

Hightstown Historic Preservation Commission Minutes

Thursday, June 21, 2018

7:00pm @Borough Hall

Call to Order: Chairwoman Jean Mair called the meeting to order at 7:05pm

Open Public Meeting Act Statement: Chairwoman Mair read the Open Public Meetings Act Statement.

Attendees:

Jean Ruggiero-Mair, Chairwoman
Dimitri Musing, Borough Council Liaison
Dodie Colavecchio, Planning Board Liaison
Philippe Cardoso

Approval of Agenda: Mr. Cardoso moved to approve agenda, Ms. Colavecchio seconded. All in favor.

Approval of Minutes: Ms. Colavecchio moved to approve April 19, 2018 mtg minutes, Chairwoman Mair seconded. All in favor.

*Note: The May HPC meeting was cancelled

Public Comment: None

New & Old Business:

1. Use of 2018 Budget:

\$4,000 for 2018

Nominees for 2018 Steward Award:

Dan Buriak

Gary Stevens, 231 Rogers Avenue

Applegate House, 513 South Main Street

HPC talked about awarding more than one award. HPC representative should be the one handing out the award at the designated Borough Council meeting (last year, the award was presented by Council members).

2. 421 North Main Street property:

Mr. Cardoso reached out to the new owners of the property to convince them not to subdivide the lot and demo the existing historic house. This house is listed as an historic asset to the borough in the Borough Master Plan. The property is part of the R-3 Residential Zone.

Discussion on how to get the public aware of the intent for this property – strongly support having HPC representative go before the Planning Board to appeal for saving the house from demolition. Need to find out what the designation of “historic asset” means to the Planning Board and what, if any, protection this designation gives to the house.

3. JCP&L Application to hang banners:

Chairwoman Mair asked for members to provide cross streets of the proposed pole locations around the borough to complete the application process.

4. The Lofts at Hightstown’s response to HPC’s Opinion to the Planning Board:

Discussion on the separate phases of the proposed project – is there any guarantee that the developer will build the other phases? The submittal only addresses Phase 1 – the apartment complex in the old rug mill and the townhomes at the corner of South Academy St. and Bank St.

HPC feels the modified town homes design is still not a good fit for Hightstown – the materials and style (vertical siding, casement windows etc.) don’t align with the surrounding neighborhood.

HPC needs presence and voice at the July 9th Planning Board meeting for the continuation of the hearing on this project.

Committee Reports:

None

Adjournment: Ms. Colavecchio motioned to adjourn at 8:40 pm, Chairwoman Mair seconded, all in favor.

Next Meeting: Thursday, July 19, 2018