

Hightstown Historic Preservation Commission

**Thursday, February 19, 2009
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, Brown, Buriak, Keith, Patten.
- Public Comment: Phyllis Deal, 305 Stockton Street, expressed concern that the town stay as it has been, without curbs and with concrete sidewalks. She stated that she feels brick sidewalks are a safety problem and threatened to sue the Borough should she be involved in an accident on the sidewalks. She also stated that she should know because she is a “lawyer.” Ms. Deal expressed additional concern that shallow-rooted trees will push up the sidewalks.
- The minutes from January 15, 2009 were moved by Commissioner Keith, seconded by Commissioner Brown. The minutes were approved as read by unanimous vote.
- Old Business:
 1. Stockton Street Streetscape Improvements: Commissioner Buriak reported that the Borough Council approved the project and included it in their appeal for funding in the Stimulus Package that is being considered in Congress. The League of Municipalities included it on its list of “shovel-ready” projects.
 2. John Bull Sleeper Stones Initiative: Commissioner Kirkpatrick spoke with Bob Craig from the State Historic Preservation Office who had given us more research to include in our proposal.
 3. Cedar Hill Cemetery: Commissioner Buriak will contact Dick Van Hise about the cemetery.

4. Review of the HPC Ordinance: The 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. Commissioner Buriak volunteered to rewrite Section 8 in order to clarify the process of appeal. Section 9 will be addressed at the next meeting.
- New Business: The Porch Tour was discussed. Several possibilities were considered: holding it on South Main Street since Stockton Street may be under construction in May or holding it in 2010 instead of 2009.
 - The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 pm. It was moved by Commissioner Patten and seconded by Commissioner Keith.