

Newtown Joint Historic Commission
Newtown Borough Council Chambers
23 N. State Street
Newtown, PA

May 24, 2010

Members present: Lorraine Pentz, Jeannette Rogers, Ethel Hibbs, Nancy Freudenthal, and Warren Woldorf. Members absent: Paul Gouza, Jeff Marshall, Julia Woldorf, Newtown Borough Council Liaison, and Jerry Schenkman, Newtown Township Liaison.

CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Pentz called the meeting to order at 7:40 p.m. She announced that Neil Poppel sent his resignation from the Joint Historic Commission to the Township Manager. Mr. Poppel explained to Chairman Pentz that it was taking more time than he had anticipated, but he was complimentary about the Board and its work.

A brief discussion took place about a possible replacement for Mr. Poppel.

Minutes of April 26, 2010

The Commission reviewed the Minutes of April 26, 2010.

Warren Woldorf moved to approve the minutes of April 26, 2010, as amended. The motion was seconded by Jeannette Rogers, and the motion was passed (5-0).

TREASURER'S REPORT

May 24, 2010

Treasurer Rogers reported the funds as follows:

Savings Account Balance – March 31, 2010	\$1,464.47
Interest – April 30, 2010	.30
Savings Account Balance – April 30, 2010	\$1,464.77
Regular Checking:	
Previous Balance – April 8, 2010	\$1,873.44
Checking Account Balance – May 7, 2010	\$1,873.44

TOWNSHIP SUBDIVISION REPORT

Chairman Pentz noted that there were no changes to the report.

OLD BUSINESS

A discussion took place about the photos to accompany the Township Historic Survey List. Chairman Pentz said she is not confident about the information on the list, which came from the county, and wants to resolve the issue so that the lots are properly identified. There was also a brief discussion about the inaccuracies in the survey that took place several years ago. Chairman Pentz will speak to Kristie Kaznicki about the tax parcel numbers on the list.

Concerning the ongoing issue of the Toll House at the Village of Newtown Shopping Center, Chairman Pentz has spoken to the Township Manager. The Township Supervisors' Workshop Meeting has now been set for July 19, 2010. Chairman Pentz has not been able to speak with Sari Sax, Senior Property Manager of Centro Properties Group, but will email her to ask her if that date is okay. Ms. Sax had indicated to Chairman Pentz that the owner of the shopping center would also like to attend the meeting.

Warren Woldorf suggested that Chairman Pentz try to find out from Ms. Sax how many people are interested in buying or renting the Toll House, and Nancy Freudenthal said she doesn't believe that Ms. Sax may be the one who actually has that information. It was noted that the Toll House is probably not a major concern to the property owners, who are located in Australia.

Chairman Pentz will explain to Ms. Sax that it is the Commission's responsibility to guard historic properties, and that the Toll House is rapidly deteriorating, but she will not press the issue too strongly with her.

NEW BUSINESS

Determination of Significance – 670 Linton Hill Road: Nancy Freudenthal made a motion to approve the demolition of the house. The motion was seconded by Ethel Hibbs, and the motion was passed (5-0).

PRIVILEGE OF FLOOR

Warren Woldorf updated the Commission on the status of the appeal of the Zoning Hearing Board's decision by Jodi Smith, co-owner of the property at 516 E. Centre Avenue. Borough Council supports the ZHB decision and has authorized the Borough Solicitor to intervene. Mr. Woldorf explained the history of the Borough's position on the matter, based on statements contained in the ordinance concerning condominiums.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, there was a motion to adjourn the meeting by Jeannette Rogers; motion was seconded by Warren Woldorf and the meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, June 28, 2010 at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra McIntyre
Recording Secretary