

Historic Preservation Commission  
March 1, 2010 Minutes

Meeting called to order at 7:35 pm.

Roll Call

Present

Absent

Barbara Shanley

Marthajean Drago

Randall Brewster

John Bristow, excused

Tony Bourgholtzer

Carol Greene

Deborah Grob

Yvonne Beatrice

Alex Michelini (late 7:35pm)

Gus Vasiliadis (late 7:44pm)

**Sunshine Statement:** The secretary read the sunshine statement.

**Flag Salute**

**Public Session:** Mr. Brewster moved to open the Public Session and Mrs. Grob seconded the motion. All approved.

No members of the public were present.

Close Public Session: Mrs. Greene moved to close the Public Session and Mr. Brewster seconded the motion. All approved.

**Minutes:**

January 4, 2010 Minutes:

There was not a quorum of the members from the January 4, 2010 meeting. Therefore, Mrs. Grob moved to table approval of the January 4, 2010 minutes until Mr. Vasiliadis is in attendance.

Vote: 6 yes, 0 no: Brewster, yes; Greene, yes; Grob, yes; Beatrice, yes; Bourgholtzer, yes; Shanley, yes.

Let the minutes reflect that Mr. Michellini arrived at the meeting at 7:35 p.m.

February 1, 2010 Minutes:

Mrs. Grob moved to approve the February 1, 2010 as read and Mrs. Greene seconded the motion. All approved.

Vote: 7 yes, 0 no: Brewster, yes; Greene, yes; Grob, yes; Beatrice, yes; Bourgholtzer, yes; Michellini, yes; Shanley, yes.

**Legal:** Mrs. Descherer was not present. No report.

**Chair's Report:**

103 Oweno Road, no report.

Winter's Farmhouse, no report.

The secretary will confirm the text of the final draft for the plaque and Mrs. Greene will review it for final approval. The secretary will then submit the text to the vendor for printing.

Darlington Schoolhouse. The New York-New Jersey Trail Conference (NYNJTC) attorney, DrinkerBiddle & Reath, copied the HPC on a letter it wrote to the DEP regarding the Darlington Schoolhouse Highlands Application Determination. The Chair read aloud to the members the Highlands Exemptions section. The Chair reported that the HPC has been advised not to get involved until notified.

Library Local History Room. The Chair reported that she and Mr. Michellini and Mrs. Beatrice attended the Mahwah Museum presentation by museum President, Mr. Thomas Dunn. Mrs. Beatrice reported that the meeting went very well and the museum is ready to move forward. Mr. Michellini agreed and added that this project will help preserve the history of the Township. The Chair thanked Mr. Michellini and Mrs. Beatrice for an outstanding job on this project.

Let the minutes reflect that Mr. Vasiliadis arrived at the HPC meeting, 7:44 p.m.

NJDEP Applications: no report.

**New Business:**

County of Bergen Historic Preservation Accommodation Award. The Chair recommended that the HPC nominate Carol Wehran Greene as a candidate for the County of Bergen Historic Preservation Accommodation Award under the Education category for her book The Ramapo Chronicles- A 300 Year History of Mahwah, New Jersey and Its Surrounds.

Mr. Vasiliadis moved to nominate Mrs. Greene for the education category of the County of Bergen Historic Preservation Accommodation Award for her book The Ramapo Chronicles- A 300 Year History of Mahwah, New Jersey and Its Surrounds. Mrs. Grob seconded the motion. All approved.

Vote: 8 yes, 0 no: Brewster, yes; Greene, yes; Grob, yes; Beatrice, yes; Bourgholtzer, yes; Michellini, yes; Vasiladis; Shanley, yes.

Mrs. Greene thanked the HPC for its nomination.

The Chair read a letter from Mrs. Greene, which dated back to when Mrs. Drago was HPC Chair, regarding the HPC's application process and the "bash and rebuild" applications. It was commented that due to the economy, the HPC has not received as many demolitions as was anticipated.

**Applications:**

Docket 524P, Chestnut Tree, LLC.

The Chair reported that she and Mr. Brewster attended the walk through inspection of Sub-Division Application Docket 524P, Chestnut Tree, LLC, known as the Knight Goetschius House. Mrs. Brown of the

County of Bergen and Mr. Scott Krazinski and Mr. Tibor Latincsics representing Chestnut Trees, LLC were also present.

After a thorough examination of the plans and property, it was determined that the Knight Goetschius House and Barn are listed on the Bergen County Historic Sites Survey as item# 0233-77 and were built pre 1861 and are also on the Township Master Plan. The sub-division, that is being proposed, is calling for the demolition of both structures. It was determined that these two structures are of significant historic value to the Township as one of the last farmhouses and English style barns remaining in the Township. Therefore, their recommendation is to try and save both structures.

After a thorough review of the application, Mr. Vasiliadis made the following motion.

Mr. Vasiliadis moved to approve Chestnut Tree LLC Sub-division Docket 524P with the recommendation that since the Knight Goetschius House and Barn are listed on the Bergen County Historic Sites Survey Item #0233-77, and the Township Master Plan as both being built pre 1861 and that these two structures are of significant historic value to the Township as one of the last farmhouses and English style barns remaining in the Township that the sub-division for the two lots, which identifies these two structures for demolition, be reconfigured to accommodate both structures and incorporate the house as part of the new proposed structure on one lot and incorporate the barn as part of the new proposed structure on another lot; or reconfigure the lots so that the barn and farmhouse are on the same lot allowing the builder to incorporate either the barn or Knight Goetschius house into the new proposed structure. Mr. Brewster seconded the motion. All approved

Vote: 8 yes, 0 no: Brewster, yes; Greene, yes; Grob, yes; Beatrice, yes; Bourgholtzer, yes; Michellini, yes; Vasiladis, yes; Shanley, yes.

Mrs. Bourgholtzer presented the HPC with the National Alliance Historic Preservation reference book on various HPC guidelines. The Secretary will scan the index and email it to the members for their reference.

Mrs. Greene donated a copy of her book to the HPC to be used as a reference source.

Mrs. Greene moved to adjourn and Mrs. Grob seconded the motion. All approved. Meeting ended at 9:05 pm.

These minutes are a synopsis of the MHPC tapes, which are on file at the Township Municipal Building.

/dms