



TOWNSHIP OF EAST FALLOWFIELD HISTORICAL COMMISSION

MEETING AGENDA SEPTEMBER 3, 2025

- I. Call to Order
- II. Roll Call
- III. Review and Approval of Minutes of Prior Meeting

IV. Discussion of Open Issues

- **Community Park – Strunk Fallout Shelter**
 - Chad Peterson to retake photo survey if access can be provided.
- **Peoples Hall**
 - A rededication ceremony is planned for September 20, 2025 at 1:00pm (rain date the following day). Township administration and Historical Commission members invited and encouraged to attend.
- **America250 PA Chester County 250 Commission**
 - BOS has joined other county municipalities in preparing for the upcoming events.
 - View events at this link: <https://america250chesco.org/Events.htm>
 - **Historical Commission is to prepare a map with significant local historical sites identified.**
- **Certified Local Government (CLG)**
 - Further investigation as to costs and value to the Township being evaluated.
- **265 Buck Run Road**
 - Tax Parcel No. 47-7-102.1, described in the survey as a Class II resource, ca. 1935 brick bungalow structure with block addition at rear, garage, formerly known as the Benjamin Fredd Farm, possibly included in the Buck Run National Register Thematic District, BR-10.
 - **Permit application not recommended for issue at last meeting. Owner has corresponded by email with additional information. Asked for hard copies of all product submittals and for corrections to be made to plans previously submitted.**
 - **New submittal package received for review, applicant asked to attend meeting to discuss renovation plans.**
- **Remembering Zachariah Walker**
 - 1911 Coatesville Lynching Victim remembrance ceremony and funeral was held Wednesday, August 13, 2025 with remembrance and interment at Church of Christ in Ercildoun, followed by ceremony, presentations, and speakers at Gateway Church in Parkesburg.
 - Event well attended (program attached).

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- Daily Local news article attached.

IV-V. New Business

- **New applicant interviews**
 - **The following applicant has expressed interest in filling one of current vacancies on the Historical Commission: Pani Martin. Application has previously been submitted to the Township.**
- **2960 Strasburg Road**
 - Tax parcel 47-4-96-E, a Class II Township historic resource, formerly a one-room schoolhouse, and Mt. Carmel Church. Renovation work has been observed, with window casings installed and material for re-pointing of exterior walls on site. (see attached photo)
 - Code Inspection officer has requested that owner's rep, Tom Lowrey, be contacted and asked to provide a new building permit application, which would be the first step in a Zoning Hearing Board appeal for new use. (see attached email message).
- **2550 Strasburg Road**
 - Tax Parcel 47-4-153.1, a Class I Township historic resource, included in the National Register of Historic Places Strasburg Road Thematic District, formerly known as Drover's Inn, described as a 2.5 story vernacular style structure, built approximately 1820 by/for Jesse Bentley. (see attached photos)
 - Contacted by architect requesting guidelines for renovations.
 - The owner's architect, Andrew Bush, was contacted concerning proposed renovations. He indicated that the owner was planning to construct a master bedroom suite at the rear of the structure, and he was looking for design guidelines.
 - The permit process was reviewed, and he was referred to the zoning codes applicable to historic properties within a certified historic district, available at the Township's web page.
 - He was encouraged to prepare schematics and material cuts for review with the Historical Commission prior to submitting a permit application.

Attachments ~~6 Park Avenue — permit application request~~

~~Tax parcel number 47-7-9.1, listed in the Township Historic Resource Inventory as a Class I property included in the National Register of Historic Places. Described as an aluminum/stucco PA farmhouse originally constructed in 1775, and once known as the Thomas Truman Grist Mill.~~

~~Owner has submitted a permit application to replace the roof on the house and the adjacent barn. Existing roof on the house appears to be cedar shakes the barn roof metal. Owner proposes standing seam metal roofing on both structures. EFTHC voted to approve permit for barn, house request not in compliance with Zoning Code. Code Inspector has issued permit for the barn. Owner has requested opportunity to address the Commission at this meeting.~~

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V-VI.

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Senator Andy Dinniman Community Gathering

Sponsors:

*Together Endowment, Coatesville Area NAACP,
Coatesville Area Ministerium*

A Community and Education Initiative To Overcome Hatred and Violence Through Remembering Zachariah Walker

Wednesday, August 13, 2025

10 am: Burial Service, Church of Christ Cemetery
10:45 am -11:15 am: Funeral Convoy Stopping at Historic Marker for Moment of Silence
11:15 am - 3 pm: Arrival at Gateway Church for Lunch and Forum
3:30 pm: Post Forum Picture at NAACP Historic Marker

*"History, despite its wrenching pain cannot be unlived,
but if faced with courage, need not be lived again."*

-Maya Angelou

Honorary Chairpersons:

Shadell Quinones Coatesville NAACP
Donna Rowland Coatesville NAACP
Pastor Bobby Duncan Coatesville Ministerium
Pastor (State Rep) Dan Williams Coatesville Ministerium

10 am - 10:45 am
Burial Service
Church of Christ Cemetery

Significance of Burial	Dr. Andy Dinniman
Funeral Led by:	Pastors Bobby Duncan and Scott Feather
Eulogy	Dan Williams
Spiritual	Pastor and State Representative
Prayers	Shanda Taylor Boyd
	Rabbi Maury Hoberman
Flowers Placed on Grave	Imam Mohammed Jamaluddin
Closing Prayer	Descendants of Zachariah Walker
Instructions	Reverend E. Lauraine Acey
	Earl Johnson

10:45 am - 11:15 am
Funeral Convoy

Funeral Convoy to Gateway Church
Stopping Along the Way for a moment of silence at the Pennsylvania Historic Marker
at the lynch site
Please Note the Zachariah Walker Avenue Street Signs

11:15 am - 12:15 pm
Gateway Church
Lunch

*During lunch, there will be an opportunity to visit exhibits and have discussion
with exhibitors:*

Alliance for Health	Equity Black Light Project
Chester Ruth Legacy Foundation	Cheyney University
Equal Justice Initiative Museum	Chester County History Center
Lincoln University NAACP	Coatesville Area
	Steel Museum

**12:15 pm - 3 pm
Forum**

Welcome and Comments

Dr. Andy Dinniman, Founder, Together Endowment

Opening Prayer and Welcome

Pastor Duncan, President, Coatesville Area Ministerium

Pledge of Allegiance

Kenneth Bond - Past President, Coatesville Area NAACP

Lift Every Voice

Judge Gregory Hines

Welcoming Comments

Shadell Quinones, President, Coatesville Area NAACP

Commentary: The Dynamic of Hatred, Violence, and Yet... Hope

Dr. Andy Dinniman, Professor Emeritus, West Chester University
(Focus on Racism and Anti-Semitism - but applicable to all forms of hatred)

**Recognition of Honorary Chairs, NAACP Branches, University Representatives,
and Public Officials**

Earl Johnson - Coatesville Area NAACP

Commentary: The Lynching of Zachariah Walker

Dr. Charles Hardy, Professor Emeritus, West Chester University

Brief Break

**Recognition of Descendants of Zachariah Walker, Those Who Prevented the 1938
Lynching, and Those Who Formed the Coatesville NAACP**

Pam Depte, Tabernacle Baptist Church

Presentation of Book and Certificates to Students

Donna Rowland, Past President, Coatesville Area NAACP

Affirmations

State Representative Dan Williams

Presentation by Students of Lynch Site Soil with Written Statements for Current and Future students to:

**Cheyney University
Lincoln University**

West Chester University - Frederick Douglass Institute

Representatives of each university accept the soil and statements, with a commitment to put it in their archives and reaffirm their university's commitment to equity and educational opportunity for all.

**Presentation by Reverend E. Lauraine Acey and Shanda Taylor Boyd -
Descendants of Walker of Lynch Site Soil with Written Statement to the County
Commissioners and History Center**

Accepted by the County Commissioners and History Center with a Commitment to put it in their archives and reaffirm their commitment to equity and opportunity for all.

Presentation - Dr. Chris and Susan Fiorentino Awards

Sandra Simmons and Debra Ciamacca
Dr. Andy Dinniman, Professor Emeritus, West Chester University

Equal Justice Initiative Museum

Dr. LaTonya Thomas Taylor, Professor, West Chester University

Response: Moving Forward Together

Ajenee Livingston, Alliance for Health Equity

Benediction

Pastor Scott Feather

Closing Song

We Shall Overcome

Post Forum Opportunity

Picture and Video at Coatesville NAACP Marker in South Coatesville

Upcoming Events:

*Chester Ruth Innovation Tour - September 20, 2025
NAACP Freedom Fund Dinner - October 5, 2025*

SACRED RESTING PLACE BRIDGES WM. CHESTER
RUTH'S FAMILY AND ZACHARIAH WALKER'S ASHES
TOGETHER

Connecting the bridge between Zachariah Walker and my family --- the Ruths---first my grandfather, Wm. Chester Ruth was, like Zachariah, a Coatesville steelworker in the 1910's. They may have known each other; we don't know. And secondly, Wm. Chester's mother, my great grandmother, earned and saved the money by the year 1890 to buy the land upon which -- The Church of Christ -- was built and its burying ground opened to receive the departed. **(Property Deed on display at Gateway Church).**

Great grandmother Louisa Pinn Ruth earned this money by working as a midwife and domestic worker in the Ercildoun vicinity. In addition, she cared for and taught her own large (10 children) family. Had it not been for Louisa's hard work, piety, and foresight, we would not have this sacred ground to offer as a receiving place for the earthly ash and commemoration of Zachariah Walker's suffering. We are honored to have this connection and to participate in this historic event.



DAILY LOCAL NEWS

LOCAL NEWS

Coatesville lynching victim Zachariah Walker buried after 114 years

More than 4,000 men, women and children witnessed the Sunday, August 13, 1911 event



By **BILL RETTEW** | wrettew@dailylocal.com | Daily Local News
UPDATED: August 15, 2025 at 11:25 AM EDT

EAST FALLOWFIELD—Healing and closure took place 114 years after the remains of Zachariah Walker—who was brutally lynched and burnt to death in Chester County—were buried.

More than 4,000 men, women and children had witnessed the Sunday, August 13, 1911 lynching of Walker who was killed without a trial of his peers, after he was accused of murder, which has left a black eye on Coatesville for more than a century.

The burial of soil and his ashes taken from the site where Walker was killed solemnly took place at the village of Ercildoun, at the Church of Christ Cemetery on Doe Run Road, and was attended by a diverse crowd of about 500 black white mourners, on a hot, muggy day. The service was followed by a forum in Parkesburg



Former state Sen. Andy Dinniman speaks at a service for lynching victim Zachariah Walker who was burned to death without a jury of his peers 114 years ago.
(BILL RETTEW/MEDIANEWS GROUP)

“The word of the day is courage, the courage to face the pain of the past, so that we don’t live it again,” said former state Sen. Andy Dinniman.

Shadell Quinones, president of the Coatesville Area NAACP, said that Coatesville residents had moved forward and healed, while “stepping into the future that is ours to step into.”

Quinones said that the city’s residents are now able to look at adversity and “demand our passage through it” from a moment of history.

“We are Coatesville rising,” she said. “We no longer live under the dark cloud.”



Coatesville Area NAACP President Shadell Quinones talks about forgiveness in the death of lynching victim Zachariah Walker 114 years ago. (BILL RETTEW/MEDIANEWS GROUP)

“It is critical that we always remember. We must talk about it. We must share it.”

State Rep. Dan Williams spoke at the service.



State Rep. Dan Williams addresses 500 mourners at the funeral for lynching victim Zacharia Walker at Church of Christ Cemetery. (BILL RETTEW/MEDIANEWS GROUP)

“We are bound by our beauty together, but not our brutality,” he said. “Today we stand united to say, ‘no more,’ we will not forget.

“Mr. Walker is alive. You can’t bury a spirit.”

Dinniman stressed that the word of the day was courage and that if we understand courage, then we can make changes and stop horrible events in the early stages.

“It is remembrance that keeps it alive,” Dinniman said. “Remembering the good periods as well as the bad periods in our history.

“It’s patriotic. It’s a worthy struggle. We have to face the parts of ourselves and our nation that have to change and the good parts—the courage to face the pain of the past, so it’s not lived again.”

Dinniman said that we do this partly through education.

“If you are going to face Black history in America, then you are going to get a black eye.”

Dinniman talked after the service and forum.

“The significance of the day was that a diverse group of Chester Countians came together to finally give Zachariah Walker the burial that every human being deserves and to proclaim that we never again allow hatred to rule in Chester County,” Dinniman said.

Several members of the Walker Family attended and Great Niece Shanda Taylor Boyd, who sang several times at both events, placed the ashes and soil into the ground.

At the afternoon forum at Gateway Church, Cowan Road, Parkesburg, following a caravan from the cemetery, a community and education initiative to overcome hatred and violence took place. The initiative is the purpose of the 2025 Annual Senator Andy Dinniman Community Gathering. It was sponsored by the Together Endowment, established by Dinniman, the Coatesville Area NAACP and the Coatesville Area Ministerium.

The service and forum was diverse and ecumenical in spirit as shown by the prayers that were offered by Pastors Bobby Duncan, of Greater Deliverance Church, and Scott Feather, Gateway Church. The eulogy was delivered by Pastor and State Representative Williams. The Masjid Ar Rahman in Coatesville was represented by Iman Mohamed Jamaluddin. Beth Israel in Uwchlan and other local synagogues were represented by Rabbi Maury Hoberman.

Before the burial, as an act of reconciliation, a small group from the Coatesville NAACP, the Ministerium, and the Together Endowment placed flowers at the grave of Edgar Rice, the person Walker was accused of killing. Bells of several churches rang at both the Rice event and the burial of Walker, as a call to respect the humanity of every human being.

Soil and statements were presented to representatives of Cheyney University, Lincoln University, the Frederick Douglass Institute of West Chester University, Chester County

Commissioners, and the Chester County History Center for their archives, symbolizing the need to face the past and to work for equity, justice, and opportunity for every person.

On the NAACP website (<https://www.chesconaacp.org>) you see their piece summarizing the history of this event: Zachariah Walker was a Southern worker at Worth Brothers Steel Mill. He came home drunk, got involved in a scuffle with Edgar Rice, a popular steel company security guard and former policeman.

When Rice tried to arrest Walker for public drunkenness Walker allegedly shot Rice, saying it was in self-defense.

There were no witnesses and the lynch mob gave Walker no fair trial by his peers.

The lynch mob took Walker from the old Coatesville Hospital, still chained to part of his bed, threw him into a fire, burning him to death. Several times he escaped from the fire but was thrown back in by the crowd. As he was burnt to death, a crowd estimated at several thousand looked on and some in the crowd collected his bones as souvenirs.

Like in the south, no lyncher was ever convicted.

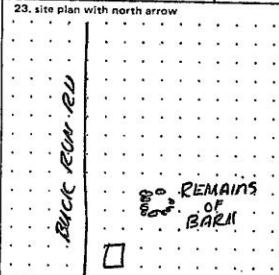
The national NAACP was formed in 1909 and Coatesville was one of the first lynching cases it became actively involved with. The NAACP's actions led to the passage of the Pennsylvania 1923 Anti-Lynching law.

While the 1911, lynching was widely condemned, there was what historians call "a conspiracy of silence" in Coatesville.

In 1938, a second attempted Coatesville lynching was stopped and the Coatesville Area NAACP was formed.

Originally Published: August 15, 2025 at 10:50 AM EDT

ATTACHMENT – HISTORIC RESOURCE SURVEY – 265 BUCK RUN ROAD

PENNSYLVANIA HISTORIC RESOURCE SURVEY FORM OFFICE OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION Box 1026 PA HISTORICAL & MUSEUM COMMISSION Harrisburg, PA 17120		7. Local survey organization CHESTER COUNTY HISTORIC SITE SURVEY		5. Survey name
8. property owners name and address NIXON, Arthur, Jr. & Anna RD#3 Coatesville, Penna. 19320 (ES RT 182)		9. tax parcel number / other number 47-7-122	10. U.T.M. zone existing	
12. classification site () structure () object () building () In N.R. district yes () no ()		11. status (other surveys, lists etc.) 4241	13. date(s) (how determined) 1890 - ARCHITECT	
16. architect or engineer		17. contractor or builder	18. style, design or folk type FOUR SQUARE	
19. original use FARM		20. present use RESIDENCE		6. other name (historic name if any)
21. condition GOOD		22. integrity GOOD		
23. site plan with north arrow 				
24. photo notation M. S. YOUNG - 1978		25. file/location Form: 05006 Site #113		
26. brief description (note unusual features, integrity, environment, threats and associated buildings) Red Brick under White Horizontal Siding				
27. history, significance and/or background (continue on back if necessary)				
28. sources of information (continue on back if necessary)				
29. prepared by:				
30. date revision(s)				
3. street address or specific location				
4. survey code				

ATTACHMENT – PERMIT APPLICATION – 265 BUCK RUN ROAD

RECEIVED
JUN 18 2025

BUILDING SUBCODE TECHNICAL SECTION

A. IDENTIFICATION – APPLICANT: COMPLETE ALL APPLICABLE INFORMATION. WHEN CHANGING CONTRACTORS, NOTIFY THIS OFFICE.

Work Site Location: 265 Buck Run Road, Conestoga, PA

Owner in Fee: Awakened Properties

Address: 50 Ridge Road, Conestoga, PA 17333

Tele: (717) 717 406-8316

Contractor: BBENNER

Address: 3160 Wake Oak Rd Paradise PA 17562

Tele: (717) 519 4632

License No. of Bldgs. Reg. No.: 131234

Federal Emp. No.: awakenedproperties.com

D. TECHNICAL SITE DATA

DESCRIPTION OF WORK: New addition on existing foundation

HISTORIC PROPERTY

TYPE OF WORK:

Building	\$
Electrical	
Mechanical	
Plumbing	
Lateral	
Zoning	
State Fee	
U & O	
Subtotal	

FEE (Office Use Only)

Administrative Surcharge	\$
Minimum Fee	\$
Fee	\$
TOTAL FEE	\$

B. BUILDING CHARACTERISTICS

Use Group	Present	Proposed
Constr. Class	Present	Proposed
No. of Stories		
Height of Structure		
Area — Largest Floor		
New Bldg. Area/All Floors		
Volume of New Structure		
Total Land Area Disturbed		
Deck/Accessory		

Est. Cost of Bldg. Work:

1. New Bldg.	\$
2. Alteration	\$ 40,000
3. Total (1+2)	\$

C. CERTIFICATION IN LIEU OF OATH

I hereby certify that I am the (agent of) owner of the above property and I am authorized to make this application.

Signature: [Signature]

ATTACHMENT – MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name: Frane Martin Telephone: 484 571 6106
 Address: 2842 Strasburg Rd Date: 6/9/25
 Email Address: panimartin2020@gmail.com
 Years as a Township Resident: 26 Occupation: Financial Director
 Background/Interests: FACTS HISTORY family
community diamond art

Please check the board(s) or commission(s) that you would be willing to serve on:

- ☐ Park and Recreation Commission
- ☐ Planning Commission
- ☐ Zoning Hearing Board
- ☐ Agricultural Security Commission

☒ Historical Committee

☒ Municipal Building 4 of 5 spots are members of

The above boards typically meet on a monthly basis or every other week. Quorums are required for any board to act, so attendance is important. Do you feel the other board members can count on your regular attendance so that business can be conducted?

☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ Seasonally – from _____ to _____

Why would you like to be on the board(s) or commission(s) you have selected: (Please use reverse side if necessary)

Honor, remember & preserve factual history
of the Township. Plus I've worked with all
but maybe Chad Peterson. GREAT people

Concerns for the Township; if any:

Please see resume submitted for interim

¹ Please attach a resume and/or letter of interest

township.

ATTACHMENT - 2960 STRASBURG ROAD PHOTO



2960 STRASBURG ROAD LOOKING EAST

PHOTO TAKEN 09-03-2025

ATTACHMENT - 2960 STRASBURG ROAD - EMAIL CORRESPONDENCE

Re: 2960 Strasburg Road

bcodes@verizon.net

From: bcodes@verizon.net

To: Joe McCormick

Cc: Rob McLarnon, Sue Monaghan, Sue Monaghan, Chad Peterson, Connie McLaughlin and 6 more...

Wed, Sep 3 at 9:36 AM

Will inform owner

Still waiting on letter for loop rd

Please forward letter and we will proceed per your approvals

On Wednesday, September 3, 2025, 7:41 AM, Joe McCormick
<j.mccormick318@verizon.net> wrote:

Good morning Tom, hope you are well.

I spoke with Rob yesterday and he asked me to reach out to you to ask for a new permit application for the work recently started. He said a permit application will be needed before a zoning hearing for a change in use could be scheduled.

Permit application should reflect the work and materials previously recommended by the Historical Commission and agreed to by the owner.

Thanks.

Joe McCormick

Chairman

East Fallowfield Township

Historical Commission

ATTACHMENT — 2550 STRASBURG ROAD PHOTOS



2550 STRASBURG – LOOKING SOUTH



2550 STRASBURG – LOOKING EAST

PHOTOS TAKEN 09-02-2025