

RESOLUTION NO 2014-4

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF POTTSTOWN
TO ENDORSE THE PENNSYLVANIA STATE WIDE HISTORIC
PRESERVATION PLAN 2012-2017.**

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

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Borough of Pottstown, Montgomery County, and Pennsylvania ENDORSES Pennsylvania's Statewide Historic Preservation Plan and will undertake its best efforts to implement the following relevant goals and objectives within the abilities and best efforts of the Borough:

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, the Borough of Pottstown is specifically eligible to receive federal funding through the National Park Service.

ENACTED and RESOLVED this 10th day of MARCH, 2014.

THE BURGESS AND TOWN COUNCIL
OF THE BOROUGH OF POTTSTOWN

BY: [Signature]
President

ATTEST: Virginia L. Takach
Secretary

Approved this 10th day of
MARCH, A.D. 2014.

[Signature]
Mayor