



## MINUTES

Thursday, March 17, 2016  
7:30 pm @ Hightstown-East Windsor  
Historical Society



### Call to order:

Chairman Pratt called the meeting to order at 7:33pm.

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

### Roll Call:

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

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

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

**Minutes:** None

**Guests:** None

**Correspondence:** Email received from Ellen Puerzer of the octagon house inventory, regarding an audio file on the Peddie website stating that the Hightstown octagon is the last remaining example of this style in the Delaware Valley. And, that the man responsible for heavily promoting the idea of an octagonal house, Orson Fowler was the grandson of Orson Wells. Both of these facts are false. Chairman Pratt relayed this by phone and email to Mike McKittish at Peddie. No known response or revisions have been made regarding the audio file.

### Opinion Requests:

207 Grant Avenue: Chairman Pratt recused himself from the presentation and discussion of a home he is proposing to construct on Grant Avenue. This property is a subdivided portion of 220 Stockton Street which was created after the historic district was established. Mr. Pratt has owned the land for approximately 7 years. Opinion 2016-2 was generated by Vice-chair Carney approving the work.

Peddie Lake Pedestrian Bridge at the Dam: Roberts Engineering sent plans to the HPC for review. The bridge design has been in the process for many years and the HPC does not want to be the roadblock or speed bump in the process. However, the railings along the steps on either side of the bridge are very utilitarian and it is the Commissions opinion that they should be upgraded in the future. The plans were approved unanimously with reservations about the railings. Opinion 2016-3 was generated by Vice-chair Carney approving the work, with reservation.

### Old Business:

#### Certified Local Government:

The HPC Ordinance revisions are in the hands of the Planning Board. The SHPO made a presentation to the Planning Board on March 14, 2016. Commissioner Teller and Council Liaison Montferrat were in

attendance as well as Commissioner Honsel as he sits on the Planning Board. The report was that the Planning Board is now more educated on the requirements of the MLUL as it relates to the HPC ordinance. There were two members of the public that spoke against the ordinance. Cappy Stults and Dimitri Musing. Mr. Musing sits on the Planning Board, but had recused himself from the Planning Board during the presentation. Connor Montferrat spoke about the negative impact on the district with two examples on lower Stockton Street by owners that were not aware of the ordinance. That the district and heritage tourism will be negatively impacted by a lack of an enforceable ordinance.

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.

Preserve America Sign Placement. The sign has been installed on a metal sign post adjacent to the Welcome to Hightstown sign near Michael's Plaza on Rte 33 heading into town from the south.

Image Imbedded Database. RP took pictures from the east end of the historic district to 220 Stockton Street and mocked out a database file. The Commissioners reviewed it. The layout remains up in the air. As of now, only two images fit on a page and the final document will be unwieldy.

**Public Comment:**

None

**New Business:** None

**Adjournment:**

The meeting was moved for adjournment by JH, 2<sup>nd</sup> by RvR at 8:10 pm.

**Next Meeting:** April, 21 2016 – 7:30pm, HEWHS