



West Chester Historical Commission Meeting

401 East Gay Street, West Chester, PA 19380

Room 232– Borough Hall

March 19, 2026 – 7 PM

Meeting Minutes

Present: Tom Walsh, Anne Skillman, David Wickard, Mary Baylis, Kora Stahl, Sandra Ram, Chris Lang

Absent with notice: Catherine Quillman

Absent:

Call meeting to order – 7:05

- A. Introduction of guest(s) - none
- B. Public comments on items not on the agenda – n/a
- C. Approval of minutes for February 2026 – Chris Lang moved, seconded by Kora -8-0 approved
- D. Reports and commentaries
 1. Chair Tom Walsh
 - a. Historic Atlas – nothing new
 - b. Lafayette Week – July 26 (Starts the Sunday before the 26th) – will always start on a Sunday – Theresa Eadie.
 - c. Annual report – nothing new
 - d. Town Tours & Village Walks – Thursday April 30th – *13 Tours for 13 Colonies* – April 2nd Court House Walk Through at 2pm – Tom Walsh reminded Smart Growth Committee that we would need \$500 to pay for Lenape Brass
 - e. America 250/Dare to Declare in Borough Parks updates by Tom & Catherine – MSP will be doing something, dates TBD – Everhart will be reviewed at the April meeting of FOEP. Veterans Park
 - f. West Chester & West Goshen Historical Commissions Annual Memorial Day Walking Tour – Saturday, May 30th at 6pm in The Oaklands Cemetery – Holly Whyte
 - g. Quarterly Saturday History Presentations – 5/2/26, 8/8/26, 11/7/26, 2/6/27, 5/1/27, 8/7/27, 11/5/27 – Tom will present “The Lincolns of Chester County”
 - h. Parkesburg Historical Society – Eachus Dairy milk bottle donation
 2. Vice-Chair – Catherine Quillman – stained-glass committee – met w/ Kora & they are looking into creating postcards to sell at cost, but Tom Walsh pointed out that are not permitted to sell them. This will require a conversation with Bill Mann to see the possibility of creating a webpage. *Consider creating a self-guided walking tour/open house with all the churches in town.*
 3. Eric Lorgus – needs to find a new student from WCU for the Wiki project – nothing new
 4. Kora Stahl - Historic Tree Committee – nothing new

5. Chris Lang – Oral History Project – presented request for \$5k budget – will re-present on April 8th to the Smart Growth Committee – Chris will submit the proposal to Tom Walsh who will submit it to the Smart Growth Committee by March 30, 2026.
6. Mary Baylis & Anne Skillman - Gay Street School – Mary “Acrylic Stand off” – measurement: available space is about 6’ high x 10’ wide – display board should measure 5’ high x 8’ wide
- E. Old Business –
- F. New Business – Daily Local March 16th bricks in WC, Inquirer 3/18 Forsythe property – should we as a commission approach the borough to change the code to give the Historical Commission power to review properties prior to any demolition permit approval (for properties outside of Harb).
- G. Announcements – Chester County Sports exhibit at the Visitors Bureau -
- H. Adjournment – meeting adjourned 8:18

Next Historical Commission Meeting: April 16, 2026, 7PM – submit agenda items by 4/11

Other Borough Meetings & Deadlines of importance:

- Smart Growth Committee meets on Wednesday, April 8, 2026, at 6:30PM **(Submissions – the Monday before)**

- Council Work Session is Tuesday, April 14 at 6:30 pm

- Council Voting Session is Wednesday, April 15 at 6:30 pm

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