

FREEHOLD TOWNSHIP HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION—MEETING MINUTES
September 18, 2023

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER at 7:05pm.

ROLL CALL-Present-Cheryl Polverino, Dave Seme, Kevin Marshall, Meg Thomann, Michael Berman

ABSENT-Maureen Fasano, Neil Gargiulo, Stephen Downey, Todd Cassie

REVIEW OF MINUTES—approved by Meg & Dave

CORRESPONDANCE—None

HERITAGE SOCIETY—EVENTS UPCOMING

SEPT. 10, 2023—Craft Fair rescheduled to May 4, 2024.

Upcoming events to include-Oakley Music Jams-2nd Tuesday each month

October 28, 2023-Wikoff Hill Burial Ground Tours

November 18, 2023-Meet the Oakleys-Live Theatre

December 9, 2023-Christmas at Camp/4th NJ

Sept. 17, 2023-4th NJ Civil War Reenactors held their annual Civil War Tea fundraiser at Oakley Farm—Well attended and profitable

Eagle Scout Edward Stuart started his project of cleaning/arranging and labeling all items in the Agriculture Museum at Oakley Farm. He also weeded all areas around the farmhouse and re mulched all. He will finish his project in November 2023

Cow Barn repairs were completed by AGC Construction of Freehold, NJ on Sept 2, 2023. This included replacing clapboard siding on front SW side of barn, Fixing the rear breezeway door and sistering a beam to one side to sure up. Also closing up animal holes on all barns and re securing the cedar shingles on North Side of the barn. He also painted all repairs.

Saker Property update-MAUREEN FASANO spoke with Pete Valesi and Painting of the barn and repair of the roof should take place soon.

West Freehold Schoolhouse—construction of widening Rt. 537 update—Maureen Fasano spoke with Matt Bryant, Twp. Engineer and he assured her he was keeping a very close eye on all aspects of construction and also trying to get protection for the schoolhouse during construction.

Bellemeade Project—Rt. 537 South side across from Freehold Raceway Mall. Cheryl Polverino, Dave Seme and Todd Caissie met with Pete Valesi to go over initial site plan. The developer, Edgemont Properties has collected numerous artifacts from the site thanks to Richard Grubb and Associates. They want to display these items in a community space within the 77 acre development and have asked for our advice. Todd and Dave will be working with them to find a suitable area to display some artifacts and maps. This is a requirement of NJSHPO as there are indicators this could have National Register criteria attached to it. The Commission will review the 450 page report and get together with the Developer and Township Administration to come up with a suitable area to display

Wikoff Hill Burial Ground-Biographical information project is 95% done. Meg Thomann has done a Yeoman's job gathering information about the residents. We will be making a poster that can be displayed at the site on the back of the sign that is there. It will have the name, date of birth and date of death as well as the plot they are buried in. We will also have a QR code developed to link to more biographical information on each person. That QR code will be on the poster as well.

Michael Berman finished photographing all sites in the Historic Resources Report so we have an accurate up to date picture of site. He turned them over to Pablo Perez from IT dept. and Cheryl Polverino will meet with Pablo next week to start putting everything together so we can produce a new updated Historic Resources Report to be handed out to Commissioners

Cincinnati Hall UPDATE-Parcel 6 is under review by Twp. Planning board. Once they have determined it is a viable plan we will start negotiations with the developer to gain much needed access to Cincinnati Hall area and Henderson Park can get started.

Michael Berman suggested we nominate Bruno's Bakery, Rt. 537, Freehood, NJ (The old Applegate Farm ice cream store) for Architectural Achievement Award for 2023. He will reach out to the owners and also Susan Mladinov to get the process started.

Kevin Marshall suggested we think about putting signage around the Township to identify some areas that aren't widely known such as Turkey, Elton, Blue Ball, Halls Mill, etc. He will make a list of sites he thinks should be included and we will implement the project in 2024

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 7:55 by Dave S. and Kevin M.