



PENNSBURY TOWNSHIP NEWS

Winter 2020
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www.pennsbury.pa.us

2019 Historic Commission Activities

The Historical Commission oversees all properties listed on the Pennsbury Historic Resources Inventory in order to help retain the unique characteristics of our community. The list of properties is reviewed and updated periodically as recommended by Chester County and the Pennsylvania Historic and Museum Commission.

During the past year Commission members worked on an Historic Resources update, checking the current status of the 211 properties listed in the 2009 Survey. Final work for additions to the inventory will be completed in the new year.

The Commission participated in the review of subdivision plans for two properties which include historic resources. One is a brick federal residence built by Stephen Webb, son of William Webb, original owner of the stone farmhouse now part of the Longwood Gardens Meadow Walk. The second subdivision includes a stone home built in the 1950's to replace an older house on a farmstead dating to the early 1800's. In fact, a small stone tenant house and restored barn are the oldest structures on the property.

This year, four historic resource property owners were sent letters from the Township regarding demolition by neglect at the request of the Historical Commission. All township land owners are responsible for property maintenance. Historic resources are specially protected from demolition by neglect in the 2012 Zoning Ordinance.

The Supervisors approved Pennsbury participation by the Historical Commission in a Brandywine Battlefield descriptive marker project with funds donated by the Pennsylvania Society of Sons of the American Revolution and its Color Guard. Commission members recommended the Barns Brinton House on Route 1 as Pennsbury's marker placement location. Part

of the Brinton Farm in the late 1700's, the house was in the path of the Hessian troop advance across the Brandywine. The markers will be part of a history application being developed for portable devices by the Battlefield Task Force to enable personal tours.

Designs for the concrete Twin Bridges' replacement on Creek Road were considered this year with input from the Pennsbury and Chadds Ford Supervisors, the Brandywine Conservancy, a local residents' group named the "Friends of the Brandywine," and the Pennsbury Historical Commission, among others. The existing bridge, built in the 1920's is still called Twin Bridges by local residents, although it is officially known as the Rocky Hill Road Bridge in the 2009 Pennsbury Historic Survey. Choice alternatives were submitted this fall, but a final decision and construction date have not been announced by Penn DOT.

A new National Register Historic District, called the "Twin Bridges," was recognized at the end of 2018 by the National Park Service. The news is included this year since much of the land in the district is located in Pennsbury Township. Recognition will conserve natural and historic resources on the banks of the Brandywine near the existing Twin Bridges, which will soon be replaced. The Brandywine Conservancy sponsored the research and application in commemoration of its fiftieth anniversary.

Historical Commission meetings are held the first or second Thursday of the month and are open to the public. Please check with the Township Manager for the exact date and time.

Lynn Luft, Historical Commission



Pierce House

The Township acquired this historic home next to the Township Building when the land was purchased from Toll Brothers in 2014. The house has "good bones" but needs some repairs. The Township would like suggestions from the community as to how this house could be used in the future. If you would like to form a committee to explore uses as well as make recommendations for the updating of this structure, please call the Township office at 610-388-7323 and leave your name and contact information.

PENNSBURY TOWNSHIP

702 Baltimore Pike
Chadds Ford, PA 19317

610-388-7323
Fax 610-388-6036
email:

khowley@pennsbury.pa.us

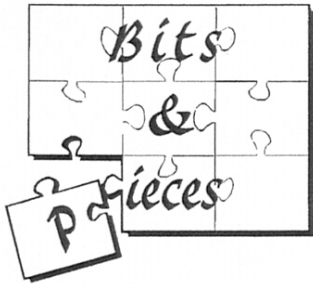
Office Hours:

8:30 a.m. — 1:30 p.m.
Monday — Thursday

Kathleen Howley, Twp. Manager

SUPERVISORS

Scotty Scottoline
Wendell Fenton
Aaron McIntyre



❖ 2020 BUDGET

The Board of Supervisors passed a balanced budget for 2020 at their public meeting on Wednesday, December 11, 2019. The property tax stays at 1.49 mills and the earned income tax at 0.312%.

The budget is posted on the website at www.pennsbury.pa.us.

❖ 2020 TAX BILLS

Chester County tax bills will be mailed in January. The Township tax bill will be sent out by March 2.

Please be aware there is an Earned Income Tax of 0.312% in Pennsbury Township which is collected by Keystone Collections. It is your responsibility to make sure this tax is paid by April 15, 2020 if this tax has not been deducted. If you have questions, contact Keystone Collections at 888-328-0565.

School tax bills are sent out by the school district July 1 of each year.

❖ ANNUAL TOWNSHIP REORGANIZATION

The Board of Supervisors organizational meeting will be held on Mon-

day, January 6, 2020 at 5:00 pm in the Township Building. The regular monthly meeting will follow.

The elected Auditor's organizational meeting will be Tuesday, January 7, 2020 at 5:00 pm and the Planning Commission organizational meeting will be on Tuesday, January 14 at 5:30 pm. Both will be at the Township Building.

❖ BOARD OF SUPERVISORS CHANGES

Scotty Scottoline will be stepping down as a supervisor at the first of the year. He served for twelve years and will be missed. His commitment to the Township is greatly appreciated.

Daniel Boyle will be a new face brought to the board by the fall election. He will take office January 6 at the supervisors organizational meeting and will join current supervisors Wendell Fenton and Aaron McIntyre.

❖ HALT BEFORE YOU SALT

Salt goes a longer way if applied before the snowfall, saving you money.

It prevents ice from bonding to the pavement, making shoveling easier.

Less salt means less chance of washing into streams and depleting nearby soil of beneficial bacteria and nutrients and inhibits plant growth.

Winter Road Reminders

- **DO NOT PARK ON THE STREET DURING A WEATHER EVENT.** If our drivers do not think they can salt, cinder or plow a street or cul-de-sac safely, they will SKIP it or plow it last.
- **MAIN SUBDIVISIONS WILL BE PLOWED FIRST.** Less populated areas next. The Township plows ONLY municipal roads — not state highways.
- **SECURE YOUR MAILBOX.** The Township is NOT responsible for damage caused by snow or ice that is thrown from the snowplow blade. Standard mailboxes and posts are replaced by the Township ONLY if either or both are actually struck by the plow and if these are installed to the specification of the US Postal Service. The Township neither replaces or reimburses residents for custom mailboxes or ornate posts. If you believe a properly installed mailbox or post was struck by a Township vehicle, contact Road Master, Dave Allen at 610-388-9180.
- **DO NOT PUSH SNOW INTO THE STREET.** Wait until the roadway is cleared before shoveling your driveway. Shoveling snow into the road creates a safety hazard and could cause an accident.
- **PREPARE YOUR VEHICLE** for winter driving.
- **DON'T DRIVE** if you are too nervous about driving on snow and ice.

MEDICARE ADVANTAGE OPEN ENROLLMENT PERIOD

The Medicare Annual Open Enrollment Period is over, but starting in 2019 a new open enrollment period for Medicare Advantage plans was established for the period January 1 through March 31, called the Medicare Advantage Open Enrollment Period. During this period, you can make one plan change each year if you are enrolled in a Medicare Advantage Plan.

Before you decide to drop your Medicare Advantage Plan, you need to think about ways to protect yourself against costs associated with Original Medicare, such as deductibles, coinsurances, and copayments. Any changes made January 1 through March 31 will go into effect the first day of the following month.

If you have questions, APPRISE counselors are available to help you. APPRISE is Pennsylvania's statewide program of free insurance consultation under the auspices of the Chester County Department of Aging Services and the State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP). You can leave a message at 610-344-5004 or you can also email us at apprisèchesco@outlook.com.



PLANNING COMMISSION UPDATE

The following is an update of the Planning Commission's (PC) activities since the last edition of the *Pennsbury Township News*.

The PC continued to work on the draft of a Special Events Ordinance and related permit criteria as previously reported, and returned our input to the Board of Supervisors and Solicitor, Tom Oeste.

We reviewed an application for a two lot subdivision (lot line change) from Mrs. Emily Smith for property located on Fair Hill Drive. No action was taken at this meeting and the application was later withdrawn.

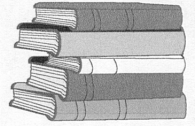
A Conditional Use Application by Mr. and Mrs. Jetpoul for the installation of roof-mounted solar panels at their property at 11/2 Constitution Drive was reviewed and discussed. We voted to recommend that the Supervisors support the application subject to a written notification to neighbors, the lack of objections from those neighbors and the performance of a glare study.

A zoning variance application to the Zoning Hearing Board submitted by Jennifer Linton for their lot located at 604 Mill Pond Lane, Kennett Square, PA was reviewed. The applicants are seeking zoning relief for the development of their lot in order to build a home. We recommended that the Supervisors take a neutral position on this application.

All residents are welcome to attend Planning Commission meetings on the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month at 5:30 at the Township Building;

Dennis Smith, Chair

NEWS FROM THE KENNETT LIBRARY



The Kennett Library has a busy winter planned with lots of activities, including events for adults, children and teens. You will be surprised at the variety: Crafts, book clubs, yoga, even the occasional chocolate tasting. Check the Kennett Library website at kennettlibrary.org for the full schedule.

Come and see us, or if the weather is keeping you indoors check out the thousands of free e-books and audio-books available to cardholders at <https://chester.overdrive.com/>.

Much is in progress on the new Library building at State and Willow Streets in downtown Kennett with a goal of beginning construction by the end of 2021. The library has finalized the purchase of the 3 lots that will make up the site as work continues on architectural and pre-construction details. Co-chairs for the campaign committee are in place and the effort to raise the funds needed for construction is being organized. See the library website for updates.

Help Wanted: The library is looking to hire a new Programming and Event Coordinator. Check kennettlibrary.org for details.

There is an opening for another Library Board Member from Pennsbury Township. If you love the library and are interested in volunteering as a library board member call the Pennsbury Township office at 610-388-7323

A MESSAGE FROM THE LONGWOOD FIRE COMPANY

The Longwood Fire Company is seeking volunteers for our Fire, Rescue and EMS service.

Why Should I Volunteer?

It's no secret that the need for volunteers at your local fire house is urgent. Approximately 85 percent of fire companies nationally are staffed entirely or mostly by volunteers. Community safety suffers without enough volunteers to run a fire company smoothly and efficiently. Longwood Fire Company is counting on you to help. You can be the difference in making sure your community is protected at all times.

Plus, there are plenty of benefits to becoming a volunteer:

- Making a difference in your community is rewarding.

- Gain new skills and experience can prepare you for a possible career as a first responder or medical professional.

- Make new and lasting friendships with your team members.

- Earn college credits through training.

- Possibly receive local real estate tax credits.

- Get free training!

No previous experience? No problem. We provide all the training you need to safely develop your skills and become an asset to your community. From determining the right equipment to use to learning to save lives in a situation where mere seconds can make all the difference. You'll gain the skills you need to make a difference.

If you are interested, please stop by the station at any time. We conduct our weekly training drills every Tuesday start at 7:00pm. You can also contact our membership committee at info@longwoodfireco.com

Pennsbury Township Calendar

COMMUNITY MEETINGS AND EVENTS

TOWNSHIP MEETINGS

Supervisors meet the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 7:00 pm in the Harris Room of the Township Building.

Planning Commission meets the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month at 5:30 pm at the Township Building.

SCHOOL BOARD

Unionville-Chadds Ford School Board usually meets the 3rd Monday of the month at 7:30 pm. Locations and more info at: www.ucfsd.org

DECEMBER 2019

26 Thursday — **Christmas Tree Recycling Begins** at the Township Building. Drop off undecorated trees.

JANUARY 2020

6 Monday, 5:00 pm — **Board of Supervisors Organizational Meeting** at the Township Building. Monthly meeting to follow.

7 Tuesday, 7:00 pm — **Elected Auditors Organizational Meeting** at the Township Building.

14 Tuesday, 5:30 pm — **Planning Commission Organizational Meeting** at the Township Building.

31 Friday — **Christmas Tree Recycling Ends**

MARCH

2 Monday — **Pennsbury Tax Bills** to be mailed by March 2.

APRIL

9 Thursday, 7:00 pm — **Pennsbury Land Trust Annual Meeting** at the Township Building. **SAVE THE DATE**

13 Monday — **Last Day to Register for the PRIMARY ELECTION** In order to vote in the Primary you must be registered with a political party.

21 Tuesday — **Last Day to Apply for an Absentee Ballot** Ballot must be received by 8:00 pm April 28

28 Tuesday, 7:00 am - 8:00 pm — **Primary Election**

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sara.corbishley, editor

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