

**APRIL 4, 2018 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 approximately 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 25, 2017 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 4/4/18

Committee Member (term expires)	1/3/18	2/7/18	3/7/18	4/4/18	5/2/18	6/6/18	7/4/18	8/1/18	9/5/18	10/3/18	11/7/18	12/5/18	
Susan Berger (12/31/18) (Alt I) CLASS C	X	X	CANCELLED	X									
Jim Davidson (12//31/18) CLASS A	7:35	X		7:40									
Frances Gavigan (12/31/20) CLASS B	X			X									
Will Harrison (12/31/18) CLASS B	X	X		X									
Jeff Kehlert (2/18-12/31/19) CLASS C		X		X									
Barbara Sageser (12/31/20) CLASS A	X	X		X									
Pauline Serafin (12/31/19) CLASS C	X	X											
Paul Sterchele (12/31/18) CLASS C	X	X		X									
Peg Sullivan (12/31/18) CLASS C	X												
Mary Van Horn (12/31/19) CLASS C													
John Allen (12/31/18) (Alt II) CLASS B	X	X		X									

Others present: Sharon Brighthaupt, Recording Secretary HPC

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Barbara Sageser noted no members of the public were present. Frances Gavigan made a motion to open and close to the public. Seconded by John Allen. All in favor.

OLD BUSINESS

Barbara Sageser brought the binder being compiled containing the grant application and other important documents and photos collected during the refurbishing of the Clawson house. It includes photos of the workers and visitors to the open house and a copy of the letter indicating the committee has applied for other grants.

CLAWSON HOUSE UPDATE

The trim is finished on the first floor, some still remains in the kitchen and the upstairs. The doors are there the tile for the bathroom, kitchen and foyer is expected to be delivered in the next week. The doors will be hung after the tile is finished. A painter will be coming to caulk and prime all the trim. Tile is being purchased through the township by competitive bid. Four contractors have placed bids to date. Work still remains on the fireplace. Barbara Sageser asked if a decision has been made to repair the end of the fire place where it has been sawed off. Jim Davidsons replied it has not been discussed yet, but he will talk to the contractor about it at the next meeting. Colors have not yet been chosen. Mary Van Horn will be

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working on the gardens. All the light fixtures with the exception of the track lighting are antique. All but three have already been obtained, mostly from donations.

The first exhibit will be Fred Gardner's paintings. The painting he has done of the Clawson house will be placed in a frame that was donated, and it is being matted and framed for the open house. Jim Davidson would like to have an open house attended by everyone who has worked on the project to present the painting.

Frances Gavigan said she has a lilac bush to be moved and if it would be useful to the Clawson house. Jim Davidson referred her to Mary Van Horn to discuss if it is needed or if there is a place it can be used.

The Historic Society has paid for the trim, some of the light fixtures and the painting and floors and kitchen cabinets. Funding is getting depleted for the Clawson House. If the grants get approved the Society will need to be reimbursed.

Frances Gavigan asked if there was some past recollection of there being stipulations about the historic colors that can be used when painting the Clawson House. Jim Davidson and Barbara Sageser did not have such recollection, but Barbara Sageser said Pickell has offered to make recommendations of historic colors, but it has not yet been received.

PRESENTATION OF THE FEBRUARY 7, 2018 MINUTES

Barbara Sageser asked if there were any changes or additions to the minutes from the February 7, 2018 meeting. Barbara Sageser asked for one correction of the due date for the grant application to be changed to the 31st. The secretary will make the change and Will Harrison made a motion the minutes be accepted, with the changes as discussed. Susan Berger seconded the motion for the minutes to be accepted and it carried unanimously.

EAST AMWELL HISTORICAL SOCIETY UPDATE

Jim Davidson reported the donations just keep coming. Someone from Hopewell Township who was a former antiques dealer has offered to donate items he currently has stored in his buildings. John Allen and Dave Harding have been researching a book found in Northern New Jersey with a notation inside indicating it came from Ringoes. John Allen reported the name in the book seems to lead to the father of the individual may have been located in the 1870 census in East Amwell Township. They are trying to locate their locations on the historic maps. Still more research to be done.

Jim Davidson has a talk this upcoming Friday at Hillbilly Hall and another may be booked for April as it is again sold out.

An accession document was approved at the last Historic Society meeting. They are beginning to update the by-laws of the society.

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QUICK COLLECTION WORK UPDATE

Jeff Kehlert and Barbara Sageser have been working on sorting through the collection. Jeff Kehlert suggested it would make sense to begin sorting out things from the collection that do not relate to East Amwell Township. He suggested it would be more productive to set aside those items not related to East Amwell to speed up the overall project and eliminate to duplicate sorting activities at a later date.

Jim Davidson was asked to comment on the suggestion. He agrees it should reduced and weed out the items that do not relate to East Amwell. Perhaps the Historical Society would like to sort through the items and determine the value.

Frances Gavigan suggested if it is allowed, the items that don't fit into the East Amwell collection could be sold to raise funds for the Clawson House support.

Everyone agreed it makes sense to start sorting out the unrelated items. Since the items were purchased by the Township, it might be necessary to obtain permission from the Township to sell items. After the inventory is up to date the value should be estimated and then the committee should approach the Township for direction.

HISTORIC INVENTORY REVIEW UPDATE

Not a lot to report at this time.

NEW BUSINESS

The secretary will put in writing the request to change the quorum to be presented to the Township Committee for consideration. Someone from the committee will need to make the presentation at the next Township Committee meeting.

Barbara Sageser presented a cassette tape containing an audio interview with Mr. Clawson from 1997 that to date has not been transcribed and preserved in writing. She asked for a motion to entertain using the secretary to complete this task. Frances Gavigan made the motion and Susan Berger seconded. All in favor. If the tape is viable Frances Gavigan asked for it to be digitally copied to be used during the Clawson House tours, or place it on the website for wider use.

CORRESPONDENCE

On-line hosting and support for Past Perfect.

State of New Jersey Department of Transportation Notification

Estimates for the tile (3)

Hunterdon County Chamber of Commerce – Community Day – Saturday June 2, 2018

ANNOUNCEMENT

John Allen mentioned there will be a presentation on the War of 1812 will take place on April 27 at 7:00 PM by Brian Murphy at the municipal building. A suggested \$5 donation is requested from attendees.

Jim Davidson announced the former head of the Hunterdon County Historical Society who lived on top of Rocktown Hill, it was once a Colonial Tavern. She passed away recently and there is going to be an Auction

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at the Stone House on April 28, 2018 at the house. They were collectors of bottles, jars and kitchen items. He expects some of the local Society members will attend.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Barbara Sageser made a motion to open and close to the public. Jim Davidson seconded. No public present. Paul Sterchele made a motion to adjourn. Will Harrison seconded. All in favor.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at approximately 9:00PM. The next meeting will take place on Wednesday, May 2, 2018 at 7:30PM.

/s/ Sharon L. Brighthaupt

Sharon L. Brighthaupt, Recording Secretary

May 2, 2018
