

Tinicum Historical Commission
July 14, 2025

1. **Called to Order 7:40pm.**
2. **Special Guest** – Kim Rosamilia.
3. **Attendees: (Quorum)**
Ethan Perry, Gail Nagele-Hopkins, Kathryn Auerbach, Janine Black, Michael Kauffman, Robin Lachner
4. **Consent Calendar.** Meeting Minutes from April 14, 2025 were tabled until some verbiage can be re-evaluated.
5. **250th Event.** Ethan gave an update. Looking into getting one of the Durham boats is progressing. Friends of Washington Crossing (FWC) is aware of Tinicum's interest in getting one of the boats and possibly a cannon. FWC may want to set up a tent at the Tinicum event. Ethan would like to get the Durham group involved. Kathryn offered to make some connections (Dave and Lois, members of the Durham Historical society) with the Durham group. She gave a brief history of the Durham boats.

Kathryn related that Plumstead also would like to have a presence at the event. She will also connect with Donna Homes in the Palisades system to start awareness and involvement within the school system. Thinking of staging a muster by the students. They perform as key individuals within the Flying Camp militia, as well as others. Numerous ideas are coming out.

Kathryn and Ethan expressed that they are impressed with the interest level from other groups to participate in the Tinicum event.

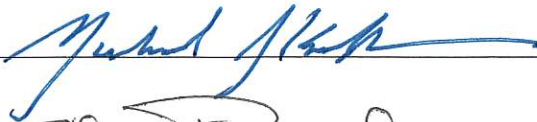
6. **The Tinicum Historical Commission welcomed Robin Lachner to the Commission.**
7. **Bridges.** Sheep Hole Bridge, an iron truss bridge, is also a WPA bridge and falls under 'wild and scenic'. A guard rail is planned on the outside with guide rails on the inside of the bridge. Kathryn expressed concern about the drilling into stone and steel for the rails. She is very concerned about the deterioration of the long-term integrity of the bridge and surrounding terrain due to the installation of the guard and guide rails. She strongly expressed her opposition to the addition of rails, to preserve the bridge and maintain the 'wild and scenic' designation. Mike will check into the scope of the project to repair this bridge.

Kathryn offered to draft a letter from the THC to oppose the rails on the bridge. She moved for the THC to write a letter to the township supervisors to express disappointment about the lack of transparency about the plans for the bridge, that the guide rails are unacceptable, they are not authentic, the rails will degrade the bridge over time, and they do not fall under the 'wild and scenic' designation. Robin seconded the motion. All members voted for this motion. Kim Rosamila expressed support for Kathryn's position in attempting

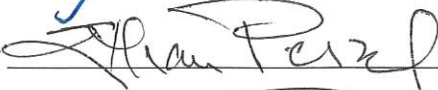
to protect the historic bridges of Tinicum. Kathryn recommends the township coming out with an overall bridge resolution.

8. **Trunk or Treat.** Parks and Rec are planning a community engagement event around Halloween to take place in the park. There was a suggestion for the THC members to attend and tell ghost stories. There are several ghost story books from the local area. Event is planned for Oct 25th, rain date of the 26th. Kim suggested going through the Tinicum Bulletins as there are several ghost stories in those. Will further discuss in October. (JB will bundle her local ghost story books and pass along to MK for perusal.)
9. **Archival Project.** Ethan is going through all the Tinicum Bulletins. He found some at the Spruance library that go back into the 1950s (likely donated by Rick Plank). He told a few stories from the bulletins.
10. **Interesting historical stories** discussion. Several Artie Shaw stories were told. The deed for the Erwin cemetery has been found and a discussion ensued about forming a potential cemetery maintenance group. Boy Scouts, Cole, and realtor Coffey stories were told.
11. **Kim Rosamila.** Project involves the Upper Tinicum Cemetery Association and getting the cemetery into the National Register of Historic Places. The intent is to enhance the image of the church cemetery with an added benefit of attracting funds for maintenance and protection. She would like the THC to write a letter in support of the application.
12. **New Business.** None.
13. **Future Meeting Dates:** Quarterly 2nd Monday at 7:30pm
 - a. *Meeting Dates:* January 13, April 14, July 14, October 13
14. **Adjourned:** 9:06pm, MK made motion, EP 2nd.

Michael Kauffman, Chair



Ethan Perry, Vice Chair



Janine Black, Recording Secretary

