

Historic Preservation Commission (HPC)

March 2, 2015 Minutes (**corrected**)

Meeting called to order at 7:30 pm.

Roll Call

Present

Absent

Randall Brewster

Jack Boland

Carol Greene

Anne Powley

Deborah Grob

Gus Vasiliadis

Ronald Wohlberg

Leda Dunn-Wettre

Yvonne Beatrice

Barbara Shanley

**Sunshine Law:** The secretary read the Sunshine Law.

**Flag Salute**

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

Close Public Session: No members of the public were present. Mrs. Greene moved to close Public Session and Mr. Wohlberg seconded the motion. All approved.

**Minutes:**

January 5, 2015 HPC minutes: Mrs. Grob moved to approve the January 5, 2015 minutes as read and Mrs. Beatrice seconded the motion. All approved.

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

**New Business:**

New Jersey Historical Commission Richard P. McCormick Prize: The Commission agreed to submit Carol Greene's book "Images of America" – Mahwah , as a candidate for the New Jersey Historical Commission Richard P. McCormick Prize. Mrs. Powley volunteered to apply for the \$1500.00 grant, which is due April 2, 2015.

The Window Sash Bible: A Guide to Maintaining and Restoring Old Wood Windows

by [Mr. Steve Jordan](#) Paperback \$40.29: It was agreed that once the 2015 municipal budget is approved, that the HPC should purchase "The Window Sash Bible: A Guide to Maintaining and Restoring Old Wood Windows" for the Commission's reference library.

Darlington Schoolhouse: The Chair asked for volunteers to attend the 11 a.m. March 11, 2015 County of Bergen meeting regarding the Darlington Schoolhouse culvert. It will be held at the Darlington Schoolhouse culvert, not in the schoolhouse. Mr. Greene, Mr. Vasiliadis, Mrs. Shanley and maybe Mrs. Powley will attend.

Chair's Report:

Train Station Museum: The Chair reported that she attended the February 23, 2015 Planning Board meeting. The Township Planner did a presentation of the Department of Public Works property, which is being reviewed for redevelopment classification. The Chair reported that the Township Planner cordoned off the Train Station Museum from the DPW property. The Train Station Museum was not part of the proposed redevelopment classification. The Chair wants to meet with the Township Planner to measure the area, to make sure that all the

buildings on the Train Station Museum lot are included, specifically the Wannamaker Shed. The Chair also reported that the Planning Board passed a resolution recommending to the Township Council that the historic Train Station Museum and associated buildings not be included in the redevelopment of the DPW property. It now goes to the Council for approval or rejection.

**Youngs House:** The Chair reminded the Commission that at the February 18<sup>th</sup> HPC meeting, Mr. Dubois asked if the HPC approved solar panels on historic structures. The Chair, at that time, replied that solar panels are not approved. Mrs. Powley researched solar panels and found articles regarding installation of solar panels on historic structures. The Chair also found an article listing guidelines that should be followed regarding placement of the panels. She will pass this on to Mr. Dubois, with the caveat that the HPC would need to review the solar panel plans to make sure that they followed the Secretary of the Interior's guidelines.

The Chair also reported that she had requested Mr. Foner for his resignation, since he no longer can attend the HPC meetings due to his new employment, and asked the members for recommendations to fill the vacancy.

Mrs. Shanley asked if the Township's Joint Insurance Fund (JIF), approved payment to have the Hopper Grist Mill historic marker replaced or repaired. The secretary reported that JIF had closed the claim since it is over a year old. The secretary said that she would ask her husband if he could look at it to see if it could be repaired.

**Mahwah and Ramapo River:** The Township will be cleaning the Mahwah River and the section of the Ramapo River that runs through Mahwah this spring. Mrs. Shanley will reach out to the Office of Emergency Management to make sure that the Garrett Dam and Hopper Grist Mill and any remains of the fish weir, are not damaged during the clean up.

**Winters Farmhouse:** The Chair reported that she and Mrs. Greene, and Mrs. Dunn-Wettre had a conference call to discuss the HPC's Winters Farmhouse statement that the HPC will present at the March 9, 2015 Planning Board meeting. The Chair asked that Commission members attend this meeting in support of not demolishing the Winters Farmhouse and well.

#### **Committee Reports:**

**Mahwah Museum:** Mrs. Greene reported that she had attended a meeting regarding a proposal to create Les Paul Plaza on the property between Fire Company #1 and the Mahwah Museum. She reported that it is a nice idea but the wrong location.

**HPC Historic Home Brochure:** No report at this time.

**NJ Bergen County CLG Grant:** No report at this time.

**Joyce Kilmer Poetry Contest:** Mrs. Beatrice reported that she left a message for Mr. Michellini regarding the Joyce Kilmer Society taking over the Joyce Kilmer Poetry Contest and has not heard back from him.

**Quackenbush Barn:** The Chair recommended that Mrs. Powley schedule a pre-renovation meeting with the Eagle Scout prior to the renovation. Mr. Wohlberg volunteered to attend the meeting.

**Carmelite Retreat:** Mrs. Greene no report at this time.

#### **Applications:**

**Kern & Rogers Revised Site Plan Application, Docket 1386-14.** The Chair reported that she had attended the Planning Board meeting regarding Docket 1386-14 and that the applicant was very agreeable to move the well house and do the repairs. After a thorough review of the revised site plans, which now show the relocation of the Ackerman Farmhouse stone well to the rear north west corner of the house, Mrs. Grob made a motion to approved the revised plans, and to include the cement slab base and repair of the well roof, and Mrs. Beatrice seconded the motion. All approved.

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

**Wendy Mechanic-Mechanic Properties, LLC, Docket 563, Amended Site Plan.** It was determined that this site has no historic significance. Mrs. Greene moved to approve Docket 563 with no comment and Mr. Wohlberg seconded the motion. All approved.

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

**Mahwah NL Cedars Developers, Docket 524A & 524S-1, Amended Subdivision Plan & Amended Soil Application,** Masonicus Road (Knight-Goetschius Property). After a thorough review of the amended subdivision and soil application plan, Mrs. Grob moved to approved Docket 524A & 524S-1 with no comments and Mrs. Beatrice seconded the motion. All approved.

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

Mrs. Greene will invite the new Chair of the Bergen County Historic Preservation Commission to a Mahwah HPC meeting.

Mr. Brewster moved to adjourn the HPC meeting and Mrs. Grob seconded the motion. All approved.

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

/dms