

**LOWER PAXTON TOWNSHIP
HISTORICAL COMMISSION**

January 5, 2023

Meeting

6:30 PM

- I. Call Meeting to Order
 - a. Welcome the audience
- II. Pledge of Allegiance
- III. Presentation – America’s 250th Bill Minsker
- IV. Business Meeting
 - a. Approval of November and December meeting minutes
- V. Old Business
 - a. Review dates of presentations
 - b. Discuss email for presentations
 - c. Set date to work on archives
- VI. New Business
- VII. Committee member comments
- VIII. Public comment
- IX. Adjournment

Lower Paxton Township Historical Commission (LPTHC)

January 5, 2023 Meeting Minutes

The January 5, 2023 LPTHC meeting was called to order by David Doyle, Chairman, at 6:30pm. All members of the Commission were present. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Denise Deimler.

The presentation, America's 250th, was given by Bill Minsker. After the presentation, the approval of the minutes for November and December 2022 were motioned for approval by Denise Deimler and seconded by Don Goss. Both sets were approved.

V. OLD BUSINESS

A. Review dates of presentations

- February presentation is cancelled.
- March is moved to May 4th and will be the History of Hoffman Ford.
- Bill will contact Reverend Person about the Shoop's Church/Cemetery presentation.
- It was asked that in all press releases Denise and Kristy are available with help on research of any businesses, homes, churches, and properties.
- The March presentation may be by Shoop's Church/Cemetery.

B. Discuss email for presentations

- Sarah hasn't found an email list for guests at prior meetings yet.
- Need to hit as many marketing venues as possible.

C. Set date to work on Archival materials

- Closet "fix-up".
- Supplies have come in for proper storage of items.
- Sarah will give us dates.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

Dave Doyle had several subjects to be discussed.

- LPT just hired a full-time event planner whom we can utilize for future events.
- LPT contracted with an individual to help with public relations.
- Friday, 10:30am at St. Thomas Church – Jim Doyle, Nature's Way Nursery
 - *clean-up of wooded area to begin soon.
 - *Ground LIDAR through Shippensburg University.
 - *All trees to be cut down will be marked.
 - *Romberger Memorials: Don Goss got a quote on a stone for a memorial to give back respect to people buried there.
- Board of Supervisors appointed the LPTHC for another year. Bill Minsker motioned to re-appoint the current offices to their positions. Denise Deimler seconded the motions and it was approved by the Commission.

VII. COMMISSION MEMBER COMMENTS

Don Goss will contact Ollie's about a possible presentation. Don also spoke to Dave Able, from Manada Church in West Hanover Township, about possible restoration help. The Church was moved in 1902 -1903 from Piketown to its current location.

Bill Minsker asked about the possible collection of papers written by Nevin Moyer about the histories and so on of schools and education in the Township.

Dave Doyle suggested posting some of Moyer's writings on Facebook, once a month, for people to read about the history.

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Bill Miller let us know that he is the President of the Colonial Crest Association and will make sure a blurb is put in their newsletter for Commission presentations and events. It was also suggested that we get in touch with other neighborhood associations.

The meeting was motioned for adjournment by Denise Deimler and seconded by Jay Purdy. The meeting was adjourned by Dave Doyle at 7:45pm.

Respectively submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kristy Kessler".

Kristy Kessler, Secretary

LOWER PAXTON TOWNSHIP HISTORICAL COMMISSION

2023 PRESENTATION CALENDAR

Meeting Time 6:30pm

DATE	PRESENTER(S)	PRESENTATION
01/05	Bill Minsker	Dauphin County participation in the 2026 America 250 Celebration
02/02		
03/02	Rev. James Person	History of Shoop's Church
04/06		
05/04	Ryan Hoffman/Norm Zouma	History of Hoffman Ford
06/01		
07/06	Don Goss	John Joseph Wenrich, "Civil War Soldier"
08/03	Jerry Dougherty	History of Hunter's & Angler's Club
09/07		
10/05		
11/02	Deb Rowe/Legion	Welcome Home Parade/Legion Hist.
12/07	Kristy Kessler/Denise Deimler	Historical Research - Part I

*****Please note that the presentation by Marjorie Martin about Charlton Church & Brown's School has been postponed until a later date.**

Updated 02/27/2023

America250PA Dauphin County Commission

🚧 Semiquincentennial projects now in construction : (January 5, 2023)

- Gaining 41 RESOLUTIONS OF SUPPORT from Dauphin County and its 40 municipalities
- 1. **X.** Creation of a **BOOK** to sell on Dauphin County's 119 settlement histories
 - 1 city, 16 boroughs, 23 townships, 58 villages, 21 educational systems = 119
- 2. **XX.** Introduction event - **ICE CREAM / PEACH SOCIALS** in Dauphin County Parks in March and April, 2026
- 3. **X.** Creation of celebration **COINS**
 - Designed by Dauphin County Tech students
 - Promotional wooden nickels to be distributed free
 - \$ 5.00 basic metal coin ; \$ 50.00 pure silver coin (numbered)
- 4. **X.** Construction of an authentic **LOG CABIN** in Detweiler Park
 - Built by Dauphin Co. Tech students at the County's Detweiler Park
- 5. **X.** Creation and placement of a **TIME CAPSULE** for secure placement inside this log cabin, to be opened during America's tri-centennial (300th birthday) in 2076
 - Suggestions for inclusion items from junior high school students
- 6. Planting of a "**LIBERTY TREE**" at the log cabin site in Detweiler Park
- 7. **THE SPRING CONCERT OF THE HERSHEY COMMUNITY CHORUS** - "25 Decades of American Music" / "250 Years of American Music" / "A Musical Celebration of America250" / "A Patriotic Musical Salute to America250"
- 8. Organizing a 250-member **DAUPHIN COUNTY CHOIR**
 - Patriotic concert in the Forum, with the Harrisburg Symphony
 - Patriotic concert appearances in all 17 County high schools
- 9. Organizing a 250-member **DAUPHIN CO. CONCERT / MARCHING BAND**
 - Concerts and holiday parade appearances in the County
- 10. Individual **USA MILITARY BAND PERFORMANCES** in the State Forum Building
 - Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marine Corps
- 11. **X.** Holding of a walking - running - bike **MARATHON** to Dauphin Co's. 3 oldest settlements
 - Middletown (1755) to Hummelstown (1762) to Linglestown (1765)
- 12. Holding **HISTORICAL PRESENTATIONS**
 - Venue - High school auditoriums
 - Topics :
 - The Paxton Boys / Rangers / Peter Allen House
 - The Susquehannock Indians
 - The Hanover Resolves
- 13. Conducting historic **TOURS / "DINE WITH THE DEAD"** box lunch
 - Peter Allen house - Middle Paxton Twp.
 - John Harris mansion - Harrisburg
 - Paxton Presbyterian Church - Paxtang
 - Derry Presbyterian Church - Hershey
 - Wenrich's Church (St. Thomas UCC) - Linglestown
 - St. Peter's Kierch - Middletown
- 14. Display, description, and instruction on use of the **PENNSYLVANIA LONG RIFLE**, by and on the grounds of the Harrisburg Hunters and Anglers Association
- 15. Creation and sale of a discount admission "**PATRIOT'S PASS**" program to participating Dauphin Co. museums - i.e. State, Whitaker Center, Civil War, PA National Fire, Hershey Story, Antique Auto

X = A local municipality event

X = Sponsorship opportunity

. = Projects providing revenue

. = Projects requiring funding

(Continued)

- 16. **XX**. Creating **HISTORICAL MARKERS** for placement on participating Dauphin County historic homes and buildings
- 17. **RED, WHITE, and BLUE BOAT FLOTILA** on and along the Susquehanna River Front, in Harrisburg
- 18. **X** **“GET-OUT-THE-VOTE”** publicity for the May 19 Primary and Nov. 3 General 2026 elections
- 19. .Dauphin County-wide **PARADE** in Harrisburg on Saturday, July 4, 2026
- 20. **X CELEBRATION / MEMORIAL SERVICES** held in Dauphin County religious institutions on July 4, 2026 weekend

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📌 Semiquincentennial projects now under consideration :

- 1. American Legion, Department of Pennsylvania **STATE CONVENTION**, in early July, 2026
- 2. Navy “Blue Angels” or Air Force “Thunderbirds” **AIR SHOW** at Harrisburg International Airport during the week of July 4th
- 3. The 1-day **PENNSYLVANIA PUMP PRIMERS MUSTER**, at Harrisburg’s River Front, on July 11, 2026 - “250 Years of Firefighting in America”
- 4. **HERSHEY REGION AACAA Oct. 6th - 9th ANTIQUE AUTOMOBILE MEET** - “100 Years of Vehicles” / “Vehicles of the 20th Century” / “Vehicles from 1900 - 1999”
- 5. The 4-day 2026 **NATIONAL “MEET AND SHOW”** of the National Chrysler Products Club, at the Holiday Inn Harrisburg / Hershey, in Grantville
- 6. A 1-day **ANTIQUE FIRE APPARATUS DISPLAY / SHOW**, sponsored by the Swab Wagon Works, in Elizabethville
- 7. The 2-day July, 2026 **DAUPHIN COUNTY FIREMEN’S ASSN. CONVENTION and PARADE**, with emphasis on display of antique fire apparatus

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