

2017 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE YEADON BOROUGH HISTORICAL COMMISSION (YBHC)

The 2016 report of the Yeadon Borough Historical Commission is posted on the Borough's website.

Yeadon Borough Historical Commission (YBHC) was established by Yeadon Borough Council in 2015 to encourage appreciation for Yeadon Borough's rich history while creating a means to honor and preserve it.

While Ordinance 2015-1362 only stipulates that YBHC should meet quarterly, work has been continuous related to the goals and projects stated in the 2016 report. In December 2016, members of the Yeadon Borough Historical Commission set what they believed to be realistic goals for 2017. It is now clear that the process of historical preservation and documentation is highly bureaucratic. While this fact did not change the goals set for 2017, it did result in a need to extend the timeline for accomplishment.

Status of 2017 goals:

- 1) Promote interest by establishing display.

This goal has been partially met. Following the October 2016 reception, Yeadon Public Library allowed YBHC to use the case in its lobby to display some of the historical maps and memorabilia that would have ended up back in storage. This YBHC display has promoted interest in Yeadon's history, as proven by inquiries received and materials donated. Yeadon Public Library also donated items that were retrieved at their 80/50 Anniversary Celebration from the opening of the time capsule that was placed in the cornerstone of the 809 Longacre facility in 1967. YBHC's goal is to change the display every six months.

- 2) Establish online presence.

This goal has been partially met. YBHC has a page on the Borough's website.

- 3) Identify and conduct oral history interviews with more long term residents.

This goal has been partially met. More long term residents have been identified and interviews will be set.

- 4) Update existing inventory of historical properties and sites.

This goal has been met, with support from Delaware County Historical Society.

- 5) Obtain markers for historical buildings and properties.

This goal has not been met but process has begun on local and state level.

- 6) Identify any properties that may be eligible for historical certification.

This goal of identifying properties that may be eligible has been met.

- 7) Develop a public relations campaign.

This goal is "under development" and is contingent upon progress with 2018 goals.

Additionally, during 2017, much time and communication were expended by members with both the Delaware County Historical Society (Chester, PA) and the Pennsylvania Historical Society in relation to 2017 goals 4, 5 and 6. The Delaware County Historical Society in Chester, Pennsylvania has proven to be an invaluable resource providing both information and materials that have proven to be critical to research conducted by Yeadon Borough Historical Commission.

Given the lesson of 2017, below is a list of seemingly achievable goals set by the Yeadon Borough Historical Commission for 2018:

- 1) Promote greater interest in Yeadon's history by identifying a "home" for the Yeadon Borough Historical Commission to display the significant collection of Yeadon historical maps, materials and memorabilia. The small case in Yeadon Library definitely does not allow full tribute to Yeadon Borough's rich history. A "home" for the Yeadon Borough Historical Commission could serve as not only a repository for Yeadon's past, but could also be an information center for its present and a planning center for its future.
- 2) Enhance online presence by having a Borough email address for Yeadon Borough Historical Commission (ybhc@yeadonborough.org) and possibly establish a social media account to be linked to the YBHC Borough page.
- 3) Set up oral history interviews with long term residents and obtain releases for some of the content to be posted on either YBHC Borough page or YBHC social media page.
- 4) Continue process of obtaining local and/or state markers for historical buildings and historical properties.

YBHC is maintaining contact initiated by Arcadia Publishing regarding the possibility of including Yeadon Borough in their *Images of America* series. Tentative time for this project has been moved to 2020.

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