SPRINGFIELD TOWNSHIP HISTORIC COMMISSION
REGULAR SCHEDULED MEETING
MINUTES – AUGUST 27, 2026

Attending: William Ryker, Bruce Whitesell, Mary Whitesell, Thomas Cline (Members)
Absent: Lorna Yearwood (Board Liaison)
Guest(s): Kurtis Manley, Andrea Ellison and Ken Manley

The Meeting was Called to Order at 7:00 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance and Welcome extended to Attendees.

Minutes: Upon Motion duly made and seconded by Thomas Cline and William Ryker, respectively, the Minutes of the July 23, 2026 Meeting were approved by unanimous vote.

Public Comments on Non-Agenda Items: None presented.

Zoning Permit Application:
1858 Salem Road, Coopersburg, PA (Parcel #42-004-089)
Attending were the Owners, Kurtis Manley and Andrea Ellison. They presented plans for renovation to the detached garage, looking to maintain its historic integrity if the whole property was so deemed under Historic Designation. In the Historic Overlay, it appears only specific buildings fall within that designation not the property as a whole. The proposed use of the garage when renovated would be as an office. Approval of it being tied into the existing septic system was already received from the Board of Health; awaiting Township Zoning approval. Upon motion by William Ryker and seconded by Bruce Whitesell, by unanimous vote the proposed garage renovation and conditional deck improvement was approved. The Owners and family member Ken Manley were thanked for coming before the Commission and looking to proper measures to accomplishing their goal.

Discussion Topics

A) Further discussion then ensued to be mindful of whether such considerations brought before the Commisssion via Zoning were applicable for Historic Commission consideration or whether it was more within the purview of Township Zoning.

B) Another query – perpetuity in an easement. It was suggested that a recommendation be made to the Board of Supervisors for review of the Easement language. Case precedent may be forthcoming in decisions made relative to rezoning of the Historic Hart Property in Doylestown. Could this result in potential exposure within Springfield Township, a question that may warrant a written query? Upon motion made, seconded and passed by vote, Bruce Whitesell will draft such request in writing to the Supervisors, understanding that further follow-up may be likely.

C) GIS Presentation -- Lorna Yearwood, Liaison, shared a presentation with the Members on the GIS System, its practical application and customizable features, tying together the County GIS, GIS Data and QR Codes with information available through the Township and the Springfield Township Historical Society at the tiered level of available data and personalization under our current licensing. A motion was made and

seconded by Bill Ryker and Bruce Whitesell, respectively, then approved by unanimous vote, to provide access to Bruce Whitesell to the GIS System under supervision of Lorna Yearwood for appropriate utilization of information. The presentation by Lorna was very informative and supported utilization of this System moving forward.

D) Springfield Township Historic Commission and Springfield Township Historical Society Joint Meeting – It was suggested that this be placed on the Historical Society Agenda at its Board Meeting on August 29, 2026.

E) Collaborative Efforts of the Historic Commission and the Springfield Township Historical Society; Proposed Line-Item Budget Request by Historic Commission in Springfield Township 2027 Budget – Upon Motion and seconded, it was proposed that a request be made to Springfield Township to include $2,000 for costs associated in information sharing sessions involving the public outside the normal parameters of our Business Meetings; the vote reflected 3 in favor and 1 dissent.

Comments: Commission; Board of Supervisors Liaison; Public

A) **Commission Comments:** Comprehensive Plan Initiatives, to be recurring points on our Monthly Agenda
   1) Encourage resilient building stock;
   2) Establish intent of historic preservation within the Township and align the Historic Overlay District; and
   3) Recognize, promote and educate the community on the historic rural identity of the Township

B) **Board of Supervisors:** Lorna Yearwood will look to schedule a Workshop Session on GIS.

C) **Public Comment:** No offered comments received.

Adjournment and Next Meeting: With proposed travel plans of Mary and Bruce Whitesell during what would be the regularly scheduled meeting in September, we may explore possible postponement of said meeting until September 29 if conducive to timely public posting of a meeting date change. Further clarification will be sought and if change or postponement is determined, due notice will be shared. Upon Motion duly made and seconded by Bruce Whitesell and Thomas Cline, respectively, the Meeting was adjourned at 8:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary A. Whitesell, Secretary