

WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
MINUTES
6/20/2012

Present: Ed Gagne, Barbara Rossi, Eileen Stokes, Dale Blum, Susan Penney, Jen Gorini, Gregg Forsbrey,

Not present: Bill Beute, Leah Korbel

This regularly scheduled May meeting of the Historic Preservation Commission, advertised in the *Observer Tribune* and the *Daily Record* in accordance with the Open Public Meeting Act of 1975, N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 *et seq.* and posted on the Municipal Building bulletin board and the Township website, was called to order at 7:35 pm by Chairman Stokes.

No members of the press present. Joseph Fernandez, applicant for the commission observed.

Introductions were made and some background on the working of the Commission.

Minutes:

March 21—was approved with the following corrections: capitalize “S” for “Springs” marker project, third line up from bottom of page 1; “for the Union Training Institute and Lucy Osborn. Eileen spoke informally to Mayor Ken Short about the marker” to be added line 2 on page 2 after the words, “historic marker.” The word “the” was added in the next sentence preceding the words “planning board” and the word “minutes” was changed to “meeting.” The section “Holterman” was renamed HMR Architects and the phrase “approximately 4 hours” was delete on the same line. The motion to accept as corrected was made by Commissioner Penney and seconded by Ms. Blum. Aye: Rossi, Stokes, Blum, Penney. Nay: 0. Abstain: Gagne, Gorini. Not present: Forsbrey.

Member Gregg Forsbrey arrived.

April 18—were unanimously approved with the following amendments: delete “Ed Gagne” from list of absent; insert “for the river” on the second line from the bottom after the word “buffer,” insert “Street” after the words “West Maple” under the section labeled “Sue Underwood;” insert “German Valley before the word “district” in the same sentence; and insert “houses on West Maple” after the word “others” on the same line. Motion to accept with additions and correction by Ed Gagne and seconded by Gregg Forsbrey.

Ms. Korbel was not present to update the status of the welcome letter project.

Chairman Stokes passed around a photo of the rebuilt front, leaded glass window on the Dr. Levi Farrow house, 11 Middle Valley Road, with discussion on how or why the coming appears different. Since a photograph of the original is not in the files, it was decided to wait before any comment or inquiry is made.

Discussion ensued on the upcoming Green Living Festival, July 14 concerning exhibits for the theme, Local Life and Learning. Mr. Gagne and Ms. Stokes will staff the booth. Mr. Forsbrey will “float” between his duties with the Green Team, hosts for the event.

The NJ Annual Preservation Conference was held June 7 @ Rider University with commissioners, Korb, Forsbrey, Rossi and Stokes present. This event qualifies as CLG training. Brief summaries of the workshops attended were made.

Morris County Engineering reported that ordering the brown gabions, as approved in the May 16th meeting for the Schooley's Mtn Road repairs, would cause a delay. Chairman Stokes and Vice-chair Rossi approved the change to standard gray which matches the stone color in light of the section for repair being outside of the district boundary.

Ms. Stokes reported she had ordered from Lordon in Budd Lake the two white Brightside strips for the Middle Valley Historic District u-channel posts on which the district markers are mounted. These strips were included in the 2012 budget and approved.

Ms. Stokes noted that she had recently come across an existing Determination of Eligibility (DOE) concerning the pony truss bridge crossing the Musconetcong River in the Union Cemetery on the border shared by Washington Township and Hackettstown.

Ms. Blum excused herself from the meeting and left at 9:35. A quorum remained.

The HPC received an inquiry from Township Office Manager Andrew Coppola concerning possible historic or archaeological features located on B16, L22.01 located off of North Four Bridges Road. Chairman Stokes replied by e-mail on June 20th, that the tract is not on the State or National Registers, does not contain a known family cemetery and is part of the former Hopler farmstead which, circa 1873, included the two Hopler Mine openings. The HPC has no knowledge of the exact location of the mine openings or whether they were located on this particular tract.

Morris County has rolled out a new web link to its Cultural Resource Survey that was conducted in 1986 by Acroterion and which has been greatly expanded.

<https://morrisgisapps.com/morris.nj.us/apps/historicinventory.jsp>

Ms. Rossi reported on the design guideline draft that was received from HMR Architects and the June 13 meeting to discuss additions and changes. She displayed a copy of illustrations that will be included, crediting Hull, Massachusetts.

Chairman Stokes e-mailed members a web link to a video on the use of 2-part epoxy in making minor repairs in order to maintain original fabric. The HPC is considering adding a similar link to its webpage but is looking for one that does not specify a product by name.

The meeting was opened and closed to the public for comment on items not on the agenda. No comments were made.

The next meeting will be July 16. There is no July worksession.

Respectfully submitted,
Eileen M. Stokes

Approved 9/5/2012.

Motion to approve by Forsbrey, Second by Rossi.

Ayes—Blum, Gorini, Forsbrey, Rossi, Stokes.

Abstained—Korb. Not present—Gagne.