

EFHS ANNUAL MEETING, ELECTIONS

East Falls NOW, March 2019

The East Falls Historical Society held its annual meeting February 5th at the Falls of Schuylkill Library. Co-president Ellen Sheehan reported on accomplishments over the past two years, including successful walking tours (eg, Wissahickon Avenue and Oaks Cloister), lectures, several acquisitions, addition of oral histories of senior Fallsers, and more. Our Grace Kelly collection was a popular addition to the 2019 Chestnut Hill Holiday House Tour and will soon be on display at the NewCourtland complex on Henry Avenue, where EFHS is being allocated free space to house our archival collections. EFHS researchers supported successful nominations to the Philadelphia Register of Historic Places: Palestine Hall (1868); The Henry W. Brown (aka Timmons) House (1907); and 3625 McMichael Street, the 1916 Chapel of the Good Shepherd (aka “Ken-Crest”). The Society advocated for preservation of “Lycoming,” a Wilson Eyre property on School House Lane, but unsuccessfully. Roger Marsh is kindly helping us restore our web site following a period of multiple difficulties.

At the February 5th meeting, the membership elected officers and board members. Retired architect Ellen Prantl will be the new recording secretary and Steven Peitzman vice-president. Patty Cheek continues as president, Katy Hine as treasurer, and Lyda Doyle as corresponding secretary. New at large board members include: architect Glenn Snyder, property owner and businessman William Ross, III, writer and editor Richard Lampert, and Caroline Slama, a staff member of the Preservation Alliance of Greater Philadelphia. Gratitude was expressed for the work of outgoing board members David Breiner, Paul Furlong, Susan Kretsge, and Joe Leube. Ellen Sheehan, a founder of the EFHS and its tireless engine, will step down as co-president but looks forward to working on several projects, including the Grace Kelly collection and the Society’s historic photographs. Ellen concluded the meeting with some words about Ken Hinde, our beloved board member and walking tour guide, who passed away in 2019 after a sudden and brief illness.

New members are welcome. For any information, please email eastfallshistory@gmail.com.

Steven J. Peitzman