



Hightstown Historic Preservation Commission

Thursday, February 17, 2011
7:30 pm @ Borough Hall



MINUTES

Call to order: Chairman Pratt called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM

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

Roll Call :

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

Minutes: The minutes from the last meeting were distributed by email prior to the meeting, with a few copies distributed at the meeting. After explanation that there is no treasurer mentioned in the ordinance, we will forgo that office until needed. The minutes were approved.

Presentation: Greenway Pedestrian Bridge (GPB): Commissioner Pratt reported that the grant that the GPB Committee applied for was not given. He stated that Mr. Rosenberg worked up 3 schemes for the new bridge. The one that was approved by the GPB committee (attached) is to be presented to the boroughs committees for comment. After some discussion, it was decided that we should address some suggestions for the emblems that will adorn the bridge. We also had some safety concerns with the edges of the emblems and scrollwork.

Public Comment: None

OLD BUSINESS:

Historic Element Revision: Commissioner Pratt reported that he had been at the Planning Board meeting when Tamara Lee presented a calendar of events to go through the Planning Boards goals. She will make recommendations for the Master Plan. A sub-committee will decide on a table of historic buildings, places of business, and land. There will basically be an amendment made to the Master Plan with an alignment of the Historic Element to the Master Plan.

John Bull Sleepers: Commissioner Pratt reported that he received an email from Kathy Patten stating that she and Christian Kirkpatrick received a list of items that Bob Craig wanted them to address. They will need a few weeks to review the items and their responses, and then meet together to up-date the paperwork.

Pattern Book: Commissioner Pratt reported that he has done some editing to the book, and intends to complete a Table with every property in Hightstown, with dates (approximate age) and style.

Stockton Streetscape: Commissioner Buriak reported that a request was made to the state to add scope to the project at the Civil War monument, since new information was found out including some low walls. The HPO had to make an assessment to be sure that any changes made to this area of the project would not encroach on the Historic Design. This assessment must be made when any public funding is being used. We were approved to proceed.

Circa Plaques: Nothing new to be reported.

NEW BUSINESS:

Greenway Bridge Plaque language and design: A copy of the proposed plaque text was shared with the commission. The commission agreed that they would like some mention of the John Bull instead of "locomotive". Commissioner Keith will send a copy of the final text (when it is approved) to Sewah for pricing.

Workshop: Drew University offers a workshop on Preservation in Practice: A Primer for Historic Preservation Commissions. Commissioners Brown and Keith stated that they would attend. Commissioner Pratt stated that he would look into reimbursement of the \$75 each for tuition. Commissioner Buriak reminded the commission of the Pfizer funds in our account. Post Meeting: The Borough Clerk recommended that each person attending should pay, "out-of-pocket" and then submit a request for reimbursement.

Certified Local Government (CLG) discussion: Commissioner Pratt stated that in order to have access to more grants and apply to become a CLG, we will have to make some changes to our Ordinance , Historic Element, and Master Plan. We also need to have Design Guidelines. Of the two recommended by the HPO, (Cape May and Hopewell) Hopewell is more in line with what has already been started in the Pattern Book. Commissioner Cox recommended that we get our recommendations and changes in place that will fit our future vision so that we can get a CLG: Commissioner Brown 2nd the motion.

Upcoming NJ State Historic Preservation Conference: Commissioner Buriak announced that he has been asked to give a 20 minute presentation at the conference at Monmouth University on June 3. The commission would like to attend and support him.

Adjournment: Commissioner Ely moved that the meeting be adjourned, Commissioner Buriak 2nd the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 PM

Next Meeting: March 17, 2011