

Wrightstown Township Historical Commission

Minutes

4 June 2026

Call to Order: Chair Betty Davis called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m.

Present Members and Guests: Chair Betty Davis, Mary Lee Johnson, Jane DelBianco, and Karl Niederer. Absent Beverly Wilson. Guests: Wrightstown resident Linda Grubb (973 Mill Creek Road, Newtown, PA 18940); and Jane Magne, Township Supervisor.

Agenda: Additions and Changes — None.

Approval of Minutes: 7 May 2026 meeting minutes approved without change.

Treasurer's Report: Jane DelBianco presented her report. The budget account balance for 2026 is \$1,000.00; the savings account balance is \$11,475.40. The George Donat bequest of \$1,300 is included in the savings account total, but is not a separate line in the report (see Attachment A for detail). Mary Lee submitted receipts for Octagonal School supplies totaling \$449.35, of which \$379.57 has already been reimbursed. The Commission wants to rent portable restrooms at future Open Houses due to increased visitation; estimated daily cost per event is between \$250-\$350. Jane Magne asked that the Commission submit a request to the Supervisors for rentals for the June 21 Open House and the rest of the 2026 season, and to include this need as request in the 2027 budget.

Old Business:

1. **Exhibit in Township Building** — Update on planning and production of exhibition of deeds from WTHC collection: Betty and Mary Lee reported no progress.
2. **Octagonal School**—
 - a. Open House feature programs for 2026:
 - *Octagonal Artistry*, (17 May) — A successful Open House attracting an all-time high of 140 visitors, including many of the Wrightstown Elementary School students and their families. Karl will prepare a letter from the Commission thanking art teacher Melissa Miguelez for her hard work encouraging students to participate, and help setting up the display of their artwork inside the schoolhouse. Ms. Miguelez and several students attended the Township Supervisors meeting on 1 June, where the students received certificates of participation hand-inscribed by Robert Hurford, Wrightstown penmanship historian. Suggestions offered for future event reprises included: (1) asking students to focus their artwork more on themes related to the Octagonal School and education in the school, and (2) including Wrightstown-resident students who attend Sol Feinstone Elementary. Mary Lee agreed to mention these suggestions to Ms. Miguelez.
 - *Wrightstown Brushstrokes*, (21 June) show of adult artists' work on Wrightstown sites — Artists Kay King, Trisha Vergis, and April Ann Bohmler will display several of their artworks inside the school; additional easels will be needed. Some of their artworks will be price-tagged for purchase, but no sales transactions will occur at the Open House. Weather-permitting, the artists will paint *plein air* on the schoolhouse grounds. The artists offered to make a donation to the Commission

for the opportunity to display and sell their work. Jane DelBianco and Karl will staff the event from 1:00-3:00 p.m.; Mary Lee and Betty from 3:00-5:00 p.m.; however, Karl expects to be onsite the entire time. Linda Grubb and Lisa Fee may be able to help with staffing as well.

- *Pen & Ink*, (19 July) penmanship and calligraphy demonstration, and USA 250th celebration — Bob Hurford will provide photos and information on penmanship history and teaching handwriting and penmanship to children, which Karl will use to produce a flyer for the event. Karl will also arrange for scanning and framing of the facsimile Declaration of Independence and the 1776 Wrightstown map for display inside the school. Jane Magne suggested inviting Cherry Lane resident and saxophonist George Krauter to perform the National Anthem at the event.
 - *In Word and Deed*, (20 September) Bucks County deed books display — No report.
 - *Tunes of the Times*, (18 October) 19th Century music program — No report.
- b. **Parking solution** — Karl reported that Bucks County Conservation District needs to approve the siting plan for the new parking lot and driveway before Twining Construction can proceed with installation. Township Manager Stacy Crandell has submitted the engineer's revised site plan to BCCD this week, and they have 30 days to respond. Installation is unlikely to occur before August.
3. **Commission Report to Supervisors** — Karl reported on current activities and upcoming events at the Township Supervisors meeting on 1 June, focusing on the 19 July Open House, Wrightstown's observance of the nation's 250th anniversary, and progress on the Historical Information Scanning Project by volunteer Lisa Fee.
4. **Scanning Project** — Karl reported recent progress on the Historical Information Scanning Project, noting that volunteer Lisa Fee has completed over 25 percent of our Historic Property Tax Parcel Files.
5. **Community Day, Saturday, 16 May** — Betty and Karl reported on our participation at Wrightstown's Community Day. Linda Grubb introduced herself at the event, expressing interest in volunteering with the Commission at the June Open House.
6. **Additional Commission members** — Jane Magne mentioned that a potential candidate has indicated interest in joining the Commission in the future.

New Business:

1. **Budget request for 2027** — Jane Magne suggested that the Commission include a request for funding to produce a replacement of the Octagonal School sign, as well as portable restrooms for Octagonal School Open Houses, in next year's budget.
2. **Website concept development prospect** — Karl reported that a volunteer has offered to develop concept web site to demonstrate to the Commission later this year.

Next Meeting: Thursday, 2 July 2026

Adjournment: 2:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



—Karl J. Niederer, Secretary

ATTACHMENT A, Historical Commission Minutes, 4 June 2026

Wrightstown Twp. Historical Comm - Treasurer's Report
June 4, 2026

Supply Account Balance:	\$1,000.00
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Savings account:

Current Balance:	\$11,118.76
Deposit	130.00
Deposit	223.00
Interest - 3 months	3.64
Ending balance:	\$11,475.40