

**PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES FROM JANUARY 7, 2027 REGARDING A PROPOSED
DOYLESTOWN HISTORIC PRESERVATION DISTRICT**

Mayor Lindeman called the meeting to order at 6:32 PM. Instructed all attendees to sign in. Mayor also instructed anyone wishing to address Council to please state their name and address for the record.

The following attendees addressed Council: Sarah Bartrum Reedy 256 High; TJ Lindeman 300 High; S. Bently 61 College; Ken Thurman 292 N. Portage; Jonna Ritchie 220 N. Portage; Cindy Steele 41 W. Clinton; Todd Paridon 241 N. Portage; Bob Funk 80 N. Portage; Earl Kerr representing 260 N Portage; Eric Pandrea 232 N Portage, 65 Gates and 65 W. Clinton; Deanne Lutz 105 S Portage; Guy Ritchie 220 N. Portage; Dan Large Midwest PolyPak; Hanna Hall 74 N. Portage; Sue Galehouse 324 High.

General Understanding & Materials Provided

Attendees expressed confusion regarding what design guidelines would ultimately require, noting that the only materials available for review prior to the hearing were the draft Code of Ordinances chapter, the Certificate of Appropriateness application, and the proposed district map. It was clarified during the hearing that the Historic Preservation Commission would be responsible for developing and recommending the design guidelines at a later stage.

Concerns Regarding Property Requirements & Enforcement

Several residents expressed concern about potential costs associated with compliance, specifically:

- That modifications to properties (restoration, rehabilitation and preservation) would be on a go forward basis.
- That property owners would not be required to restore buildings back to original historic conditions.
- That renovations would instead focus on preserving current conditions or rehabilitating intended function.
- That owners who cannot afford certain improvements would not be fined solely for financial inability to complete upgrades.
- Would this affect Inside or Outside improvements or both?

Residential Property Impact & Petition

Property owner TJ Lindeman presented a petition submitted by residential property owners requesting exclusion from the proposed district. It is noted for the record that the petition did not meet the minimum signature threshold required under the proposed ordinance.

Commission Representation

Residents expressed interest in ensuring that at least some members of the Historic Preservation Commission are property owners within the district, preferably a majority.

Financial Assistance & Incentives

Attendees were interested in and requested additional information on grant programs, tax incentives, and loan options available to property owners within a historic district.

Insurance Impacts

Questions were raised regarding how designation within a historic district may affect property insurance premiums and deductibles.

Ongoing Engagement & Communication

Residents indicated a desire to remain informed throughout the process. Even if the district map is revised, attendees requested that all current participants continue to be notified and invited to future meetings and hearings.

Public Notification Materials

Some attendees stated that the notification letter distributed to the community was not clearly understood and requested clearer communication going forward.

Mark Hammer stated that all of these concerns will be taken back to the Planning Commission. Mayor Lindeman also asked all attendees to consider attending the February Planning Commission meeting to continue participating in the process as the Code, map, and other supporting documents continue to develop.

Adjourned 8:08 PM

Attendees: Jonna & Patrick Ritchie, Ken & Judi Thurman, (not legible), Todd Paridon, TJ & Elizabeth Lindeman, Lesa Miller, Emily Booth, Debbie Hall, Shelby Hall, Mary Mertic, Mike MacDonald, Cindy Steele, John Cernik, (not legible) Bill & Cindy Bail, Richard & Sue Galehouse, Bob Funk, Earl Kerr, Deanne Lutz, Dan Large, Roger & Pati Gilcrest, Sarah Bartrum-Reedy, Judy Campbell, Hanna Hall.