FAQs for Remote Meetings

Committee on Historic Designation, 9:30 A.M., Wednesday, October 21, 2020
Philadelphia Historical Commission, 9:00 A.M., Friday, November 13, 2020

Q: How do I watch and/or listen to the Committee on Historic Designation’s and Historical Commission’s remote meetings?
A: The Historical Commission and its advisory committees are holding remote meetings using Zoom Webinar teleconferencing technology. You can watch/listen and speak during the live meetings using your computer, tablet, or smartphone on Zoom. You can listen and speak during the live meetings on your telephone.

To watch/listen to and speak during the remote meetings live on Zoom using your computer, tablet, or smartphone, click on the following links:
Committee on Historic Designation, October 21, 2020
Link: https://bit.ly/chdoct21
Password or Passcode: 236839
Historical Commission on November 13, 2020
Link: https://bit.ly/phcnov13
Password or Passcode: 291618

To listen to and speak during the remote meetings live on the telephone, call the following telephone number:
Committee on Historic Designation, October 21, 2020
Telephone Number: 1-646-876-9923
Webinar ID: 874 7234 226
Password or Passcode: 236839
Historical Commission on November 13, 2020
Telephone Number: 1-646-876-9923
Webinar ID: 896 7672 328
Password or Passcode: 291618

After the meeting, you can watch a recording of it (and other earlier meetings) on your computer, tablet, or smartphone. A link to the recording will be provided on the Historical Commission’s website at https://www.phila.gov/departments/philadelphia-historical-commission/recordings-of-public-meetings/

Q: How do I participate in the remote meetings?
A: Property owners or owner’s representatives may participate in the reviews of building permit applications proposing work to historic properties and nominations proposing designations of properties. The public may comment on permit applications and nominations. The Historical Commission, Architectural Committee, Committee on Financial Hardship, and Committee on Historic Designation provide public comment periods during each review. Use the information above to log into the Zoom meeting. If you are watching the live meeting with your computer or smartphone on Zoom or listening on your telephone, you may speak live. You may also send written comments via email to preservation@phila.gov until 12:00 noon the day before the meeting.

To speak live on Zoom, you must indicate your desire to speak. You can indicate your desire in advance of the meeting by sending an email with your name and the address of the matter of interest to preservation@phila.gov.

If you are on a device, you can indicate your desire to speak during the meeting by using the Raise Hand feature in Zoom. Please raise your hand even if you have indicated your desire to speak in an email. Please do not raise your hand until the matter of interest is being considered. Once you have indicated your desire to speak, a Zoom host will cue you to speak when it is your turn during the comment period. Once you have spoken, please lower your raised hand.

If you are on the telephone, you can indicate your desire to speak during the meeting by using the Raise Hand feature by pressing *9. Please raise your hand even if you have indicated your
desire to speak in an email. Please do not raise your hand until the matter of interest is being considered. Once you have indicated your desire to speak, a Zoom host will cue you to speak when it is your turn during the comment period.

To email comments, send them to preservation@phila.gov. Written comments received before 12:00 noon the day prior to the meeting will be forwarded to the Commission and Committee members.

Q: If I watch the live meeting on my computer, tablet, or smartphone on Zoom, will the Commission/Committee and other attendees be able to see me?
A: No, the Commission/Committee and others will not be able to see you. Your video connection will be disabled; your audio connection will be disabled except when enabled by the Historical Commission to allow you to speak during the comment period. You will be able to see the Commission/Committee as well as the shared visual presentation, but you will not be able to see the applicants, owners, and other attendees.

Q: Will my computer, tablet, or smartphone work with Zoom?
A: The first time you use Zoom Webinar with a computer, tablet, or smartphone, please allow a few extra minutes to register and download an app. You can test your device in advance to ensure that it is compatible with Zoom by clicking on this https://zoom.us/test.

Q: Where can I find the meeting agenda and materials?
A: The meeting agendas and meeting materials including building permit applications and nominations are available in the usual place on the Historical Commission’s website at https://www.phila.gov/historical.

Q: How are the remote meetings being conducted?
A: With the exception that the participants will be physically remote from one another and connected by Zoom and telephone, the meetings of the Historical Commission and its advisory committees will be conducted in the same manner that they are conducted in person. The Historical Commission will follow the meeting processes laid out in its Rules & Regulations and Guidelines for Conduct at Philadelphia Historical Commission Meetings, which can be found on the Historical Commission’s website at https://www.phila.gov/historical. For each agenda item, the staff will provide an overview of the matter, the applicant or property owner will be present his/her case, the public will be provided with an opportunity to comment, the applicant or property owner will be provided with an opportunity to respond to the public comment, and the Committee will discuss the matter and reach a recommendation by motion and vote. All votes will be taken by roll call.

Q: Will my comments be incorporated into the official record of the meeting?
A: Yes, all comments offered in advance in writing via email and offered during the public comment sections of the meeting will be noted in the official meeting minutes and incorporated into the official record of the meeting, just as they would be at an in-person meeting.

Q: As a property owner, nominator, or a member of the public, can I share photographs, architectural plans, or other visual materials during the meeting using Zoom?
A: No, property owners, nominators, and attendees may offer written and/or spoken comments, but may not share visual materials with the other participants during the meeting. The Historical Commission will display architectural plans, photographs, and other documents during the meeting for all to see.

Q: Will the meeting be recorded?
A: Yes, the meeting will be recorded. The recording of the meeting will be available for viewing after the meeting. By participating in the meeting, participants are giving their consent to be recorded. A link to the recording will be provided on the Historical Commission’s website at https://www.phila.gov/departments/philadelphia-historical-commission/recordings-of-public-meetings/