

Plymouth & Whitemarsh Townships
Historical Architectural Review Board
Meeting Minutes – March 10, 2021

The following HARB members participated via ZOOM telecommunication technology: Jerry Rafter, David Conroy, Plymouth Township Zoning Officer, Tom Higgins, Robert Sztubinski, Whitemarsh Township Director of Building & Codes, Jamina Clay, Ken Parsons, and John Von Essen. Also in attendance were Charlie Guttenplan, Whitemarsh Township Director of Planning & Zoning, Kathy Bandish, Plymouth Township Council Liaison, and Michael Drossner, Whitemarsh Township Board of Supervisors Liaison.

1. CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 8:34 AM.
2. ANNOUNCEMENTS & CORRESPONDENCE:
 - The members welcomed John Von Essen, new appointee to HARB from Whitemarsh Township.
3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: February 10, 2021 – approved.
4. OLD BUSINESS: None.
5. NEW BUSINESS:
 - 3144 Spring Mill Road, Whitemarsh Township – Marlene Kolb, property owner, shared her plans for an inground pool and prefabricated pool house to the rear of the property. (The house on this property was built approximately 2 years ago.) It was noted that these improvements were discussed informally last month and it was reiterated that they would not be visible from the road. HARB members had no new comments nor any objections to these improvements. Motion to recommend the governing body approve a Certificate of Appropriateness for the pool and pool house was seconded and approved by a vote of 7-0.
6. PUBLIC COMMENTS (NON-AGENDA ITEMS ONLY):
 - Sydelle Zove (Whitemarsh resident on Harts Ridge Road) updated HARB concerning the sale of Plymouth Meeting Historical Society property on Sierra Road (Plymouth Township). At the time of the purchase by the Historical Society in 1997 from PennDOT, two covenants were placed on the property. One deals with limitations on improvements to the property (inside and outside of buildings plus the ‘cultural landscape’ or site); it is enforceable by the PA Historical and Museum Commission (PHMC). The Secretary of the Interior standards are to be used when judging any improvements or changes. In view of the pending sale of the property (an agreement of sale is ‘on the table’), PHMC met with the Historical Society approximately 2 weeks prior to this HARB meeting and discussed the covenant. It was requested that HARB be notified of any future meetings to be held concerning this property; it was noted that HARB would be involved in any proposed changes to the property. Ms. Zove said she would give HARB a copy of the covenant and the contact at PHMC. She also indicated that at the end of March, some board members and others from the Historical Society will begin to inventory the Society’s collection of artifacts. Ms. Bandish also said that she is pursuing the discussion about what will be done with the collection. It was noted that the covenant does not apply to the collection.

7. HARB MEMBER COMMENTS: None

8. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 8:50 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Charles Guttenplan
Whitemarsh Township Director of Planning & Zoning/Zoning Officer