

Tredyffrin Township Historical Commission

Minutes for December 11, 2025

Meeting was called to order at 7:08 p.m. by Chairman Rob Williams.

Present: Rob Williams, chair; Ernie Falcone; Eric Williams; Janice Olsen; Mark Dickson, Associate; Jean Faber, Associate; Julie Gosse, Supervisor liaison; Dave Blackburn, Chester County Planning Commission; Ted Patterson, President of Jenkins Arboretum

- **Minutes:** Motion was made, seconded, and unanimously approved to accept the minutes of the October 9, 2025 meeting.

Welcome & Introductions

- David Blackburn from the Chester Co. Planning Commission was introduced and spoke briefly about his background and later identified possible ways his office could work with TTHC.

Current Business - Project updates

JENKINS ARBORETUM STREAM NAMING:

Ernie Falcone has completed research on and shared part of the history of the land comprising Jenkins Arboretum. Maps will be added, and when the final form will be voted on by TTHC board at the January meeting. If approved, it will be given along with a letter of endorsement to EAC. Ted Patterson, President of Jenkins Arboretum, shared that they are also seeking an endorsement by the Boy Scouts who own land through which the stream runs. There will be a formal naming party when appropriate.

CLG PROJECT:

An initial outreach to a few stakeholders has been completed. The next step is to meet with small groups. Rob Williams reported that Caln township is much like Tredyffrin and is about six months ahead of us in this process, which provides a good model for us to follow. He has attended one of their meetings and will try to go to more.

TREDYFFRIN HERITAGE CENTER at DUPORTAIL HOUSE:

Fund raising and work on a kiosk have begun for the Heritage Center. There will be a content committee to determine what information will be included at the center and kiosk.

AMERICA 250 TREDYFFRIN

Working groups will be created to develop the following:

- Dare to Declare is a Chester County initiative and will involve having people reading the Declaration of Independence at various locations around the county. TTHC intends to sponsor one location. May is Historic Preservation Month which would be a good time to visit school to let students know

- PA Historic Markers - The historic marker for General Howe will be located at Teegarden Park, and the suggestion was made to coincide the dedication of it with the 2026 British reenactment in Sept 2026. Locating the marker for the Great Valley Mill on either side of the bridge would give drivers time to read it while waiting to cross. A publicity event will be planned for both installations.
- Funded Project Planning – The township has allocated \$20,000 to TTHC for 250 celebration expenditures. Rob, Mark and Ernie will create priority list for using the money.
- Communications & Publicity – We need a who can coordinate both content to post on social media and also get it posted/linked on various sites. Currently, Gabby Ignarri, who does the township communication on social media, posts material that others create and will put up whatever she is given. The suggestion was made to have a stockpile of material (possibly with six different themes) before beginning to post. Mark and Rob will work on ideas for content. Eric will have “depredations” material for the postings. Ideas were shared on ways to find a “Communicator” and materials to include.
- General's audio tour – Rob has found someone to the voiceover for the scripts.

NEW BUSINESS:

- 2026 HC Meetings will be the second Thursday of each month except August. Ernie has been and will continue as the liaison with EAC.
- We will work with the township on the 250 celebration in 2027.
- Over the winter, pairs of committee members will take pictures of historic buildings that could be part of the ordinance. Rob will organize this.
- In January, we will follow up with the TESD on the school bus tour idea.
- The Tredyffrin Library is turning 50 and needs attention. The two options mentioned are upgrading it or abandoning and relocating it. There was discussion about applying for Determination of eligibility for the National Register. In addition to the honor of being listed on the National Register, we would also be eligible for additional funding and resources. This will be discussed at future meetings.

The meeting adjourned at 9:01 p.m. Next Historical Commission Meeting – February 12, 2026, 7:00 p.m.