

Morris Township Historic Preservation Commission

Minutes from April 19, 2016

Present: C. Barkin, C. Goss, J. Rich, J. Sacks

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m.
2. Minutes from February and March 2016 were reviewed and accepted without changes.
3. Old Business: Knox – no change

MUF – drawings are being updated to include comments from the HPC, which were read to the Board of Adjustment at a recent March meeting. We expect to see some design changes at an upcoming BOA meeting in mid-May. We provided the township engineer with drawings of an addition plan that we prefer.

4. New Business: The Abbey – This property has been on the Register of Historic Places since 1985. It has been on the market for sale for three years. It was the subject of a Daily Record article in November 2013. We have recently been advised that this building, aka Alnwick Hall, has had a demolition permit filed. It is on the market for \$6.1 million and is on 4 acres. It would be appropriate for light industrial, commercial office space, condos, a boutique hotel, assisted living, a spa, or a single family residence, which would return it to its original usage. We have been speaking with the township administrator and would welcome the opportunity to sit down with the owner and his marketing people to brainstorm ideas. We oppose demolition of one of the remaining Gilded Age mansions in the township. We plan to reach out to interested parties on our own initiative.

5. The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m
6. Next meeting: Tuesday, May 17th at 7:30 p.m.

Minutes prepared by: C. Barkin, acting secretary