

**APRIL 3, 2019 MEETING MINUTES
EAST AMWELL HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMITTEE
East Amwell Municipal Building
1070 Route 202, Ringoes, NJ**

CALL TO ORDER & OPEN PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE

The meeting of the East Amwell Historic Preservation Committee was called to order at 7:30 PM by Will Harrison. The Clerk 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 4/3/19

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	A	X								
Jim Davidson (12/31/21) CLASS A	X	X	X	A								
Frances Gavigan (12/31/20) CLASS B		X	X	A								
Will Harrison (12/31/21) CLASS B	X	X	X	X								
Alexis Antricoli (12/31/19)		X	X	A								
Barbara Sageser (12/31/20) CLASS A	X	X	A	X								
Vacant Position (12/31/19) CLASS C												
Paul Sterchele (12/31/18) CLASS C	X		X	X								
Peg Sullivan (12/31/18) CLASS C	X	X	X	X								
Mary Van Horn (12/31/19) CLASS C			A	A								

Others present: Sharon Brighthaupt, Secretary

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Noting no public present, Barbara Sageser made a motion to open and close to the public. Will Harrison seconded. All in favor.

PRESENTATION OF THE MARCH 6, 2019 MINUTES

Barbara Sageser asked if there were any additions or corrections for the minutes. Will Harrison made a motion the minutes be accepted as presented, seconded by Peg Sullivan. He noted a closed quote needs to be added to the opening statement. So noted by the secretary, the correction will be made. All in favor. Minutes are approved.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

EAST AMWELL HISTORICAL SOCIETY UPDATE

EAST AMWELL MUSEUM

Paul Sterchele provided the following update: The recent art showing at the museum by Mary Buckwalter was successful. The last count was 14 paintings were sold resulting in about \$2,000 in sales. The next exhibit will be Florence Moonan abstract work in pastels, will be on display through May 12. The weekend following a craft show is scheduled for May 19. Barbara Sageser reported there are 21 new

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parking spaces available for the museum parking. Volunteers are needed for the craft show and docents for inside. Some students from the high school have inquired and will be contacted.

Income for the museum from recent shows was reported to be \$800 from the Mary Buckwalter exhibit. A businessman donated \$1,500 recently. Jim Davidson did one of his *Dark Side of the Sourland* talks, and donated part of the money collected. The new grant application requesting \$65,000 was submitted to the County, thanks to Jim Davidson and Barbara Sageser.

Chris Sobieski, the Township Liaison to the Historic Preservation Committee arrived to the meeting and introduced himself to the members. Barbara Sageser quickly reviewed and updated the processing of the recent grant. She mentioned the museum is still in need of chairs to be used for meetings. Fifty chairs would be nice to have, but first a plan needs to be in place for storage. In addition, the chairs need to be light weight and easily moved in and out of the space. Susan Berger suggested the possibility of obtaining a shed and having a smooth surface ramp. Moving the chairs up and down from the basement is not a good solution. Will Harrison mentioned we also need to keep in mind we will need storage space for folding tables.

QUICK COLLECTION UPDATE

Brian Murphy has taken an interest in entering the quick collection into the Past Perfect database. Barbara Sageser mentioned she was hoping he would be in attendance at the meeting so he could meet the members. Mylar was purchased for \$63 and the maps and posters that were not previously encapsulated have been encapsulated and cataloged. Now they have moved on to logging the books. Some are contemporary, some of which are very common. They have also found some very old and very valuable. An 1809 Readington Manuscript Document being a 3-day class for a slave Pomp to go in search of a new master. This is thought to be very rare and may be valuable. A circa 1878 mineral rock and ore chart which has been repaired with archival tape and put into a custom sleeve. This was thought to have been a chart used by Dr. Larison to teach his students. A scarce copy of an 1867 book about women's work in the Civil War. Multiple copies of Larison's book about his adventurous tenting school with detailed descriptions of Monmouth Battlefield, Barnegat Bay and Asbury Park. An 1860 copy of the Lincoln-Douglas debates, a very scarce and valuable book. These items are being kept in a safe at the moment. An 1894 copy of historical addresses delivered at the 175th anniversary of the Readington Reformed Church with information about the opening of Cornet Geary's grave in 1891.

Barbara Sageser went on to say we have an inventory of all the items, but still they need to be sorted and organized. Most of the things are still in the basement of the Municipal Building. It first needs to be moved to the museum where we will have better access to the collection.

BUDGET

The budget has decreased by the amount used to purchase the mylar for the museum collection.

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HISTORIC PROPERTY INVENTORY REVIEW UPDATE

Barbara Sageser reviewed the process used in the past to complete the task of photographing the historic properties. She divided the list of properties into four sets of thirteen each and asked the committee members who were previously paired up and volunteered to help to take one section of the list. Paul Sterchele and Will Harrison will make up a team, Susan Berger will contact Alexis Antricoli and arrange to meet with her to complete her section. Peg Sullivan, Barbara Sageser and Mary Van Horn will complete the third team. Now that everyone has a cell phone that takes photos the committee decided it would be easier to use their phones and email the photos to the secretary to collect them all in one place. The lot and block should be identified on the dry erase board or on a sheet of paper and photographed before each property photo. Barbara Sageser has the tax maps for anyone who would like to have a copy to use with their list. With the block and lot number along with the address it makes it easier to locate the properties.

The secretary will provide contact information to Susan Berger to get in touch with Alexis Antricoli.

Will Harrison asked if we have permission to visit the property owners. We published a notice in the VIP in two issues and asked for anyone who did not want to be included to notify the secretary. The secretary noted only one individual who would prefer not to have their property photographed unless the owner is there at the time. If an owner asks you not to do it, just be polite and make a notation.

NEW BUSINESS

Peg Sullivan reported that she is listed as the co-chair on the Website. The secretary will make the correction.

Susan Berger has brought some of the earlier calendars to donate to the museum. Paul Sterchele has kindly offered to take them to the museum for the collection.

CORRESPONDENCE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Barbara Sageser made a motion to open/close to the public, noting no public present. Will Harrison seconded. All in favor.

ADJOURNMENT

Will Harrison made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Paul Sterchele. All in favor. The next regular meeting will take place on Wednesday, May 1, 2019 at 7:30PM.

/s/Sharon L. Brighthaupt, Recording Secretary

April 23, 2019
