

## MINUTES WRIGHTSTOWN TOWNSHIP HISTORICAL COMMISSION

April 4, 2024

The meeting was held in the BoardRoom at the township building on Thursday, April 4, 2024.

**In attendance:** Mary Lee Johnson, Abby O’Keeffe, Jane Del Bianco, Jane Magne, Karl Niederer, and Beverly Wilson,

In the absence of Betty Davis, Mary Lee Johnson opened the meeting at 1:05 p.m. Beverly Wilson, Secretary, read the March 7, 2024 Minutes, which were accepted and approved as read. Jane DelBianco, Treasurer, submitted a Treasurer’s Report, effective March 7, 2024. Supply Budget Balance \$1,000.00 Savings Account Balance, as of 2/29/24,\$8,865.04. **A copy of Mary Lee’s April 4, 2024 Agenda is attached to these Minutes.**

**Old Business:** We discussed the book, “The Friendly Invaders” **After reading portions of the book briefly, we feel it is repetitious, and we don’t need a new edition with an Index. Abby will research digital books.**

Mary Lee has been researching the possibility of displaying the American flag, or flags, outside the Octagonal School House. A 2 foot by 3 foot flag, we could mount on a sign. We had a lot of discussion concerning how and where flags could be attached to poles, brackets etc. Mary Lee will get together all flag material. On the day we clean out the schoolhouse, we will do everything to set up the flags. Also, on May 16, we will deliver the necessary items for display to the schoolhouse. **The Open House will be on May 19 and also, June 16, which is Father’s Day this year.**

**Additional Old Business: Sash Window - Free - Two panels in the sash window need replacing. We need to remove all windows, scrape, and paint the windows on a weekend. Mary Lee has offered to do the work. The material needed would be a thin flashing.**

Mary Lee also researched the website, “Great American Treasures.” This beautiful website lists historic places to visit. Mary Lee will discuss it with Betty Davis. **School teachers over the years have used it.**

**New Business: Last month we discussed the possibility of having an event to be held at the Schoolhouse this year. Karl has spoken to friends of his, Bob and Martie Stevens, who would like to have a musical program at the schoolhouse.**

**Jane Magne reminded us that on May 5th, 2024, the Wrightstown Quaker Meeting Will celebrate its 300th Anniversary. Also, Wrightstown Community Day will be held on May 18 on the Middletown Grange Fairgrounds**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE WRIGHTSTOWN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COMMEMORATING THE 300TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE WRIGHTSTOWN FRIENDS MEETING.**

**Reviewing the information, we were very pleased with the Resolution. A copy of the Resolution is attached to these Minutes.**

Bev moved, and Mary Lee seconded, that the meeting be adjourned. The meeting was adjourned at 2:29 p.m. Our next meeting will be on Thursday, May 2, at 1:00 p.m. at The Township Building.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Beverly H. Wilson".

Beverly H. Wilson, Secretary

# **WRIGHTSTOWN TOWNSHIP, Bucks County, Pennsylvania**

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## **A RESOLUTION OF THE WRIGHTSTOWN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COMMEMORATING THE 300TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE WRIGHTSTOWN FRIENDS MEETING. #2024-07**

**WHEREAS**, The Quaker religion is synonymous with Pennsylvania, as it was Quaker, William Penn, who founded the Commonwealth; and

**WHEREAS**, Quaker activity in Wrightstown Township dates back to at least 1685; and

**WHEREAS**, the first Wrightstown Friends Meetinghouse was a log structure built in 1721 on four acres of land donated by the sons of John Chapman, Wrightstown's first settler, who came to America in 1684; and

**WHEREAS**, in 1735, an upper story was added. Two years later a one-story addition of local shale stone was built on its north side; and

**WHEREAS**, to meet the needs of the growing community, the current meetinghouse was erected between 1787 and 1789, using the stone walls of the 1737 addition; and

**WHEREAS**, made of local shale stone, the building measures 40' x 65'. The yellow-tinged lime render is thought to have been used to protect the stonework; and

**WHEREAS**, burials in the graveyard began in 1721; and

**WHEREAS**, it continues as a well-maintained and active graveyard, containing more than 3,700 burials; and

**WHEREAS**, a historical marker erected on the grounds identifies the starting point of the 1737 Walking Purchase; and

**WHEREAS**, it is noted that famed Bucks County Quaker and artist Edward Hicks, painter of the Peaceable Kingdom, attended services at this meetinghouse from 1814 to 1820; and

**WHEREAS**, the meetinghouse is a site of historic significance and as such was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1975; and

**WHEREAS**, 2024 marks the 300th anniversary of the Wrightstown Friends Meeting; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township Board of Supervisors respectfully pays tribute to such a significant historical landmark in the Township of Wrightstown with the adoption of this Resolution; and

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Supervisors of Wrightstown Township hereby recognizes and congratulates the Wrightstown Friends Meeting for 300 years of devotion to the Quaker principles upon which our Commonwealth was founded.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, the Board of Supervisors of Wrightstown Township has caused this RESOLUTION to be adopted and orders the same to be spread upon the minute books of Wrightstown Township, Bucks County Pennsylvania this 21<sup>st</sup> day of April 2024.

**WRIGHTSTOWN TOWNSHIP  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chester S. Pogonowski, Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jane B. Magne, Vice Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
Robert S. Lloyd, Member

**ATTEST:**

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Stacey Mulholland  
Manager/Secretary