**wWASHINGTON TOWNSHIP HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION**

**MINUTES**

July 1, 2015

Adequate notice of this regularly scheduled meeting of the Washington Township Historic Preservation Commission (HPC), advertised in the *Observer Tribune* and the *Daily Record* in accordance with the Open Public Meeting Act and posted on the Municipal Building bulletin board and the Washington Township (the Township) website, was called to order at 7:35 by Chairman Stokes.

**Present:** Eileen Stokes, Susan Penney, Jim Fitterer, Leah Korbel

**Absent:** Gregg Forsbrey, Ed Gagne, Jennifer Gorini

**Minutes** for January 7, March 4, May 6 and June 3 were not prepared or lacked an appropriate quorum

**New Business:**

Mary Ann McDade, 379 West Mill Road, B55 L22, MVHD—rear yard pergola

* Three large maple trees that provided shade behind the house have been lost to disease and storm damage
* Yard is open and bakes in summer and windy in winter
* Applicant provided a photograph of a similar pergola to one proposed as well as a site plan indicating placement of the new structure behind the house
* The proposed 8’ x 16’ x 9’high structure will be constructed of cedar post & boards with cement footings and a random flagstone floor and will be located approximately 25’ to the rear of the house and 28’ from the side property line
* The structure will have no impact on the visibility of the house and minimal change to the streetscape.
* Visibility will be only as one approaches the house from the east along W Mill.
* Waive need for public hearing under “minimal” change to viewscape
* The following findings of fact were made:

1. The location has minimal affect on the streetscape and does not block the view of the house structure from the public way.

2. The use of cedar posts and white painted wood to match house trim and size 8’ x 16’ x 9’ high is a reasonable construction. Sample photograph provided.

3. The yard is surrounded by agricultural land and is very open to the effects and heat of the sun. A pergola plant support is an appropriate landscape feature to provide limited relief.]

A MOTION to approve the pergola as presented was made by Jim Fitterer with a second by Leah Korbel. Aye: Fitterer, Penney, Korbel, Stokes. Nay: 0. Abstain: 0.

Recuse: 0. Carried unanimously.

The meeting was opened and closed to the public for items not on the agenda. No public was present.

The annual Preservation Awards were announced during the June Township Committee meeting by Commissioner Forsbrey. The signs have been distributed.

New Business:

There was a phone inquiry from a gentleman at Christdelphian Camp in the Schooley’s Mountain Historic District asking about the possibility in future of subdividing their property so as to sell the Kazlow house on SM Road. I explained that the house is the only piece of the property that is actually within the district boundary. The camp is non-contributing and outside the district setback. For future please consider how subdivision would affect “setting” for this site that began as a Jewish family campground.

There was also a short discussion about a newspaper article quote of Ada Louise Huxtable that had been provided by former HPC member, Dale Blum.

Discussion about a date for our German Valley District walk-thru.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:22.

Respectfully submitted,

Eileen Stokes

Acting Secretary

Approved 12/2/2015