

**TOWNSHIP OF MAHWAH  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES  
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2021 at 7:30 P.M.**

The meeting of the Historic Preservation Commission, held via remote video conference, was called to order at 7:33 p.m. by Anne Powley, Chair. The Opening Statement was read according to the Sunshine Law. Roll call was taken.

*Present:*

Anne Powley, Chair  
Yvonne Beatrice (called in 7:59 p.m.)  
Catherine Gramaglia  
Deborah Grob  
Barbara Rakov  
Deborah Silvestro  
Linda Dator, Alternate I  
Janet Ariemma, Council Liaison

*Absent:*

Reshmee Cuman  
Carol Greene, Historian  
Ronald Wohlberg  
Scott Jackson, Alternate II

Public Session

Powley made a motion to open the meeting to the public; Silvestro seconded. All members were in favor.

Mahwah Museum Presentation – Old Train Station 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration

Debra Utko, a Mahwah Museum board member, went over the timeline for the old train station's 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration, as well as other upcoming museum initiatives. The Museum Board will also be presenting at an upcoming council meeting. Several other members of the Museum Board were in attendance for the presentation.

Powley made a motion to close the meeting to the public; Grob seconded. All members were in favor.

Housekeeping Items

Powley said we have a new township attorney named Fred Samrow. She has already touched base with him and brought him up to speed on some of our current initiatives. We also have a new business administrator, Ben Kezmarsky.

Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on November 2, 2020 were approved following a motion by Grob; seconded by Silvestro. A roll call of eligible voters revealed five aye votes by Powley, Gramaglia, Grob, Silvestro and Dator.

**CHAIR'S REPORT**

Commission Reorganization

Powley asked for a volunteer to serve as vice chair this year. Grob will be moving in the summer and stepping down as a member at the end of July. Powley also said she would like to form several committees

to keep our initiatives moving. Those initiatives include the website, Facebook, Cragmere Conservation District Project, cemeteries, annual historic preservation awards and the CLG annual report. Silvestro volunteered to help with Facebook. Dator volunteered to work with Tom Dunn (Museum) with the Cragmere District. Powley will also ask Scott Jackson if he would like to help with the Cragmere initiative. Public outreach will be critical to our success in that neighborhood. Powley said we also need to think about Moffatt Road Cemetery repairs and asked if anyone would like to volunteer to help. Rakov said she would help with cemeteries, and will reach out to a local photographer who may be willing to offer his services. Beatrice will help research grant opportunities.

#### Historic Preservation Awards

Dator is coordinating our annual historic preservation awards for May. This year, we would like to recognize Ramapo College for the historic rehabilitation efforts the college has completed on four buildings on campus. Powley said she will reach out to David May to coordinate a date in May for the event. Dator will reach out to college representatives and get more information.

#### CLG Annual Report

Powley said we need a volunteer to coordinate our annual CLG report. Beatrice said she is happy to continue working on it. Grob and Beatrice prepared this year's report.

#### Moffatt Road Cemetery Maintenance

Powley said we will move forward with Ramapo Tree to prune the trees at the cemetery with hope of preventing further damage to headstones during storms. We included funding in next year's budget to help fund this. She said we will need to research grant opportunities to help fund the maintenance of the cemetery.

#### Bergen County Historic Site Survey Updates

Powley said we should take a look at the status of our historic ordinance.

#### Historic Preservation Element

The Mahwah Green Team is working on getting certified through Sustainable Jersey. We all assumed a historic preservation element was included in our Master Plan. However, what we have is considered an inventory – not an element – and we can apply for a grant to turn our inventory into an element. Powley will follow up with the township attorney and ensure our ordinance is in compliance with municipal land use law.

#### Baldwin Estate Update

Powley will follow up again to request a site visit.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

*Nothing to report*

### **GENERAL DISCUSSION**

*Nothing to report*

### **OLD BUSINESS**

*Nothing to report*

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

The following correspondence was received and reviewed:

- Various agendas, minutes and public notices

**NEW BUSINESS**

*Nothing to report*

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further questions or discussion, the meeting of the Historic Preservation Commission was adjourned at 8:53 p.m. following a motion by Grob; seconded by Silvestro. All other present members voted in favor.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 1, 2021 at 7:30 p.m. via remote video conference. These minutes are a synopsis of the Mahwah Historic Preservation Commission Meeting. A verbatim audio recording is on file at the Township Municipal Building.

J. Storms  
Secretary