

Hightstown Historic Preservation Commission

Thursday, February 21, 2008

7:30 pm @Historical Society

MINUTES

- Call to order and Roll Call: The meeting was called to order by Chairwoman Christian Kirkpatrick at 7:40 pm. The Open Public Meeting Act statement was read and roll was taken. In attendance were: Commissioners Kirkpatrick, Aughenbaugh, Buriak, Mariboe, Patten and Pratt.
- Commissioner Kirkpatrick welcomed our new members, Dan Buriak and Rick Pratt. Her introduction was based on remarks made by Mayor Bob Patten when he appointed them at the Borough Council meeting the previous month.
- There was no public in attendance so no public comment was heard.
- Ordinance Amendment Update: Sec. 2-45 Historic Preservation Commission: Commissioner Kirkpatrick explained that she will be meeting on March 3 at 5:45 with Borough Attorney Fred Raffredo to discuss updating the ordinance. Commissioners Buriak and Pratt indicated an interest in attending the meeting with her.
- Stockton Street Streetscape Improvements:
 1. Commissioner Aughenbaugh reported that we had received approval from the Historic Trust for the plans developed for the Stockton Street Historic District's curbs, sidewalks and streetscape. Commissioner Aughenbaugh reviewed the details of the plans which include granite curbs, brick sidewalks and plantings of Princeton Elms, Oak and Maple trees.
 2. Next steps include developing a funding plan, approaching our legislators and pursuing grants to fund the project. The next round of grants' deadline is June 26.

- Symposium and Porch Tour: Commissioner Kirkpatrick explained the purpose of the symposium and porch tour. The symposium will be held May 13 and the Porch Tour, May 26th. Each member took an architecture and time period to discuss at the Symposium.
- John Bull Sleepers: Kathy Patten distributed a copy of the John Bull Sleeper Stone Project that she and Commissioner Kirkpatrick completed and sent in to the State Historic Preservation Office as an application to the National and State Registers of Historic Places.
- Old Business: None
- New Business:
 1. The Planning Board sent a demolition and waiver request for our Commission to comment on. There was discussion regarding our power to stop a demolition and it was noted that until the Planning Board includes language for that to happen, we can advise but not prevent any demolitions.
 2. The Stockton Street Advisory Board was discussed as a subgroup of the Historic Preservation Commission. The group discussed its role and whether it would be a useful resource for the commission. There was consensus to move ahead with it and Dan Buriak agreed to be the liaison between both groups.
- The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 pm.