

MINUTES WRIGHTSTOWN TOWNSHIP HISTORICAL COMMISSION

February 1, 2024

The meeting was held in the Board Room at the township building on Thursday, February 1, 2024.

In attendance: Karl Niederer, Betty Davis, Mary Lee Johnson, and Beverly Wilson. Jane DelBianco, unfortunately, was sick and unable to attend.

Betty Davis, Commission Chairman, opened the meeting at 1:05 p.m. Beverly Wilson, Secretary, read the January 4, 2024 Minutes, which were accepted and approved as read.

Old Business: Prior to our February Meeting, the interior of the Octagonal School House was checked for any leaks. None were found. A piece of plexiglass had blown off one of the windows. It will either be repaired, or replaced.

Karl noted that he is working on revisions of his text in the booklets he is working on. He also mentioned that he is researching how the school came to be - the history of the development of schools in Bucks County. Robert Craige, N.J. Historian, Preservation, wrote his Master's on Oxford Valley Octagonal School. Karl will show Betty a draft next week.

We also discussed the Grange Fair exhibit. One of our new township employees is entering material on the Web. We will try to find out who that is. We also look for articles written by Jeff Werner in "The Patch," and we look for news and information in "The Daily Intelligencer," and "The Bucks County Herald." Betty reminded us that Worthington Mill Road and the Worthington Mill Road Bridge are now open.

New Business:

The Trolley Bridge in Newtown - Planning has been stopped. There is a plan to build a modern synthetic bridge overlooking the creek. State Street and Frost Lane-Turn left - That's where the Trolley was - Traffic light to Durham Rd. to Sycamore and a store. The Trolley Coalition is working on new paths. We did discuss what can we do to publicize railroads, trolleys, other facets of trolley-interested people. Anthony Marazzo was mentioned. He owns a new floral business on Route 413.

Years ago, his father started a similar business in Yardley. He lives on 1063 Mill Creek Road.

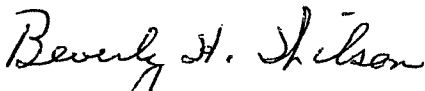
Discussion also took place concerning Activities in Summer for children, especially the possibility that home-schooled children would like to participate. For example: Writing an essay on the topic "How Hard is school?" Perhaps a Musical Program could be scheduled?

Mention was made of the author Davis Watson Atkinson, Sr. In 1969, he wrote "Friendly Invaders," which a few of us have read. Overseer at Wrightstown Quaker Meetinghouse. Written in 1969, 86 pages with a map, is an account of the Quakers of Wrightstown, Bucks County. Rich in personal detail, yet it is an interesting summary of sundry aspects of Quaker life and practices back to the certificates that the first settlers brought from the meetings in England.

When Davis Watson Atkinson, Sr., was born on 15 July 1891, in Newtown, Bucks, Pennsylvania, United States, his father, Edward Atkinson, was 67 and his mother, Clara A. Krusen, was 32. He married Rachel Styer Conrad on 6 May 1914, in Bucks, Pennsylvania, United States. They were the parents of at least 2 sons. He lived in Bucks, Pennsylvania, United States in 1935 and Newtown, Bucks, Pennsylvania, British Colonial America in 1940. He registered for military service in 1917. He died on 26 July 1967, in Abington Township, Montgomery, Pennsylvania, United States, at the age of 76, and was buried in Wrightstown Friends Meeting Cemetery, Wrightstown, Wrightstown Township, Bucks, Pennsylvania, United States.____

Bev moved, and Mary Lee seconded, that the meeting be adjourned. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:12 p.m. **Our next meeting will be on Thursday, March 7, at 1:00 p.m. at The Township Building.**

Respectfully submitted,



Beverly H. Wilson, Secretary