

Hightstown Historic Preservation Commission

**Thursday, December 4, 2008
7:30 pm @Borough Hall**

MINUTES

- Call to order and Roll Call: The meeting was called to order by Chairwoman Christian Kirkpatrick at 7:45 pm. The Open Public Meeting Act statement was read and roll was taken. In attendance were: Commissioners Kirkpatrick, Aughenbaugh, Brown, Keith, and Patten and Council Liaison Walter Sikorski.
- Public Comment: Phyllis Deal, 305 Stockton Street, commented that as a Stockton Street resident, she has no interest in having rules and regulations imposed by the Borough regarding her home. She stated that she is uncomfortable with the ordinance to establish a local historic district because she fears that it is trying to create a “Cape May” in Hightstown.
- The minutes from November 20, 2008 were approved as read.
- Old Business:
 1. Stockton Street Streetscape Improvements: No report
 2. John Bull Sleeper Stones Initiative: No report
 3. Borough Website: Commissioner Aughenbaugh reported that she and Borough Administrator Gallagher have been working on adding a link to the borough website to inform people on how to list their properties on the State and National Historic Register.
 4. Booklet of Housing Styles: No report
 5. Cedar Hill Cemetery: Commissioner Patten reported that she had contacted a local member of the Cedar Hill Cemetery Board to inform him of grant opportunities for historic cemeteries

6. Review of the Stockton Street Ordinance:

- Commissioner Kirkpatrick explained that when the ordinance to establish the Stockton Street Historic District was introduced at the Council Meeting on December 1, 2008, two issues came up:
Although we had voted to delete the 17th whereas because the HPC felt it did not belong in the ordinance for establishing the local district, it was not deleted and therefore, it was in the ordinance presented to Council. She explained this to the Council at the meeting and they agreed that it would be deleted from the final version.
The second issue was whether or not to change the boundaries of the Historic District to reflect the subdivisions of properties since the State and National Historic Designation was made. After discussion, it was moved by Commissioner Brown and seconded by Commissioner Keith that we add the following sentence to page 5, sentence #2: *However, these boundaries shall exclude all properties subdivided prior to the date of this ordinance.* This motion was passed with a 5-0 vote.
- Commission continued its review of the revised draft of the ordinance to establish a Historic Preservation Commission, providing for the designation, preservation and limited protection of Historic Landmarks and Historic Districts in the Borough of Hightstown. After discussion, the HPC members decided not to change the language contained in Section 6 A (e), page 13, except to add a reference to Section 2 X.
Commissioner Kirkpatrick urged the Commission members to continue reading the draft ordinance in order to revise language related to changes in the original draft which contained the words “HPC Approval” as well as any other changes that may be necessary.
- New Business: None
- The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 pm. It was moved by Commissioner Keith and seconded by Commissioner Brown.