

East Whiteland Township

Historical Commission Meeting Minutes

July 6, 2016

**Members present:** Peter Spengeman, Ian Scott, and Terri Schatz

**Also present:** Susan Evans, observer

**Call to Order:** 7:30 PM

The meeting was held to discuss the corrections to the sign at Duffy's Cut archeological dig site. A correction to the date and the mistaken cause of death listed on the sign was to be decided.

Commission members were presented with facts, photos and x-rays of the bodies which were found at the site. A number of these photos show trauma to the men who died there. This recent proof of foul play was not consistent with the original designation of "black diphtheria" as indicated on the sign. Carbon dating also found the date of death to be mistaken. The photos and findings will be distributed by e-mail to the remaining members of the commission.

Our guests, historians from Immaculata University and a number of Amtrak representatives, have been working on this history of the laborers who mostly hailed from Derry in Ireland over a number of years. Changes to the sign at the site will be voted on by the Commission members at their next meeting.

As an added note, there is a marker honoring the railroad laborers on the grounds of the university and a museum in the building itself.

For more information on Duffy's Cut see Dr. William Watson's website at Immaculata University's link... [www.immaculata.edu/faculty/william-watson](http://www.immaculata.edu/faculty/william-watson) .

**Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 8:45 Pm.