

NHTWP Historical Commission Meeting Minutes May 13th, 2024

6:37 PM Call to Order. The NTHC had a quorum.

Members Present: Steve Arty, Chair
Jim Finegan, Vice-Chair
Greg Beatty, Secretary
Gus Gregori
Melissa Foulke

Archivist Kristi Chase

Guests: Jim Briggs, Jordan Succi, Jack Kay, Andrew Olzedasti

NTHC member Eric Ebert was not in attendance.

The Commission moved on to the Agenda. The minutes of the April 2024 meeting were amended to reflect that the July meeting will be canceled as well as August. Motion by Finegan Seconded by Beatty. Approved 5-0 Vote.

Discussion of the letter sent to the Board of Supervisors was held. Archivist mentioned there was no approval yet for items that cost township funds; however, items that can come from the Archivist's budget or have no cost have been approved to move forward.

Discussion of Northampton Days was held. Chairman mentioned he would like to have some form of cardboard cutout for families to take pictures with that have a connection to the township. Archivist discussed the possible costs for cutouts ranging from \$99-\$600. Discussion was held about people submitting items for the time capsule. Archivist states that the library has a new button pressing machine, so the NHTHC could make buttons for Northampton Days.

Archivist summarized the April Report. Organization of the collection is underway to make more room in the archives. Archivist met with the Police Chief and he would like to have the Northampton Library host a little exhibit from the police department with historic pieces that will be on display.

Public Comment was held yet no guests wished to hold discussion.

Of the Order discussion, Chairman had everyone go around the room and discuss new ideas that the NHTHC could work on. Gregori brought up collecting old photos of the farms that used to be across the township. He also asked anyone if they knew of farmers in the township being buried on their farms and, if so, marking their graves. He also raised the question as to if the township had a Native American cemetery within, similar to New Hope. Beatty mentioned that on the idea of farms, contacting the Churchville Nature Center about possibly hosting something about the land and the old farm house. He also mentioned working with Rep. Marcell's office to do a joint event. Chairman mentioned he would like to draft a letter to the funeral homes in the area to collect artifacts and Gregori mentioned also contacting auction houses. Succi mentioned that acknowledgement of historic and local business in the township. Olzedasti mentioned his interest in farmland preservation and how Northampton had lost a lot of its farmland very quickly. Foulke mentioned doing record keeping for tombstones that are wearing down as well as restoration projects. Vice Chair confirmed previous discussions of the budget for buttons and cutouts. Vice Chair motioned to commission buttons to be made for Northampton Days, Beatty

Second. Approved 5-0. Chair mentioned that Bucks County Community College hosts classes for the restoration of historic sites and that there was a recent historic dig held by Pennsylvania in the area.

Motion to adjourn at 7:03 PM by Foulke. Seconded by Beatty. Approved 5 - 0 vote.

Next meeting will be Monday, June 10, 2024.