

**FEBRUARY 6, 2019 MEETING MINUTES
EAST AMWELL HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMITTEE
East Amwell Municipal Building
1070 Route 202, Ringoes, NJ**

CALL TO ORDER & OPEN PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE

7:30 PM by the secretary. Secretary Sharon Brighthaupt read aloud the following: “In compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act, this is a regular meeting of the East Amwell Historic Preservation Committee pursuant to the meeting notice published in the January 24, 2019 issue of the Hunterdon Democrat. Notice of this meeting was filed in the Township Clerk’s Office, sent to the Hunterdon Democrat, and the agenda was posted on the municipal bulletin board.”

ROLL CALL 2/6/19

| Committee Member (term expires) | 1/9/19 | 2/6/19 | 3/6/19 | 4/3/19 | 5/1/19 | 6/5/19 | 7/23/19 | 8/7/19 | 9/4/19 | 10/2/19 | 11/6/19 | 12/4/19 |
|---|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|---------|--------|--------|---------|---------|---------|
| Susan Berger (12/31/19) (Alt 1) CLASS A | X | X | | | | | | | | | | |
| Jim Davidson (12/31/21) CLASS A | X | X | | | | | | | | | | |
| Frances Gavigan (12/31/20) CLASS B | | X | | | | | | | | | | |
| Will Harrison (12/31/21) CLASS B | X | X | | | | | | | | | | |
| Alexis Antricoli (12/31/19) | | X | | | | | | | | | | |
| Barbara Sageser (12/31/20) CLASS A | X | X | | | | | | | | | | |
| Vacant Position (12/31/19) CLASS C | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Paul Sterchele (12/31/18) CLASS C | X | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Peg Sullivan (12/31/18) CLASS C | X | X | | | | | | | | | | |
| Mary Van Horn (12/31/19) CLASS C | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Eda Schmalz | | | | | | | | | | | | |

Others present: Sharon Brighthaupt, Recording Secretary HPC

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Noting no public present, Will Harrison made a motion to open and close to the public. Jim Davidson seconded. All favor.

PRESENTATION OF THE JANUARY 9, 2019 MINUTES

Barbara Sageser asked if there were any additions or corrections for the minutes. Jim Davidson made a motion the minutes be accepted as presented, seconded by Will Harrison. All in favor. Minutes are approved.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

EAST AMWELL HISTORICAL SOCIETY UPDATE

Jim Amon’s current show is still at the museum in co-sponsorship with the Sourland Conservancy. Next show will be the East Amwell Student Art and will be on display for two weeks. Then four weeks of the show of the Buchwalter collection. John Buchwalter will be placing as many as thirty-five pieces on display for sale and the society will receive 40% commission on sales. (At the last HPC meeting the commission was thought to be 50%, but has been corrected to 40%. Percentages vary.)

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Following there will be an award winning avantgarde art display out of Stockton. Then a high-end craft show on May 18-19, 2019. Lynn Ebeling is a basket maker and has been attending meetings to organize the Spring show.

Susan Berger has been able to assist with the sales by using an iPad payment method. Training for docent's will be available soon.

Jim Davidson will be doing another presentation of the *Dark Side of the Sourlands* at Hillbilly Hall on March 8 at 7:00 PM. It has been presented four times and sold out each time. Historical Society will receive half the gate.

QUICK COLLECTION UPDATE

All the flat files have been moved over to the museum and have been encapsulated in folders. Last week Brian Murphy and Mary Ellen and I went through approximately 20 boxes of books in the basement. Seven boxes of books have been taken to the museum and have been sorted to determine if they are appropriate for the Historical Society. A number of books that were bought by the township included many not relative to the collection, they were purged by an archivist previously. Still there are number of books not relevant to the East Amwell museum. For example, there may be a hundred American Heritage books from the sixties. We've asked if anyone wants them, even went to the school and so far, no one wants them. We don't have space for them. If no one wants them, perhaps they can go to the library sale. There were two boxes of hymnals, not all from East Amwell. Four boxes were catalogued, including two Quick Family Bibles containing genealogy information from the 1800's. Many were duplicates of what we already have. They are common Hunterdon County books, the question is, how should we dispose of them. Frances Gavigan suggest we ask the Township Committee for permission to sell the books and have the money go to the museum.

Brian Murphy is doing a book inventory using Past Perfect. He is very interested in the collection and completing the inventory. Jim Davidson said he is going to propose he be accepted as a member of the Historical Society at the next meeting.

Barbara Sageser commented that we need to have an individual who interfaces with the Past Perfect updates and keeps the committee informed. Brian Murphy wants to meet with Alexis Antricoli to discuss the collection. He is currently working on the Historical Society collection, using a different code. Once he has finished, we will place them on the shelves at the museum.

Susan Berger suggested perhaps some of the sale books could be placed on display in municipal building or at other public locations.

EAST AMWELL MUSEUM

Barbara Sageser mentioned she has heard nothing new about the grant application from the Township. Jim Davidson said he will check with Margaret to get an update. It is usually due at the end of March and should be under way by the next meeting. Jim Davidson has requested a quote for replacing the roof, or

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perhaps get shutters. The roof is not yet leaking, but is flaking. Barbara Sageser noted that during the last repair after the Sandy Storm the contractor suggested it is only a matter of time before it will need replaced. It is near the end of its lifespan.

Susan Berger suggested a fund raiser if the slate roof is replaced, the slates can be used for art work and sold. Barbara Sageser suggested an outreach craft workshop with the school students to make the artwork on the slates.

Will Harrison mentioned not many people are signing up on the Website to participate as docents. So far there have been enough available, but reminders would ensure people continue to volunteer. Currently there about a dozen people trained and making themselves available.

Barbara Sageser suggested we have nice outdoor areas, but there a no benches for seating. Perhaps Northfield bank would be an option for an educational grant. Susan Berger suggested Trex is donating benches in return for clean plastic recycling donations of 500 lbs. Will Harrison informed the recycling committee is working on the collection.

It was agreed it will be beneficial to move the collections over to the museum to be inventoried. The lighting is better and access will be less limited than it has been in the basement.

BUDGET

Barbara Sageser reported the budget has not been finalized yet, it won't be available until some time in March. On-line hosting will be due in March. The membership fee for the AASLH give us a discount for archival storage materials.

Alexis Antricoli recommended the Quick Collection should be stored in boxes and the boxes should be marked with what is inside. It should make it easier to allow access. Jim Davidson thinks we may need more filing boxes. If the items are in archival folders, they will be protected and the boxes do not necessarily need to be archival quality. She suggested vendors who can supply boxes to the committee. She will check on the vendor and report back and request a catalog.

Frances Gavigan suggested someone should attend the next budget meeting at 6:00 PM on Thursday, February 14 to explain how the requested money will be used. Both Barbara Sageser and Jim Davidson will make an effort to attend.

HISTORIC INVENTORY REVIEW UPDATE

The article did make it into the VIP and also on the Website. One individual responded and wants to know in advance when their property will be photographed. A second individual volunteered to have his property photographed if it has not already been included. The secretary forwarded it to the committee, but will do so again.

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Barbara Sageser suggested we should set up schedules and passed around blank paper for those who want to volunteer and whether or not they prefer to be a driver or photographer. Also, if you have not gotten your ID yet, please see the Township Clerk. If you have one already it can be updated at the Township, if you do not have one yet you will need to go to the county for the photo ID.

CORRESPONDENCE

Barbara Sageser passed on the AASLH catalog Jim Davidson to be placed at the museum.

Barbara Sageser asked for a motion to approve payment of the membership. Will Harrison made the motion, seconded by Alexis Antricoli, all in favor.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Frances Gavigan made a motion to open/close to the public, noting no public present. Peg Sullivan seconded. All in favor.

ADJOURNMENT

Susan Berger made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Barbara Sageser. All in favor.
The next regular meeting will take place on Wednesday, March 6, 2019 at 7:30PM.

/s/Sharon L. Brighthaupt, Recording Secretary

February 10, 2019
