

**MINUTES OF PERKASIE BOROUGH
HISTORICAL COMMITTEE MEETING
MARCH 9, 4:00 PM**

ATTENDANCE:

Committee Members:	Scott Bomboy Aaron Clark (absent) Rick Doll Matt Lynch (absent) Lee Metzger
Mayor:	Jeff Hollenbach
Borough Manager:	Andrea L. Coaxum

Mayor Hollenbach called the meeting to order. The Pledge of Allegiance was performed.

Selection of Chair and Secretary

Mayor Hollenbach opened the floor for nominations for a Committee Chair. A nomination was made and seconded to appoint Scott Bomboy as Chair. The motion carried.

Mayor Hollenbach opened the floor for nominations for Secretary. A nomination was made and seconded to appoint Aaron Clark as Secretary. The motion carried.

Comments from Mayor

Mayor Hollenbach stated that he feels Perkasie is a wonderful community that respects our history and remarked on the upcoming Fire Company remembrance event on April 1st. He added that he is thrilled to be part of a Committee who wants to remember what has been going on in our community. Mr. Bomboy thanked the Mayor for his comments and added that the Committee is looking forward to working with him.

Public Forum

Nothing at this time.

Discussion: Historic Aspects of Kulp Baseball Field Ribbon Cutting

Mr. Bomboy stated that we will be re-opening the ballfield at some point and are looking for a way to honor its heritage. The Borough Manager stated that the Parks & Recreation Director was unexpectedly able to attend today's meeting, but the Parks & Recreation Board has already started discussing plans for this, adding that they are looking to have the event in mid-July, to coordinate it with the All-Star Game. Ms. Coaxum suggested that if the Historical Committee has any ideas to share with the Board, she could take the feedback back to the Parks & Recreation Director to take to the Board, or perhaps one of the Committee members could attend the next Parks & Recreation Board meeting, if anyone would be interested in attending.

Mr. Bomboy suggested a re-enactment of a 1879 baseball game, but Ms. Coaxum stated that the Parks & Recreation Board has been looking into that as a possibility, and groups who are doing re-enactment

games want to do them on a grass field, not on today's traditional baseball field, which would mean it would have to be done out in the outfield and not on the new ballfield, and would then defeat the purpose of doing a re-enactment event. Ms. Coaxum stated that the Board is working on finding another fun event to be done to debut the ballfield.

Mr. Bomboy stated that the other idea that's been talking about is having historic naming rights for the field itself. The Mayor's thought was Hal Swartley, who was regarded as the best player to come out of Perkasio, and a very highly respected and known star athlete. Mr. Bomboy's idea was to name it after the Hubbert family, who were responsible for the baseball business between 1919 and 1950 in Perkasio.

Mr. Bomboy stated that it's something for the Borough to decide, adding that it's not for the Committee to decide, but that would be their recommendation. The Mayor stated that he has already been asked to throw out the first pitch, and that it would be great to work with the Parks & Recreation Board to come up with something that really attracts some of the community.

Update: Needs for Economic Development Plan

The Borough Manager provided an update on the Perkasio Borough Economic Development Plan project, adding that there is a page on the Borough's website that has updated information as it becomes available for the project. The Steering Committee has invited anyone from the public to attend a Public Meeting this Wednesday, April 11th at 6:00 pm, to review the draft plan. The staff should have a draft plan document by Wednesday, April 18th; it will then go to the Steering Committee for review and input, then to the Perkasio Historical Committee and Perkasio Planning Commission for review and input in April, and to Borough Council by the beginning of May.

Update: South Perkasio Covered Bridge Project

The Borough Manager and Mr. Bomboy provided an update on the Covered Bridge Project.

Update: Perkasio Historic District Project

Mr. Bomboy provided an update on the Perkasio Historic District Project.

Perkasio America250 Plans

The Committee received a printout with an America250 update, and Mr. Bomboy informed the Committee that the staff has been working on posters and Social Media posts about upcoming America250 events in the Borough, including a Farmers Market event, a Summer Concert Series event featuring a Quakertown Band performance with food trucks and a community picnic, an America250 award at the Car Show, an American History activity at the Fall Fest, a historic story-telling location and ice sculptures at the Tree Lighting, an America250 theme at Community Day, a Declaration of Independence reading that is being coordinated by the staff and the Historical Society, and a speaker series being presented by the Historical Society. There will also be an event on Founders Day at Perkasio Park.

Discussion: Perkasio's 150th Birthday

Mr. Bomboy informed the Committee that the Borough has a 150th birthday coming up in 2029, adding that we can schedule events to mark the birthday. Traditionally, the Borough formed a special committee to run the event. The special committee had members of the Historical Society and other people on the planning committee. Legally, under state code, the Borough can contribute to a special committee to run the event. Mr. Metzger was a member of the committee formed for a birthday event in 1979 and spoke about the planning and the event. The Historical Society currently has \$10,000 set aside that was raised for previous Borough birthday celebrations and wasn't used. Mr. Metzger stated that if a separate committee is formed, the Historical Society can use those funds toward an event. He and Mr. Bomboy agreed that a 501c3 could be set up for the event, for any donations or corporate sponsors.

Mayor Hollenbach informed the Committee that the 100th Pennridge/Quakertown football game will be played in 2029, and the School District is planning something for the Fall of that year and talking to ESPN to make the game as big as they can make it, so that will also be happening that year. Pennridge will be hosting the game.

Mr. Bomboy stated that we will figure out the process of how we set up the special committee, independent of the Historical Committee, to run the anniversary event and get that set up in the legal, appropriate way.

New Business

Upon a motion by Bomboy, seconded by Metzger, the next meeting date for the Historical Committee was established as April 13, 2026, at 4:00 pm.

Public Forum

Nothing at this time.

The meeting adjourned at 4:49 pm.