

Wrightstown Township Historical Commission
Township Building Conference Room
Minutes — 6 June 2024

Chair Betty Davis called the meeting to order at 1:20 pm.

Present: Betty Davis, chair; Mary Lee Johnson, Karl Niederer (no quorum)

Absent: Jane DelBianco, Abby O'Keeffe, Beverly Wilson

Guests: Jane Magne, Township Supervisor; Stacey Mulholland, Township Manager

Octagonal School Roof Replacement

The chair invited Stacey Mulholland, Township Manager, to present a status update on the Octagonal School roof replacement. Stacey is preparing a T-Mobile grant application for funds to support part of the cost of the roof replacement. To strengthen the narrative justification for the grant request, Stacey requests:

- Statistics on visitation in a typical year
- What kind of groups come to visit, and where do they come from?
- What's the public benefit of maintaining the school and opening it for visitation?

The chair noted that 2023 visitation statistics were the best ever: 40-80 persons per Open House, with an estimated total of over 300 visitors on six open dates (50 average x 6 dates). Noted also that the Occupational Rehabilitation Training (ORT) group came in June 2023, but no other identifiable groups. Almost all visitors are individuals, couples, and families. The chair mentioned that the 225th anniversary of the Octagonal School's construction and opening will be celebrated in 2027.

Jane Magne reported that the Township accepted the roof replacement bid of \$73,730 from ALP Roofing Co. of Fallston, MD on 13 May 2024. The contractor plans to do the work starting in August or September and hopes to work around the Commission's monthly Open House schedule. The estimated completion time for the project on site will be two weeks. Township Engineer Cindy Van Hise will oversee the project and try to prevent the work from obstructing public access for the Commission's Open House.

Stacey Mulholland left the meeting at this point.

Open House Assignments for June and July

The chair noted that Open House attendance on 12 May was zero (0), a great surprise since last year's attendance figures were so high. Staff that day were Karl Niederer and Mary Lee Johnson (1:00-3:00), and Betty Davis and Mary Lee Johnson again, (3:00-5:00).

The chair requested volunteers from the Commission to staff Open Houses in June and July.

- Sunday, 16 June — 1:00-3:00 Karl Niederer and Mary Lee Johnson — 3:00-5:00 Betty Davis and TBD