

Historic Preservation Commission

May 2, 2011 Minutes (corrected)

Meeting called to order at 7:30 pm.

Roll Call

Present

Barbara Shanley (late 7:49pm)
Yvonne Beatrice
Tony Bourgholtzer
Carol Greene
Deborah Grob
Alex Michelini

Absent

Marthajean Drago
Randall Brewster
Gus Vasiliadis

Flag Salute

Sunshine Law: The secretary read the Sunshine Law.

Mrs. Grob reported that the Chair, Mrs. Shanley, would be delayed, and in her absence asked that Mrs. Grob Chair the meeting.

Minutes: Mrs. Greene moved to approve the April 4, 2011 as read, and Mr. Michelini seconded the motion. All approved.

Vote: 5 yes; 0 no: Beatrice, yes; Bourgholtzer, yes; Greene, yes; Michelini, yes; Grob, yes.

Public Session: Mrs. Beatrice moved to open the public session and Mrs. Greene seconded the motion. All approved.

Mrs. Grob recognized Mr. and Mrs. Eric Boe of Corinthian Construction. Mr. Boe reported that Corinthian Construction was the builder of the sub-division on the Isaac Bogert Estate. The sub-division consisted of five lots. Mr. Boe is here tonight to present to the HPC an informal design of the fifth lot. Mrs. Greene asked Mr. Boe if he could confirm that all the agreed upon stipulations as per the developers agreement with the Township Planning Board have been completed on the Isaac Bogert. Mr. Boe replied yes, Mrs. Shanley approved the final inspection of the Isaac Bogert House. Mr. Boe reported that the property was bought by the Huntington Hartford Estate and at that time barns and stables were added to the property, which have since been demolished. Mr. Boe reported that the buyers wanted a simple style farmhouse. Mr. Boe decided to try and copy the style of the barns in the area and presented his design of the proposed house. The HPC were very impressed with the style of the farmhouse and reported to Mr. Boe that the Committee would have to wait until the application came to them through the Planning Board before a vote could be taken. However, the HPC thanked Mr. and Mrs. Boe for coming before the Commission with a preliminary design.

Mrs. Beatrice moved to close the Public Session and Mr. Michelini seconded the motion. All approved.

New Business: None at this time

Applications: None at this time

Old Business:

Mahwah Heritage Awards: Mrs. Grob reported that Mrs. Shanley and she will present the award to the Handley family at the Township Council May 26, 2011 public meeting, for the Fletcher House renovation/restoration with a plaque instead of a certificate, since this project was so involved. The HPC will have a small reception following the award ceremony for the family.

Mrs. Grob also reported that the County of Bergen Historic Preservation Commendation Award to the Mahwah Museum Society is also that same night. The County's award will be presented at the Church on the Green in Hackensack. Since the HPC should also be present at that ceremony, Mrs. Grob asked that the HPC divide up so there would be a presence at both ceremonies. Mrs. Shanley, Mrs. Bourgholtzer, Mr. Vasiliadis, and Mr. Michelini will attend the Township Council ceremony, and Mrs. Beatrice, Mrs. Greene, and Mrs. Grob will attend the County ceremony. However, Mrs. Grob asked that all the members prepare a small finger food dessert for the Fletcher House reception. All agreed.

Mahwah Day: Mrs. Grob reported that the Mahwah Day organization meeting is next week.

Darlington Schoolhouse: It was discussed, in the past, that the HPC would print a second edition of the Darlington Schoolhouse holiday ornament when the Darlington Schoolhouse restoration was completed. It was suggested that the selling of the ornament could be done as a joint venture with the New York/New Jersey Trail Conference as a fundraiser for both organizations.

Mrs. Shanley arrived at 8:05 PM. Mrs. Grob included Mrs. Shanley in the discussion. Mrs. Grob will call Mr. Vasiliadis to make the contact with the NY/NJ Trail Conference to see if they would be interested.

Mr. Michelini stressed that the Township should also promote the Joyce Kilmer house as an historic landmark of the Township. Mrs. Shanley replied that the Joyce Kilmer house is privately owned. The Chair suggested that the Mahwah Museum may want to do a series on Joyce Kilmer which would stress the fact that he lived in Mahwah when he wrote "Trees" and the "House that Nobody Lives In".

The Chair asked the secretary to add to the agendas the Joyce Kilmer Publicity Committee.

Chair's Report:

The Chair reported that she had filed the Certified Local Government report for the HPC. One of the questions was what has the HPC done to provide educational information to the community on historic Mahwah sites. It was agreed that the Mahwah Day Walking Tour of historic sites would comply with this category.

Mahwah Day: The Chair asked the Commission to finalize the sites that would be included in the Mahwah Day Walking Tour. It was decided to include the Reformed Church cemetery, the Quackenbush Barn, the Winter Dairy House, and the Mahwah Train Station Museum on the walking tour. Mrs. Shanley will conduct the Quackenbush Barn tour; Mrs. Grob will conduct the Ramapo Reformed Church Cemetery Tour, and Mr. Adler of the Mahwah Museum will conduct the Train Station tour.

The Chair stressed that the Commission needs to pay attention to the properties listed as protected historic properties on the Historic Element of Township Ordinances so they do not fall into disrepair. The HPC will keep the Township Property Maintenance Inspector in the loop.

The Chair asked Mr. Michelini to research how to preserve historic outhouses to help the Commission preserve the Wanamaker outhouse. He agreed.

The Chair reported that Mr. Brewster has tried to contact the owner of Chestnut Trees regarding the status of the barn and has not been able to get an answer. He will continue to reach out until he gets an answer.

The Chair will follow up with the Township Planner, Burgis Associates, regarding the historic element on the new Master Plan.

The secretary reported that the dead tree at Moffatt Road Cemetery fell and she called DPW to have it removed.

Chair will not be at the June HPC meeting and asked Mrs. Grob to Chair in her absence.

The Chair reported that the Winter Farmhouse broken window has not been repaired. The Chair will write a letter to the Township Property Maintenance Inspector to have the window repaired.

Mrs. Grob moved to adjourn the meeting and Mrs. Greene seconded the motion. All approved.

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

/dms