

Hightstown Historic Preservation Commission
Thursday, May 15, 2014
7:30 pm @ The Hightstown – East Windsor
Historical Society

Call to Order by Chairman Rick Pratt

Open Public Meeting Act Statement: Chairman Rick Pratt called the meeting to order

Roll Call:

Commissioner Cardoso Present	Commissioner von Riegen Present
Commissioner Carney Present	Commissioner Egan Present
Commissioner Coates Present	Commissioner Montferrat Present
Commissioner Pratt Present	Commissioner (Vacant)
Commissioner Teller Present	<i>Council Liaison (Vacant)</i>

Minutes The meeting minutes of April were reviewed and approved.

Public Comment Megan Tilghman visited to discuss the possible purchase of 605 South Main Street, a house listed in the Master Plan as historic. She discussed the condition of the house and what she would like to do to upgrade it. Three commissioners met her on site 5/16/2014 (Cardoso, von Riegen and Pratt) to investigate the state of the house. The house has severe rot at most plates, needs paint, landscape removal and masonry restoration. Ms. Tilghman later decided not to purchase the house.

Opinion Requests

First Methodist Church: The First Methodist church returned with a revised scheme for the addition on the west side of the church. The HPC approved the scheme unanimously. (Attached.)

Old Business

Steward of History Plaque. Three schemes were discussed with a fourth combined scheme being proposed. The plaque was subsequently ordered in the fourth scheme and received. The commission intends to write guidelines for the nomination and selection of Hightstown residents that show a particular care in restoring their home/business. The commission will publicize this and provide a plaque yearly for the chosen steward to display.

Visit NJ.com David Coates looked into the method for getting Hightstown onto the VisitNJ website and into their brochures. Basically, we simply need to send them information.

John Bull Sleepers The application to the National Register of Historic Places is ongoing. Kathy Patten assured me that she would strive to complete by the fall.

Irene Adler There was additional discussion regarding claiming Hightstown as the birthplace of the fictitious Sherlock Holmes character. The commissioners were

interested, but as she is not a real person this designation would be better served coming from some other entity. Possibly Downtown Hightstown.

New Business

Historic Markers -

Lafayette Commissioner Coates is working with Dr. Martin of Peddie on the history of Lafayette to include on a marker.

Sleepers We need to get a description and marker for the sleepers. Also, some better upkeep and understanding of its location and meaning to Hightstown and the nation.

Adjournment: Commissioner Coates moved that the meeting be adjourned, Commissioner Teller 2nd the motion. Meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Next Meeting: June 19, 2014, 7:30 pm, Hightstown – East Windsor Historic Society.

Minutes Prepared by: Secretary Teller and Chairman Pratt