

401 East Gay Street, West Chester, PA 19380

Room 232 – Borough Hall

December 16, 2021 – 7 PM

Meeting Agenda – In person meeting

A. Call meeting to order -

B. Public comments on items not on the agenda -

C. Approval of minutes – September 16, 2021 - There are no minutes for October because of the lack of a quorum due to a phone malfunction. (Present: Everett Butcher, Sandy Hall, Kora Stahl & Tom Walsh – Absent with notice and could not phone in: Chris Lang, Eric Lorgus, Catherine Quillman & Sandra Ram). The November meeting was cancelled because of problems involving room 232.

D. Introduction of guest(s) -

E. Chair report –

1. CLG Grant update – Data is being loaded into the state system (Approximately 4000 records by the end of the year.)

2. 339 West Gay Street (Request from Chair Sue Moran, Planning Commission regarding demolition plans.) Sent report to Sue for distribution to Planning Commission and also sent artifact requests for new house construction project on Poplar Street and the old Rubinstein's Building (Historic Hoopes Brothers & Darlington Wheelworks site) at Market and Franklin Streets.

3. Rite Aid, 13 East Gay Street (Responded to request from Chris Schiefebein, Firefly Graphic, Inc – Mesa, Arizona as per Council/Kevin Gore.) Directed Chris to contact the Chester County History Center for historic West Chester photographs to be used in their display windows.

4. Borough of West Chester 225th Anniversary in 2024 & 225th Anniversary of the USA in 2026. Committees and seed money. Will email brief report to Council at a later date.

5. Year-end report for December with distribution to Council in January

6. 2022 Chester County Town Tours – Will kick -off in West Chester on Thursday, June 9th and involves HARB and the Historical Commission. West Chester's theme will focus on Humphry Marshall's 300th Birthday. Tour Guides and inside helpers will be needed.

7. Projects on hold.

a. Still trying to arrange for the return of all items to Ann Morgan Oas. Ann has contacted me and has donated assorted newspapers, books and items to me to review and dispersed to the Borough/History Center. **(Tom will develop an acceptance letter.)**

b. Gay Street School Project – **(Tom still needs to reach out to Fugett family)**

c. Virtual meeting with Cory Kergarise, West Chester Planning Commission and HARB on Tuesday, February 23. Topic: *Zoning & Preservation*. Received items from Catherine Quillman and awaiting material from Chris Lang. Tom will still need to contact the Planning Commission and HARB.

d. CCHPN Leadership Luncheon on Saturday, April 10 – We still need to obtain the demolition ordinances from East Brandywine and Schuylkill Townships plus obtain East Brandywine presentations and share with Commission. We have Thornberry Township's ordinance

e. Chestnut Street Parking Garage/Chester County History Center's Raymond Rettew History Project – Eric Lorgus - (**On hold until 2022**)

F. Vice-Chair Sandra Ram

1. Social Media -
2. Interns -

G. Committee/task reports and updates:

1. Heritage Trees – Kora Stahl –
2. Humphry Marshall Project – Chris Lang (see written report)
3. Chester County Courthouse and Gnomon – Jonathan Hoppe & TiJa Butcher – Tom has previously contacted Becky Brain of the County Commissioners office on behalf of the project committee and have been working on other County projects. (**On hold. Note: Pedestal is still on southside of Old Courthouse lawn**)
4. Juneteenth 2022 /Shaw Memorial Rededication – Everett and I attended the December 4th virtual meeting of the West Goshen Historical Commission meeting regarding the proposed Shaw Memorial Rededication at Chestnut Grove Cemetery in 2022. Chair Walsh sent three pages of points to consider to Kevin Pistiner West Goshen's Chair for distribution to their members (Will send later to W C Commission members). Chair Walsh (Who is also a member of the West Goshen Historical Commission) and Junteenth Committee Chair Everett both made comments and answered questions. The West Goshen Historical Commission seemed very interested and will make its decision in January.

H. Other member's reports or comments

1. Local History Presentations – future programs- Bayard Rustin program with Mitchell Crane and/or Florence Miller plus other possible in-person or virtual programs. (Kora Stahl & Sandra Ram)
- 2.

I. Old business –

J. New Business –

1. 2022 Historic Homes period Christmas decoration contest/event – Downtown Foundation / West Chester Library

K. Announcements and adjournment –

1. We have one Board vacancy to be filled by Council. Three people are applying.

NEXT MEETING THURSDAY: January 20,2022 at 7 pm - AGENDA DEADLINE: SATURDAY, January 15,2022.

BOROUGH COUNCIL: Smart Growth Committee, Council Work Session and Council Voting Session dates to be determined.