

Historic Preservation Commission (HPC)

May 4, 2015 Minutes

Meeting called to order at 7:30 pm.

Roll Call

Present

Carol Greene
Deborah Grob
Ronald Wohlberg
Yvonne Beatrice
Barbara Shanley

Absent

Jack Bolan
Randy Brewster
Anne Powley
Gus Vasiliadis

Sunshine Law: The secretary read the Sunshine Law.

Flag Salute:

Open Public Session: Mrs. Greene moved to open the Public Session and Mrs. Grob seconded the motion. All approved.

The Chair welcomed Mahwah High School students who were attending the HPC meeting as a class assignment. The Chair reviewed with the students the structure, goals and purpose of the HPC and thanked them for attending the HPC monthly meeting.

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

Minutes:

April 6, 2015 HPC minutes: The following typos were corrected:

Youngs House: added Guidelines to end of sentence.

Glasgow Outhouse: First sentence added Chair after The.

Cleveland Bridge: First sentence changed completed to complicated.

HPC Historic Home Brochure: Second paragraph, fourth sentence, change ...Facebook page and put list... to Facebook page and list....

Quackenbush Barn: Take out begin at end of sentence.

General Discussion: Second paragraph, second sentence ...volunteered to type up... To... volunteered to type the

Mrs. Grob moved to accept the April 6, 2015 as corrected and Mrs. Beatrice seconded the motion. All approved.

Vote: Grob, yes; Beatrice, yes; Greene, yes; Wohlberg, yes; Shanley, yes.

Chair's Report:

Train Station Museum: No report at this time.

Bergen County Historic Preservation Awards: The Chair reported that Mrs. Greene will be one of the recipients of the 2015 Bergen County Historic Preservation Awards. The awards recognize outstanding achievement in Youth Preservation, Preservation & Restoration Projects, Continuing Preservation & Adaptive Use, Preservation of a Structure and Site, Education & Leadership. The Darlington Schoolhouse will also be

receiving an award. The awards presentation and reception will be held at the Varisk Memorial A.M.E. Zion Church, 120 Atlantic Street, Hackensack, NJ. The Chair encouraged the members to attend.

Mayor's Wellness Day: The Chair announced that the Mayor will sponsor a Mayor's Wellness Day on May 16, 2015 at the Richard J. Martel Municipal Building Complex in the lower level Senior Center from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m.

Mahwah Day: Mahwah Day is September 19, 2015. It was suggested that the HPC set up a Historic Marker Matching Game at its booth this year and the winner receives a Memories of Mahwah 1995 edition "Hagerman-Havermeyer House" ornament. Mrs. Beatrice volunteered to create the map. Mrs. Grob will conduct tours of the Ramapo Reformed Church and Mrs. Greene volunteered to lend costumes for the tours.

Darlington Brook Culvert: The Chair reported that NY/NJ Trail Conference representative, Ed Goodell called Michele Huges of the State Historic Preservation Office regarding the proposed Darlington Brook Culvert parapets. The request was made to the County Engineers office on April 14 2015 that the parapets should be made of natural stone. However, the plans show that the parapets (sides) of the culvert will not be stone but instead made of painted cement. The Chair will email Michele Huges confirming that the Mahwah HPC feels strongly that the culvert sides should be natural stone not artificial stones made of cement and painted to look like stones. The Chair will copy Mr. Ed Goodell, Mr. Brian Campion, County Engineer, and Mayor.

Public Session: Mrs. Grob moved to re-open the Public Session for questions from the students and Mrs. Beatrice seconded the motion. All approved.

The Chair explained to the students what a parapet is and where the Darlington Brook culvert is located.

Close Public Session: Mrs. Grob moved to close the Public Session and Mrs. Beatrice seconded the motion. All approved.

The Commission unanimously agreed that the Chair should send a letter of protest to Michele Huges, and copy Mr. Ed Goodell, Mr. Brian Campion, County Engineer, and Mayor regarding the cement sides of the parapet, instead of the natural stone that we previously agreed upon.

Committee Reports:

Winters Farmhouse: The Chair reported Provence Builders withdrew its demolition application of the Winters Farmhouse at the April 20, 2015 Planning Board meeting. Provence suggested to the Planning Board that it allow Provence to donate the structures to the Township and move the house and well to the Township property that is located across the street of where the structures are now located. The Planning Board responded that Provence would need to approach the Township Council with this proposal. The Chair reported that in the meantime, Provence has not made the structural repairs that the Township Attorney listed in his December 2, 2014 letter to Provence.

Mrs. Greene reported that she had received a letter from Reverend Kenneth Foster a relative of the Winters family detailing his boyhood recollections of the Winters Farmhouse when he visited his Aunt who lived in the house in the 1960's.

The Chair will contact Administrative Officer, Mr. Michael Kelly, to contact Provence to enforce the structural repairs that were stated by the Township Attorney that needed to be done.

Quackenbush Barn: No report at this time.

Wanamaker Shed: Mr. Wohlberg reported that the Wanamaker Shed roof needs to be repaired. The roof will cave in if not repaired. The Chair stated that as soon as the Glasgow Outhouse restoration is completed the Wanamaker Shed will be the next project on the HPC's restoration projects list.

Glasgow Outhouse: It was agreed that Mr. Wohlberg, Mrs. Shanley, and whoever else can volunteer, will continue the painting of the Glasgow Outhouse on Saturday June 6, at 10 a.m.

Open Public Session: Mrs. Beatrice moved to re-open the Public Session and Mrs. Grob seconded the motion. All approved.

The Chair recognized two female Mahwah High School students who volunteered to help with the painting of the Glasgow Outhouse. The Commission thanked the students and accepted their offer.

Mrs. Grob moved to close the Public Session and Mrs. Greene seconded the motion. All approved.

Cleveland Bridge: No report at this time.

Mahwah Museum: Mrs. Greene reported that a coalition of North West Bergen County Museum's, which consist of 13 municipalities, will be sponsoring a History Day event on May 30, 2015 from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. The Mahwah Old Train Station Museum will be illustrating how the mail was loaded onto the train as it was passing and how the mail was sorted and delivered.

The Mahwah Museum will have several Touring Cars on display at the main museum building.

Carmelite Retreat: No report at this time. Mrs. Shanley and Mrs. Greene will contact the owners to request a tour of the property and buildings.

J.K. Poetry Contest: Mrs. Beatrice reported she has not received a confirmation from Mr. Michelini whether he would be interested in taking over the Joyce Kilmer Poetry Contest.

Mahwah Heritage Award: It was agreed that the Commission will present its annual Mahwah Heritage Award at the Township Council's October 22, 2015 Council meeting. It was unanimously agreed to present the award to the NYNJ Trail Conference for its restoration of the Darlington Schoolhouse. Mrs. Greene and Mrs. Grob will prepare the wordage for the presentation.

HPC Historic Home Brochure: No report at this time.

Applications:

Mahwah N.L. Cedars, LLC requested the Commission's permission to take down the row of stones that borders the Masonicus Road side of the property. It was suggested that the stones could be used for the Darlington Brook Culvert parapet. Mrs. Greene and Mrs. Shanley will take a field trip to look at the stones and report back to the Commission at the June 1, 2015 meeting.

General Discussion:

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

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

/dms