

Tredyffrin Township Historical Commission
Meeting Minutes – November 9, 2023

Meeting was called to order at 7:06 pm.

Present: Rob Williams, chair, Mark Dixon, Ernie Falcone, Pearl Nudy, Beth Specker, Robert Emmanuel, Township Staff liaison, Resident Eric Williams. Absent: Mark Freed, Supervisor liaison, Alison Andrei

Minutes: September 14, 2023 minutes were accepted. No quorum at October meeting.

CURRENT BUSINESS:

Associates Program: On November 13, 2023, the Board of Supervisors (BoS) will hold a hearing to approve establishment of the Associate memberships for the Historical Commission.

Consultant Project: The consultant Preservation Design Partnership completed the Tredyffrin Township Strategic Preservation Plan (SPP) and made a presentation on Oct 25. The Plan identifies five priorities to improve preservation practices. PDP and township representatives discussed details on implementation.

Love Your Place - Neighborhood Walks: The walk at the Thomas nursery property in Treyburn was held Nov 5. Twenty Treyburn neighbors toured the property with Commission interpreters and the owners, who generously guided their neighbors through the historic ground floor and displayed unearthed artifacts uncovered from the grounds. Again, the Tredyffrin Easttown Historical Society aided the Commission with a visitors table. With two 2023 Walks complete, the Commission will make Neighborhood Walks a routine activity and offer four Walks in 2024.

America 250 Tredyffrin (2025-2028):

- Williams made a presentation on America 250 at the BoS on Oct 23. Included was an overview of the national commemoration plans, work underway and resources provided by America 250 Chester County including a new Tourism Plan, and ideas that could be implemented in Tredyffrin. Visitors to the Philadelphia region and Valley Forge National Historic Park are expected to increase during the 2025-2028 period for America 250 events. The presentation will be available on TTTV.
- Williams explained work of America 250 Chester County including creation of Heritage Centers throughout the county. The County has applied for grants from America 250 PA to build these Centers with digital kiosks for interpretation and visitors information. Future coordination with township boards, departments, and school district is expected.

NEW BUSINESS:

- The HC with our PA Certified Local Government (CLG) status helped the Mt. Zion AME Church to secure a BoS letter of support for a National Park Service grant application. "Historic Preservation Fund – African American Civil Rights – Preservation Grants." The funds will support restoration of the historic church building on Berwyn Baptist Road.

- Dixon and Williams attended two Chester Co. Planning Commission training events; the Fall Planning Forum at Brandywine Battlefield Museum in October, and the Urban Centers Forum at the Coatesville STEM High School in November.

Meeting adjourned at 9:04 pm. The next meeting will be on December 14, 2023