

MINUTES OF PLUMSTEAD TOWNSHIP
HISTORIC PRESERVATION EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
July 9, 2026



July 9, 2026 meeting of Plumstead Township Historic Preservation Education Advisory Committee occurred at Plumstead Township Municipal Building, 5186 Stump Road, Pipersville, PA. Kimberly Troup called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

A moment of silence was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPOINTED MEMBERS PRESENT:

Kimberly Troup, Michael May, Michael Jonn, David Crane, and Jim Stark were in attendance. Ken Lichtenstein, Township Supervisor, Lloyd Bush Jr, a concerned citizen, and Kelly McGowen, video recorder for "Plumstead Unfiltered" (Facebook Live Stream) were also in attendance. Not present Tom Upton and Idelean Hasenaur.

The minutes were reviewed and a misspelling of a name was found. Kim Troup made a motion to approve the corrected minutes, and Michael Jonn seconded the motion. All approved.

Kim led the discussion on the flow chart of how historical properties should be evaluated since each property is unique. Her suggestion is an online digital review which would provide a good starting point. If questions exist, a drive-by evaluation would be appropriate. Michael Jonn stated that the zoning office knows the status of the property and should notify the committee. Kim stated that the committee is not currently being notified. Michael May suggested that the Township Manager should make a copy of the application and forward it to the HPEAC for evaluation. The review is mandated by law. If the property is on the Historical Information List (HIL) then we must be notified. Kim stated that she would make the necessary changes to the flow chart and would send it to each member of the committee.

Kim described the reasons for preservation, the criteria for preservation, and the characteristics that make Plumstead unique. The industrial base and the agricultural heritage of the area and the buildings tell our story. The national registry outlines the criteria: 1. Age 50 years or older, 2. Must maintain its integrity, 3. Significant in the history of the community, 4. Vital to community development. It could be of a significant person or a style of architecture or work of a craftsman. Buildings of religious significance and cemeteries and graveyards are also of interest.

We need to answer the question "What do we care about in Plumstead and why?"

What do we bring forward to the township supervisors? Maps are a starting point. The value and significance of the structure or activities that occurred, such as the underground railroad or other factors. Our focus is on the exterior of the property, but in certain cases the interior might also be important.

If we were to drive by a property we need to agree on what we need to collect. Digital resources, public records, and maps are a start, but previous HIL rankings could dictate when additional information is necessary. If a property is not listed, a drive-by with township's approval could answer questions of uniqueness, setting, integrity, photos of surrounding environment and architect. Michael May informed the committee that in 1798 the government requested a survey of structures, type of construction, size, out-buildings and shops, and value which is online.

Kim listed ideas for our Plumstead gathering tool: Is it developable? When was it evaluated for historical significance? Is it at risk for sale or development? Is it abandoned? How long? Current condition? What is the current zoning? Is it a rare structure? Does it have value to the story of the community? Is it in public view? Could it be eligible for tax credits for preservation? What do other communities look at and do? Kim stated she would document her list of ideas of facts to be gathered and distribute it to all committee members.

Mike May volunteered to write the article for the newsletter listing interesting historical statistics.

At 7:00 pm Jims Stark made a motion to adjourn and seconded by Michail Jonn and unanimously approved.

Next Meeting is scheduled for 6:00 pm, **Thursday Aug 13, 2026** at the township building.