

Minutes of the Lower Makefield Historic Commission

August 13, 2025

Chair: Cathy Hanville

Meeting Secretary: Jeff Bedser

Present at Facility: Cathy Hanville, Jeff Bedser, David Verdon

Present Online via Zoom: Joe Camaratta, Helen Heinz, Supv. Matt Ross

Jeff Bedser as Alternate replacing Victor Fiori

Meeting Called to Order at 728PM as all expected in attendance.

Motion to approve minutes of the July Meeting presented. Moved by Joe C, seconded by Jeff B.
Passed Unanimously

Existing Business:

- **America 250 Event (Helen H)** indicated a reduction to one weekend in late 2026 for a reenactment of the camps prior to the Battle of Trenton. Seeking 30 re-enactors and support from local BSA troops. Funding and approvals will be sought once the plan structure has been finalized
- **Historic Research Survey (Joe/Cathy):** Board of Supervisors briefed on 8/6/25. Thanks to Jeff Marshall. Spare budget applied to Deed research to augment findings for preservation efforts. Jeff B. prepared a Google Map of all properties
- **Demolition Ordinance Status:** Waiting for a date to be on the BoS calendar for a vote.
 - Justice House (743 River Road) appears to be safe from demolition.
 - 136 Old Oxford Valley is on a short-term reprieve as the development of the land is paused.
- **Cataloguing Township Materials: (Dawn)** The donation of a manuscript on 1150 Big Oak Road has been very helpful. Breezy Vale Farm (Wright Farm) will permit survey access
 - Grant to preserve donated map for \$5K has been submitted.
- **Slate Hill Cemetery: (Cathy H)** Update on grant from Bowman Hill for plants for educational beautification. September/October delivery for plants if the grant is accepted. GPNR report is complete, did go over budget by ~\$425. Headstone project being finalized for the repair of 100 headstones.
 - Ghost Tour in October: Still working on fundraising
 - Tree Removal: Over 10 trees removed over past month. Only one headstone was damaged.
 - Path Project: Eagle Scout Project - potentially will need BoS approval.
 - QR Codes: 7 more pages added, hoping for new QR signs by the Ghost Walk

NEW BUSINESS

- **2026 Historic Survey Grant:** Joe C suggested we apply and target structures built 1900-1939, which accounts for 261. Helen H suggested a determination, potentially by persons of importance who may have lived there. Jeff B volunteered to draft the RFP.
- A discussion regarding the neglect of Edgewood Village Buildings by their owner ensued. Motion to file a complaint with the BoS made by Joe C, 2nd by Dave V, passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

Motion to Adjourn @818pm by Jeff B, 2nd by Dave V, passed unanimously.