

**Approved**  
**THORNBURY TOWNSHIP (CHESCO)**  
**HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION**  
**MINUTES of MEETING, Tuesday, Sept. 8, 2009**

**Members Present:** Chris Lang - Chairman, Dr. Richard Webster, Molly Morrison, Tom Spackman, and Eric Burling. Supervisor Mike Gast attended as well

1. Commission Vacancy – The Chairman remembered Don Macpherson, HPC member who died suddenly this summer. We really feel the loss of his committed effort. Lang asked for ideas as to who could fill the Commission vacancy. Members suggested asking his wife, Pat, whether she would be interested in filling out his term. Chris Lang agreed to call her. If she is not interested, members will need to suggest candidates and obtain letters of interest. Then the HPC can interview them. We will make a recommendation to the Board which will appoint a replacement member.

2. Minutes: June 2, 2009 and July 6, 2009 minutes were approved by meeting attendees.

3. July 29 Meeting with Brandywine Valley Association Director James Jordan: Chris Lang reported on this meeting held July 29 which was set up by Eric Burling. Supervisors Gast and Travis attended. Jordan spoke as a strong advocate of open space preservation. He described aspects of the BVA programs, support and size, including a local watershed grant for the EPA. He described work on one of its barns being done by Sylvan Stoltzfuz. Also, BVA leases 3 of its old houses.

4. Historic Resources Survey Project: Activity for August was summarized in Dorchester's month end report. Chris Lang reported on two August meetings of the project Task Force - 8/11 and 8/29. The 8/11 meeting reviewed the project schedule, and resulted in an extension request. Originally the grant work had to be completed by end of 2009. However, to provide adequate time for the fourth phase of the project, amendment of the Comprehensive Plan an extension was requested and approved until June 2010. The Comp. Plan review phase will all happen in 2010, after completion of the historic inventory work of the first 3 phases. The Task Force agreed to a public presentation of the Historic Resource Reports at the HPC regular meeting November 2, 2009. The 8/29 meeting primarily dealt with the historic resource report form format. The task force decided to not use as the first page the PHMC access data base short form, because it is less clear and it is expected it will change later.

5. Cheyney Farmstead:

Mike Gast, Supervisor, reported on the Board Work Session last week, Aug 31 with Township solicitor Kathy Labrum regarding Cheyney Farm matters involving Orleans. The HPC received and reviewed two memos, from Mike Conrad and Cary Vargo that stated the max residential lot that could be made in the Conservation Lot was 3.18 ac. due to the minimum 50% open space requirement in the ordinance for the property. Why was this not identified months ago? Mike Gast said the Board requested the HPC to give them an estimate of the min. work to be done in the barn in order to keep from it falling down. The Board intends to ask Orleans to contribute to this before Thornbury takes title to the barn. Tom Spackman obtained an estimate from his barn repair contractor. Gast asked Lang to get another estimate within one month. He will do so and the matter will be on the Oct HPC meeting agenda. The solicitor has suggested the Board may later need to go to the Orphan's Court to finalize any issues regarding subdivision on the Conservation lot. To save delay and cost, Lang asked why the Board could not go ahead now to meet with Orleans to discuss both parties' objectives and to amend the ordinance.

Respectfully submitted,  
Chris Lang, Chair