

West Amwell Historic Preservation Committee Meeting

Tuesday, June 8, 2021 Time: 7:00 p.m.

West Amwell Municipal Building

MINUTES

Attendees: Peter Buchsbaum, Paul Cronic, Betty Jane Hunt, Martha Shea, John Thompson, Linda Weber

1. Approval of Minutes of May 11, 2021 meeting – m/s, approved with the following change to the last sentence in paragraph 5: *“They will also give a copy of the CD titled “A Look Back at West Amwell History” to Heidi Tomenchok for posting on the website, if it’s possible.”*

2. Welcome to new HPC member – committee members introduced themselves to new member, John Thompson.

3. Correspondence - none

4. Old Photo Identification – update

Martha and Betty Jane met and selected a dozen photos to share with Heidi for uploading to the website.

5. 175th Township Anniversary Celebration – update

The committee meets again on Saturday, June 12. The anniversary event will be held on September 25th from 10-5 at the municipal building, starting with interviews of residents 90 yrs old and over at 10 a.m. The high school band will play. Mike Haldeman will be the DJ. There will be a tour of the new police office downstairs if there are no prisoners. Hot dogs and cake will be offered with beverages. (Linda suggested offering veggies.) Gail Brewi is coordinating the food and beverages.

Maps for the self-guided tour will be distributed in the afternoon. Roughly 4-6 stops will have docents to talk to people. Betty Jane said the Big Bear Gear property offered to be on the tour but she wasn’t sure if it was a good candidate. John Thompson agreed to look at the site and share his findings with the committee prior to the anniversary committee’s Saturday meeting. Linda will also look at the site.

Martha suggested looking further into the history of the High Valley one-room schoolhouse, School, which could have an earlier history than currently known.

Peter said he wrote a brief summary of the local railroad stations, and shared it via email. The stations – extant and now gone - will be on the tour map.

6. HPC Webpage

Linda said she had asked Heidi Tomenchok for information on training sessions for updates to the website. The historic sites inventory and historic preservation master plan needs to be uploaded in addition to the minutes.

Linda suggested that the 175th anniversary committee be given credit for the anniversary events if the events are advertised on the Historic Preservation Committee webpage.

7. Other business (open agenda item)

Peter will return the stone (possible mortar and pestle rock) to the municipal building and the committee will decide where they can take it for analysis.

8. Summer meeting schedule

The July and August meetings will be canceled. The committee will meet again in September to discuss the anniversary event and tasks that need to be completed.

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.