

BOROUGH OF AMBRIDGE

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June 11, 2015

Ms. Serena Bellew
Bureau Director
PA HISTORICAL AND MUSEUM COMMISSION
Bureau of Historic Preservation
400 North Street, 2nd Floor
Harrisburg, PA 17120

RE: Support of Statewide Historic Preservation Plan

Dear Director Bellew,

On behalf of the Ambridge Borough Council and Mayor, I write to inform you of our community's support of the Statewide Historic Preservation Plan 2012-2017. Enclosed herein is a copy of Ambridge Borough Council Resolution No. 2015-9 codifying our support and stating our goals and objectives to implement efforts of historic preservation locally here in Ambridge Borough, the proud home of Old Economy Village.

We are excited to use this adopted Resolution as the framework to advance and sustain the National Historic District that circumferences Old Economy Village. This Resolution will enable our community to have a vision, acknowledge the resources that are made available to our Certified Local Government and support the longevity of the Historic District and Old Economy Village.

Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at the number listed above. I thank you and PHMC for all of your efforts to support and operate Old Economy Village – a true treasure for not only the greater-Ambridge area but the entire Commonwealth.

Respectfully yours,

THE BOROUGH OF AMBRIDGE



Joseph Kauer
Borough Manager

Enclosure: Resolution No. 2015-9

CC: Borough Council and Mayor
Michael S. Knecht, Site Administrator – Old Economy Village
Ambridge Board of Historical Architectural Review

BOROUGH OF AMBRIDGE
RESOLUTION No. 2015-9

A RESOLUTION TO ENDORSE PENNSYLVANIA'S STATEWIDE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN 2012-2017

WHEREAS, the Borough of Ambridge understands that the irreplaceable historical, architectural, archaeological, and cultural heritage of this Commonwealth should be preserved and protected for the benefit of all the people, including future generations, and;

WHEREAS, Section 301 of the Municipalities Planning Code requires local governments to identify a plan for historic preservation and the adoption of relevant goals of the Pennsylvania's Statewide Historic Preservation Plan is a step in fulfilling that requirement;

WHEREAS, the Borough of Ambridge has expressed interest in the endorsement of Pennsylvania's Statewide Historic Preservation Plan and will assist in the implementation at the local level;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Borough of Ambridge, Beaver County, Pennsylvania ENDORSES Pennsylvania's Statewide Historic Preservation Plan and will take the following actions to implement relevant goals and objectives:

Local Action:

A. Create a comprehensive historic resources inventory to help identify places of local significance that will also be shared with Pennsylvania Historic and Museum Commission's Bureau for Historic Preservation (BHP).

B. Identify ways that cultural and historic resources can (or do) contribute to local community character, quality of life, and economic growth potential.

C. Evaluate municipal planning policies and regulations to ensure that these policies address the community's historic preservation needs to the greatest extent possible. A thorough review of municipal code and zoning ordinances, planning procedures and other regulatory mechanisms is essential to advancing preservation and making the highest and best use of historic resources.

D. Identify significant historic resources that need to be protected through a local historic preservation ordinance (seeking technical advice from the BHP community preservation coordinator). For resources that are threatened by demolition or neglect, apply to be included on the annual Pennsylvania at Risk list.

E. If the local government owns, occupies, or manages historic buildings, take action to keep these properties occupied and in good repair.

F. If consensus is needed about historic preservation actions and priorities, prepare a historic preservation plan for the community.

Training:

A. Alert municipal staff and local partner organizations to the requirements of the Pennsylvania History Code, Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, and consultation obligations

required when state and federal funding are used for projects and request training from the BHP staff when necessary.

B. Seek training for the municipality's Historic Preservation Commission or Historic Architectural Review Board to ensure that the review process is professional and fair.

Signs and Markers:

A. Submit a historical marker application to BHP for persons, places, or events that have statewide or national significance.

B. Take action or partner with local preservation advocates to interpret history in public spaces (public gathering areas, parks, and trails) that would benefit from the addition of a sign, marker, or media tag to educate people about community history.

Outreach and Funding:

A. Alert property owners of income-producing buildings (stores, offices, rental housing, etc.) that are listed on the National Register of Historic Places or are located in Historic Districts to the federal Rehabilitation Investment Tax Credit (RITC) program for historic building rehabilitations. Contact the BHP tax credit manager for assistance in preparing RITC applications.

B. Identify all active, preservation-related, grassroots advocacy groups, reach out to them and seek their support in working toward preservation goals and priorities.

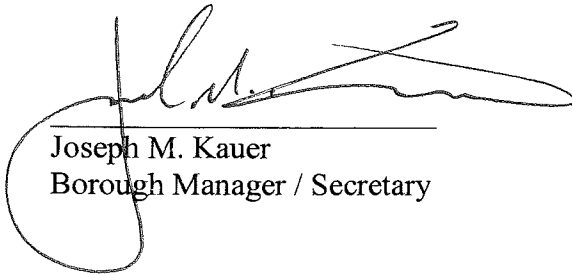
C. Reach out to local school districts and preservation advocacy organizations to identify ways to provide traditional and non-traditional (outside the classroom) learning opportunities.

D. Seek out grants, state and federal funding and philanthropic donations to conduct historic preservation projects; as a Certified Local Government, Ambridge Borough, the municipality, is specifically eligible to receive federal funding through the National Park Service.


Resolved and enacted this 9th day of June, 2015.

ATTEST:

BOROUGH OF AMBRIDGE:



Joseph M. Kauer
Borough Manager / Secretary



Michael A. Mikulich
Council President