

Hightstown Historic Preservation Commission Minutes

Thursday, April 20, 2017

7:00pm @Borough Hall

Call to Order: Chairman Dimitri Musing called the meeting to order at 7:00pm

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

Attendees:

Dimitri Musing, Chairman

Jean Ruggiero-Mair

Rich Teller

Dodie Colavecchio, Planning Board Liaison

Margaret (Meg) Frantz

Mayor Larry Quattrone

Philippe Cardoso arrived @7:04

Steve Misiura, Council Liaison arrived @7:28pm

Approval of Agenda: Ms. Colavecchio approved, Mr. Cardoso seconded, all in favor.

Approval of Minutes – March 16, 2017 Regular Meeting: Ms. Ruggiero-Mair motioned for accepting minutes, Ms. Colavecchio seconded. All in favor.

Mayor Quattrone swore in Meg Frantz as Alternate Member to the Hightstown HPC.

Public Comment: Mayor Quattrone commented that he is happy with the direction of the HPC and he appreciates every member's presence on the commission.

New Business: Mr. Teller pointed out that the HEWHS lists the HPC meetings – they need to be informed that HPC meetings' start time has changed to 7pm and the meeting site has changed to Borough Hall.

Mr. Musing announced the annual HEWHS meeting is taking place at Monmouth Battlefield State Park.

1. Spring Clean-up & Property Maintenance:

126 Stockton Street's C.O. is not being renewed until the siding and railing issues are addressed by the owner.

Mr. Cardoso commented that recycle bins on S. Main Street that were left out on the curb after

pick-up received notes taped to the bins reminding the owners of their obligation to remove the bins promptly from the street.

Mr. Cardoso presented his project for 248 Stockton Street (Jack Aughenbaugh's house) that will need notification from the HPC for the re-building of front steps with all work being performed by Mr. Cardoso. Photos and drawings of the reconstruction were shown and all HPC members are in favor of this work. A letter from the HPC will be drafted and sent to the owner stating approval of the project.

2. Steward of Hightstown Award Eligibility Criteria:

HPC agreed that all Hightstown residents who live and own property in town are eligible for the award – this award is not restricted just to the Historic District.

The nomination form from 2014 needs to be updated for next month's meeting.

3. 2017 Steward of Hightstown Recipient Nominations:

Mr. Musing suggested Dan Buriak be considered for the award for all his past work establishing the Historic District and winning the substantial grant for the sidewalks project within the Historic District. Ms. Mair made the motion to name Dan Buriak a recipient of the 2017 Steward of Hightstown Award. Mr. Teller seconded the motion and all are in favor.

Old Business: Chairman Musing thanked Mayor Quattrone for supporting HPC's request for more funds at the Council meeting. Mr. Musing went before the Council requesting an \$8,000 budget for 25 decorative post-mounted banners promoting Historic Hightstown and was awarded \$4,000. The HPC decided to get as many banners as possible for \$4,000 and Mr. Musing will continue to research other banner makers to get the most economical variation. Mr. Musing met with Mike McKitish, Assistant Head for Finance and Operations at the Peddie School, to inform him of the HPC's banner project in hopes Peddie would want to add banners to S. Main Street. Mr. Musing and Mr. McKitish will meet quarterly.

Ms. Colavecchio left the meeting at 8pm. Chairman Musing continued with the minute-taking.

It was discussed and decided by the HPC that the banners should read "Historic Hightstown", instead of "Stockton Street, Historic District". The reasoning behind this switch is that the commission is focused on promoting Historic Hightstown as a whole and the same banner format can be used in other areas of the town. The \$4,000 will go towards the purchase of these newly designed banners and will still be placed in the Stockton St. corridor. Since this is an important corridor into the downtown, it was decided that the banners do not have to be only congregated within the Historic District of Stockton St. A motion for this decision was made by Mr. Teller and seconded by Mr. Cardoso. All members voted in favor and decision passed.

Chairman and Commissioners Comments:

N/A

Adjournment:

Next Meeting: Thursday, May 18, 2017.