



Hightstown Historic Preservation Commission

Thursday, June 16, 2011
7:30 pm @ Borough Hall



MINUTES

Call to order: Chairman Pratt called the meeting to order at 7:45 PM.

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

Roll Call :

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

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

Public Comment: None

Guests –Mayor Kirson sat in on the meeting. Richard Zimmer from the Barlow and Zimmer Funeral Parlor was in attendance. The Opinion Discussion for 202 Stockton Street was moved forward on the agenda.

Opinion: 202 Stockton Street–The Opinion Request dated 6/7/11 received via email was read by all commissioners and approved. Commissioner Carney relayed some research concerning alternative products to DaVinci shingles, and presented Mr. Zimmer with information on Ecostar and Authentic shingles.

OLD BUSINESS:

Historic Element Revision: Chairman Pratt stated that the Historic Element subcommittee had met and gone over several items. The element will be reformatted to align with three of the four objectives of the State HPO. Identify, Protect and Preserve. The forth objective, sustain will be included in a proposed Sustainability Element of the Master Plan.

John Bull Sleepers: No Report. Chairman Pratt gave Christian Kirkpatrick and Kathy Patten a deadline of October 1, 2011.

Pattern Book: Commissioner's Pratt and Carney continue to remove content that is not completed, and are editing all completed articles for publication.

Stockton Streetscape: Commissioner Buriak reported that the project is almost done. There are

46 trees to be planted, electricity to be connected to the monument, crosswalks and various small tasks along the entire route.

Greenway Pedestrian Bridge: Commissioner Pratt and Commissioner Keith reported that the committee has determined that the bridge is required to be handicap accessible. The engineers have met out at the site to determine the most economical / aesthetic manner in which to proceed. The committee continues to hold fund raisers with a hopeful completion date of October 1, 2011 for the bridge to be installed.

Signage - Hightstown History: A subcommittee formed by the Mayor will meet to discuss all signs in Memorial Park.

Circa Plaque Orders: Commissioner Buriak has been taking orders from residents on Stockton Street. There are approximately 23 plaques that will be ordered this month from Franklin Bronze.

NEW BUSINESS:

CLG Discussion: Commissioner Keith stated that it would be good to apply for the CLG, we are close to having the requirements. Commissioner Buriak stated that he is behind the CLG, but doesn't understand the point as there are other grants available from NJ Preservation, the National Trust, etc. for some of the things that can be obtained through CLG grants.

Commissioners Keith, Brown and Cox will survey the Borough to ascertain properties that the HPC should have designated as local landmarks.

Summer Calendar: Due to several summer vacations, the commission voted to cancel the July meeting and to postpone the August meeting until the 25th at 7:30pm. The meeting will be held in the Historical Society as there are no alternative dates available in Borough Hall.

Hightstown Fair Tours: Commissioner Pratt will mock up a self guided walking tour pamphlet. Text will be utilized from the Porch Tour, previous walking tours and past House Tours done by the Historical Society. Commissioner Buriak will provide text on the streetscape project.

Monument Square Jurisdiction: Commissioner Pratt brought forward the idea that maybe Parks & Rec should take over jurisdiction of the monument grounds for future upkeep, governance, events, etc. Commissioner Buriak reported that these grounds are not a park for recreation, and that public works will be maintaining the grounds as they do the other public spaces around the Borough.

Newspaper Articles: Commissioner Buriak has written two history based articles in the last month, which have been published in the Windsor Hights Herald. He has been asked by the editor, Jen Samuels to write a regular column.

Planning Board Comment Sheet: The Commission would like to only see Planning Board applications that are local landmarks, or fall within the Stockton Street Historic District. The Planning Board secretary should be given a list of Block and Lot numbers to compare applications against.

Adjournment: Commissioner Cox moved that the meeting be adjourned, Commissioner Buriak 2nd the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 9:40 PM

Next Meeting: August 25, 2011