



MINUTES

Thursday, November 19, 2015
7:30 pm @ Hightstown-East Windsor
Historical Society



Hightstown
Historic Preservation
Commission

Call to order:

Chairman Pratt called the meeting to order at 7:35pm.

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

Roll Call:

Commissioner Cardoso (PC):	<i>Absent</i>	Commissioner Egan (DE):	Present
Commissioner Carney (WC):	Present	Commissioner: Honsel (JH):	Present
Commissioner Pratt (RP):	Present	Commissioner, Mair (JM) Alt. #1:	Present
Commissioner Teller (RT):	8:00pm	Commissioner, Alt. #2: (Vacant)	--
Commissioner von Riegen (RvR):	Present		

Council Liaison C. Montferrat (CM): *Absent*

Planning Bd. Liaison F. Montferrat (FM): *Absent*

Minutes: October, 15 2015 minutes were moved and approved.

Public Comment: None.

Guests: None

Correspondence: Hightstown Porches article in Fine Homebuilding Magazine.

www.Finehomebuilding.com/extras

Opinion Requests:

126 Stockton Street – Mr. Hidalgo removed the concrete from the steps. Now there are loose bricks. Philippe will reach out to show him the railing and see about having it modified to fit the steps. *Post Meeting: PC met with him Saturday and will be reaching out to Mike Sheenan, a local welder about modifying the railing. RP spoke to Earl Groendyke, a local mason, about giving a price to repair the steps.*

245 Stockton Street: The commissioners have stand by the Opinion with no modifications.

Old Business:

Certified Local Government:

The Planning Board discussed the ordinance, but only informally since the Borough Attorney was not in attendance. There was some opposition by one Planning Board member, and evidently some misunderstandings of what the edits were for. The Planning Board Chair and the Planner will set up a meeting to review comments and suggest additional edits.

Historic District Descriptive Sign: Commissioner Honsel passed around a shortened draft. Mr. Carney who was the latest commissioner to review the language was not able to attend the meeting. JH and WC to review and report back at the next meeting. WC and JH will look into the status.

Classic Towns Program (DVRPC): All monies have been returned to the donors.

Preserve America Sign Placement. The sign is 24" x 36" and could possibly be placed on the poll on Mercer Street under the green metal Hightstown sign. RP to check with Mayor and Public Works. We had discussed purchasing three more for placement on Stockton, Franklin and North Main, and mounting on the blue wood Hightstown signs. However, at that size they will not fit or will get beat up by lawnmowers and plows. We can simply have the logo reproduced rather than the entire, "Welcome to Borough of Hightstown" that came on the free sign. We can reproduce locally when a decision is made.

Image Imbedded Database. WC recommended that the Commission create a property listing with photos of each property in town. This will aid the commission in visualizing the addresses of the properties when opinions are sought. It will also aid in upcoming plans for additional municipal historic districts, the historic element, and grants. The database would be updated on a regular basis to include: Owner, history, age of home, style, district, etc. The first step will be to take photos of the houses on the major streets. A simple phone camera picture will suffice. RP to request a property listing from the Borough. The following commissioners will begin taking pictures in these sections of town: North Main (JH); Stockton from 214 into town (RP); Stockton from 220 out of town (DE) – [there are no houses from 215-219]; Morrison from downtown outward (JM); South Main from downtown outward, South Street, Etra and Ward (RvR and RT). Commissioners has not had time to take many pictures. This will be ongoing. RP to have a mockup next meeting.

New Business:

Historic District Signage: RP brought a sample for a possible stenciled sign to the meeting representing 194 Stockton Street, (Dan Buriak's house.) The topic was not officially discussed. *Post Meeting: On 12/15/15 RP emailed Peddie to request a possible partnership with the Laser Lab to cut out two aluminum plate stencils for the town.*

Adjournment:

The meeting was moved for adjournment by RP, 2nd by RT at 8:30 pm.

Next Meeting: November 19, 2015 – 7:30pm, HEWHS