

MEETING MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING OF THE HOPEWELL TOWNSHIP HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION TUESDAY July 21, 2009

A regular meeting of the Historic Preservation Commission was held at the Municipal Building on Tuesday July 21, 2009 in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act. Chair Hayden called the meeting to order at 7:40 pm.

Commission members present: Betsy Ackerman(7:45pm), David Blackwell(7:45pm), Pam Crabtree, Max Hayden, & Phil Robbins.

Excused: Erika Kotite & Moira Lawrence

Township Committee: Mayor Sandom (excused 9:40pm)

Recording Secretary: Deborah Rishko

Minutes for Approval

The minutes of the June meeting were approved with corrections

General Topics

Review of HPC mail

The National Alliance Of Historic Preservation Commission's sent an invitation to the annual conference To be held in Grand Rapids Michigan from July 28th through August 1st. The National Preservation Conference also sent notification about a conference being held in Nashville from October 13th -17th. Drew University sent information about fall course offerings for the historic preservation certificate program.

Closed Session was held from 7:55pm to 8:10pm to discuss items still under negotiation.

Committee Reports:

County Historic Properties Committee:

The commissioners discussed touring the Wildlife Rescue Center in August. Mr. Robbins and Mr. Hayden agreed to represent the HPC at the meetings to be held every other Tuesday regarding the progress on the Hunt house.

Township Historic Properties Committee:

Mr. Robbins and Ms. Ackerman agreed to begin work on a schematic plan for an affordable housing unit at the Marshall's Corner Schoolhouse.

Landmarks Designation Committee:

Mr. Blackwell stated that the Cornelius Larison house designation should be held until next year on the advice of Mr. Miller because negotiations for the purchase of Pennytown have not been finalized. He discussed the history of the Andrew Drake farmstead and the historical significance of the former owners, the Buttingers, who were a prominent family in the 1920's. The commissioners discussed the second home on the farmstead and Mr. Hayden and Mr. Blackwell agreed to tour the building before deciding on its designation. Mr. Blackwell stated that the Major John Hart house could be designated for meeting the

rural farm setting criteria and stressed that the house adds to the town's rural landscape. The commissioners discussed the Moore farmhouse at the Hopewell Valley Golf Club and Mr. Blackwell explained that the farmstead consisted of two different sites that contained a sawmill, a grist mill and a linseed oil mill. Mr. Blackwell reported that the John Farley farmstead on Kuser mountain consists of the house, two barns and a spring house. He said he would check on what type of recreation plans the county has for the area.

Survey & Planning:

No report

Community Outreach

The commissioners discussed Mt. Rose distillery day and Mr. Hayden stated that at the last event representatives from Laird's Applejack came and gave a demonstration. The commissioners also discussed getting a historical marker for the site. Mr. Hayden reported that the Preservation for a New Generation symposium was a success and suggested that more members attend next year as the HPC's design guidelines are well respected in the preservation community. The commissioners agreed to holding the local register recognition day in May of 2010.

Old Business:

Mr. Hayden stated that he had spoken to Marisa Wiczorek about the County Historic Properties Commission and she said that there had not been enough of a response of those interested in becoming members. Mr. Hayden also stated that the Cranbury HPC wanted information on the design guideline process.

New Business:

The commissioners discussed writing a letter in favor of preserving the Ewing Presbyterian Church and send copies to the County, SHPO and the diocese.

At 9:45pm there being no further business the meeting was adjourned.