



Hightstown Historic Preservation Commission

Thursday, January 20, 2011
7:30 pm @ Borough Hall



MINUTES

Call to order: Chairman Pratt called the meeting to order at 7:35 PM

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

Roll Call:

Commissioner Brown:	Present
Commissioner Buriak:	Absent
Commissioner Cox:	Present
Commissioner Ely:	Present
Commissioner Keith:	Present
Commissioner Pratt:	Present
Commissioner Smith:	Present
Council Liaison Musing:	Absent

Councilwoman McGinty was in attendance as an observer.

Minutes: The minutes from the last meeting were distributed by email prior to the meeting, with a few copies distributed at the meeting. The minutes were approved.

Swearing in: Newly appointed Commissioner William Carney was in attendance to be sworn-in. Mayor Kirson had a previous obligation, and would try to make the meeting before it adjourned. Mr. Carney was introduced to the Commissioners, and he gave a brief summary of his qualifications. The swearing in will be done by the Mayor later, outside of the meeting.

Meeting Dates: Commissioner Pratt distributed a list of the meeting dates for the year 2011. Dates were approved, and are attached to the minutes.

Contact Information: Commissioner Pratt announced that contact for the meetings would be emailed to each Commissioner as a reminder.

Officers:

Chair: Commissioner Brown nominated Commissioner Pratt for Chair, Commissioner Cox seconded the nomination. Commissioner Pratt accepted the nomination and a unanimous vote in favor followed.

Vice-Chair: Commissioner Cox nominated Commissioner Ely for Vice-Chair, Commissioner Keith seconded the nomination. After Commissioner Ely requested and heard the duties of Vice-Chair, she accepted the nomination, and a unanimous vote in favor followed.

Secretary: Commissioner Cox nominated Commissioner Brown, and Commissioner Keith seconded the nomination. Commissioner Brown accepted the nomination, and a unanimous vote followed.

Public Comment: None

OLD BUSINESS:

Historic Element Revision: Commissioner Pratt reported that the Planning Board is working on the approval of retaining the services of Tamara Lee. Ms. Lee will assist the HPC in editing and writing Historic Element portion of the Master Plan re-examination.

John Bull Sleepers: Ex-commissioners Patten and Kirkpatrick wish to continue their work with the John Bull Sleepers. The commission feels that they should be able to finish this project.

Pattern Book: Commissioner Pratt reported that there hasn't been much progress since the last meeting. He presented a red-line copy for perusal.

Stockton Street Streetscape Improvement: Commissioner Buriak was not in attendance. The project is on hold until March.

Circa Plaques: Commissioner Pratt reported that so far, we have a price of \$175 per plaque, and a kit price of \$150 a kit. (The kit would be to have Commissioners Keith and Pratt make a die so that castings can be made by a foundry.) The kit would require some research to obtain lettering for the die. Commissioner Pratt said that we may be eligible for a grant if we could become a Certified Local Government. He will research the Certified Local Government further and report back.

Historic Signage: Commissioner Pratt reported that our Liaison Mr. Musing is to research the bill that Commissioner Buriak spoke of regarding a standardized marking system for historic properties.

Peddie Lake Bridge Committee: Commissioner Keith reported the name of the commission will be known as the Greenway Pedestrian Bridge Committee. The committee has raised over \$12,000, and has 2 more events planned for February. There will be a wine, cheesecake, and chocolate event at the Hightstown Diner on February 14. The Borough website and the Downtown Hightstown websites have all future events on the calendars.

NEW BUSINESS:

Fundraisers: After a discussion about possible porch tours, walking tours, ghost tours, and cemetery tours, it was decided that we should research walking tours around Hightstown. Commissioner Ely volunteered to look into the possibility of self-guided and/or digital tours.

Adjournment:

At 8:30, Commissioner Keith made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Cox seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned.

Next Meeting: February 17, 2011