



Hightstown Historic Preservation Commission

Thursday, September 15, 2011
7:30 pm @ The Hightstown-
East Windsor Historical Society
(Location Changed due to Flood Damage at Boro Hall)



MINUTES

Call to order: Chairman Pratt called the meeting to order at 7:33 PM

Open Public Meeting Act Statement: Chairman Pratt read the Open Public Meetings Act Statement:

Roll Call :

Commissioner Brown:	Present
Commissioner Buriak:	Present (Arrived Late)
Commissioner Carney:	Absent
Commissioner Cox:	Present
Commissioner Ely:	Present
Commissioner Keith:	Present
Commissioner Pratt:	Present
Commissioner Smith:	Absent
Council Liaison Vanderbeck :	Present (Arrived Late)

Minutes: The minutes from the last meeting were distributed by email prior to the meeting, with a few copies distributed at the meeting. Commissioner Ely moved that the minutes be approved as read. Commissioner Cox seconded the motion.

Public Comment: None

Correspondence:

A letter from John Archer, was shared with the Commission as to the lighting of the Civil War Monument. The letter praised the blue/white lighting, and questioned the other colored lights used. A discussion ensued. It was brought to the commission's attention that there had been many comments from the town's citizens who also questioned the many colored lights used. Commissioner Cox made a motion to keep the blue/white lights lit, and forego the other light options. Commissioner Ely seconded the motion, and a vote was unanimously in favor of the motion. (Commissioner Buriak and Council Liaison Vanderbeck had not yet arrived)

On Email, the HEWHS will be having Mark Hewitt speak at their January 26th luncheon. They have asked us to assist in the payment for this speaker. After some discussion Commissioner Brown made a motion that we assist in the payment of the speaker as well as the marketing of tickets. The HPC portion of the payment will be half of the \$250 at \$125. Commissioner Keith seconded the motion. Vote was unanimously in favor of the motion.

Guest: Bob Craig from the NJ Historic Preservation Office, came to discuss the Hightstown History portion of the Historic Element. He is doing the research, and stated that some additional work is needed to polish some details. This portion is meant to be accurate and concise. Once complete, he will share it with us to add or delete areas. He stated that he needs some

assistance with the last 40 years of history. After some discussion, we suggested that he interview towns people who can contribute information about the last 40 years. It was decided that anyone interested in being interviewed be encouraged to contact Bob Craig at RCraig4002@verizon.net. Bob will come back to us, and a meeting will be devoted to the interviewing of townspeople about the last 40 years.

OLD BUSINESS:

Historic Element Revision: Covered by our Guest Speaker.

John Bull Sleepers: Kathy Patten and Christian Kirkpatrick reported that they have almost completed section 7 of the application and plan to be done by the end of October. Bob Craig has suggested that if a particular fact is unknown, it should be stated as such in the application.

Pattern Book: Commissioner Pratt is in the process of eliminating any unfinished articles.

Stockton Streetscape: Commissioner Buriak reported that the contractor is reviewing the punch list, and that some electrical work is being completed, as is the irrigation system. Olsen has mulched and filled in the rose bushes and yellow mum's. Vet's came and decorated the monument for 9-11. Many people gathered at the monument that day.

Greenway Pedestrian Bridge: Commissioner Pratt reported that, due to the damage of Hurricane Irene, the dam must be inspected again as to the safety of the project. It looks as though a longer bridge will be needed to meet the ADA requirements. Next spring is the new projected construction time. A concert has been planned for the evening of October 1. The NERDS will be performing.

Plaques- Hightstown, Historic District: Commissioner Buriak reported that 23 house plaques have been delivered. He will deliver them.

Planning Board Comment Sheet: The planning board does not want us to list properties of interest for them. They will forward permit information as they have in the past.

NEW BUSINESS:

SSHD Walking Tour Brochure; A copy of the plan for a walking tour brochure was passed around for comment. The commission agreed that it was going well. The brochure will not be ready for the HEWHS Historic District tour for the October 1 Fair. The printing price for 1,500 copies will be: color \$2,400., or b&w \$1,200. The commission asked if there was room to add 202 Stockton Street. Jane Cox said that there may be some money available for printing costs from both women's' clubs.

District Awards: Some suggestions were for district made awards for keeping our Historic District a district to be proud of. These suggestions were: to award a Mayor's Proclamation at the Town Meeting, and to give a Quarterly Award in the form of a plaque to be place at a historic home. The plaque will honor the homeowner as "Steward of Hightstown History".

Hightstown Fair Tour: Christian Kirkpatrick and Dale Grubb will be conducting two Historic District walking tours during the Harvest Festival on October 1.

Adjournment: Commissioner Ely moved that the meeting be adjourned, Commissioner Keith 2nd the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 9:42 PM

Next Meeting: October 20, 2011