



The Borough of Hightstown

Historic Preservation Committee

156 Bank Street, Hightstown, New Jersey 08520

Phone – (609) 490-5100

Historic Preservation Committee Meeting Minutes December 16, 2021

Call to Order

Who: Historic Preservation Commission

When: 12/16/21 at 6:30 PM

Where: Zoom

Meeting ID: 769 7495 2347

Passcode: DH2bn8

Attendees

John Hostetler

Phillipe Cardoso

Amanda Rosenberg

Dennis Egan

STATEMENT: Adequate notice of this meeting has been given in accordance with the Open Public Meeting Act, pursuant to Public Laws 1975, Chapter 231. Said notice was advertised in the Trenton Times and Windsor-Hights Herald as required by law, and is posted in the Borough Clerk's Office.

Meeting called to order at 6:33 pm by John Hostetler

Approval of Agenda – Motioned by John Hostetler; seconded by Phillipe Cardoso

Approval of Minutes – 11/18/21 Minutes approved

Public Comment – N/A

Ongoing & New Business:

- Banners - a PO was placed with futuresigns to replace 10 banners - JH to email Chief Gendren about escorting install.
- Monument - JH to notify MO that receipts were submitted, Dennis needs reimbursement
- Peddie Bridge Update:

HPC opinion: Option widening 2 as described below, as the difference is only 4 ft from needed 3ft shoulders. HPC will write up an opinion, and include comments about architectural lighting and push for truck traffic control over the bridge and elsewhere in town- we should provide ideas for traffic control.

From *Patrick Harshbarger*

Here is a quick summary of the bridge width options:

Current Conditions (for comparison)

Roadway Width: 20 ft.-9 in.

Width between the trusses (accounts for railings and deck overhang): 22 ft.

Sidewalk Pathway Width: 6 ft.

Out to Out Width: 32 ft. (this includes everything between the upstream side of the sidewalk and the downstream side of the truss including gaps between the roadway and sidewalk structures, railings, deck overhangs, etc.)

Widening Option 1

Roadway Width: 28 ft. (11 ft. lanes, 3 ft. shoulders, no bike lanes, minimum State/County fundable per safety standards)

Width between the trusses: 32 ft.-8 in.

Sidewalk Pathway Width: 6 ft.

Out to Out Width: **43 ft.-2 in.**

Widening Option 2

Roadway Width: 32 ft. (11 ft. lanes, 5 ft. bike lanes, minimum for meeting Borough's Complete Streets plan)

Width between the trusses: 36 ft.-8 in.

Sidewalk Pathway Width: 6 ft.

Out to Out Width: **47 ft.-2 in.**

All widening would be to the upstream side toward the Peddie School. The line would be held on the residential side of the street to avoid any encroachments on the houses.

Attached is a concept drawing of the **Option 2 widening, which is currently the leading contender because of Complete Streets.** Please don't get sidetracked by the description in the title block of this project as a "Bridge Replacement" ... that's engineering for relieving the trusses of a live load but we will be retaining all of the surviving truss fabric of 1896 as

self-supporting. All of the surviving features will be preserved except for the width proportion. The bridge will look as is today from both elevations up and downstream. We will even have some opportunity to restore steel fabrication details in the trusses that have been altered/damaged by past welding repairs or corrosion.

FYI, there have been other options discussed including roadway widths of 36 ft. and **40 ft., the latter being the County's standard for new bridges.** D&R Greenway had requested a 10 ft. sidewalk. The County has dropped these wider options as non-viable, in large part because of the goals of historic preservation and community preference for a narrower structure.

We've also explored closing the bridge to traffic, although this option is **non-fundable from a County/State perspective and would be kicking the can down the road and placing the burden on the Borough for future repair and maintenance.** The Borough has so far shown **no interest in taking over the bridge.**

Best regards,

Patrick

Patrick Harshbarger

Vice President

Principal Architectural Historian/Principal Historian/Industrial Archeologist

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