

# WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

Minutes for July 16, 2008

Present: Bill Beute, Dale Blum, Caryl Brackenridge, Keith Hayes, Paul Krylowski, Susan Penney, Barbara Rossi and Eileen Stokes. Ed Gagne also attended.

This regularly scheduled July meeting of the Historic Preservation Commission, having been advertised in the *Observer Tribune* in January, 2008, and posted on the Municipal Building Bulletin Board and the Township web site, was called to order at 7:40 p.m.

## Minutes

The June 18 minutes were approved as written.

## Applicants:

### Andrews - 23 W Mill Road, German Valley Historic District

COA (**RO-7-01-08**) approving the exact replacement of porch decking was issued by phone.

### Shirley Gillette - 291 Sch. Mtn. Rd., B30,L25, Schooley's Mtn. Historic District

The applicant and contractor Lloyd Fleming appeared before the HPC seeking approval of a scope of work which includes removing rotted railings and balusters from the front and side porches and replacing them with cedar railings and balusters. It also includes removing the side porch decking and replacing it with mahogany decking, removing rotted steps and replacing the treads with mahogany and the "kick plates" with Azek. Rotted trim around the posts would also be removed and replaced with Azek.

A lengthy discussion ensued about the Historic Preservation Ordinance, the Secretary of the Interior's Standards, and the use of composite materials in the Historic District..

Caryl Brackenridge made a motion, seconded by Bill Beute and unanimously approved, to issue a COA (**RO-07-02-08**) approving all the scope of work in the application with the exception of the use of a composite material for the "kick plates" and the trim around the posts. Members of the Commission will investigate sources of wood materials.

## New Business

Schooley's Mountain General Store now has a prominent oven vent on the south side of the building. Eileen will send a letter to the owner explaining that he is required to appear before the HPC because he did not obtain a COA before installing the vent.

Leona Harrington would like approval to use the existing sign in front of 18 Schooley's Mtn. Rd. and have removable plaques to announce activities occurring within the building. Eileen will ask her to fax us a sketch and include information about the materials to be used and how the plaques will be fastened.

Ed Gagne has expressed an interest in becoming the "A" level Commissioner on the HPC. Walter Hollien had indicated previously that he would like to resign.

## Old Business

Middle Valley Bridge - Commissioners approved the tall pony truss design and asked for samples of a dark green color. However, the HPC is still concerned about the proposed width of the bridge. Eileen has researched ASHTO requirements for bridge widths and feels that it may be Morris County that won't approve a more narrow bridge, rather than federal rules that would cause denial of funding. She quoted from the town's Master Plan in regards to roads and bridges. It stresses the need for safety while protecting the historic character of the township, avoiding over-design of roads and piecemeal widening.

Eileen will send a letter to SHPO outlining our concerns so it will be in the file before permits are sought.

Cell Tower on Bartley Road - Eileen explained that there is currently a cell tower on one of the power stanchions. HPC has been told that none of the other stanchions could hold the weight of a cell tower. Eileen is going to request a serious explanation.

Bianca Bosch has received her gold award for her work on a barn inventory for the HPC.

There will be a **special meeting on July 23 at 7pm**  
**The next regularly scheduled meeting will be August 20 at 7:30 pm.**

This meeting was adjourned at 9:50 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Caryl R. Brackenridge, Secretary