

In Attendance:

Present: Barbara Sageser, Jim Davidson, Pam McGovern, Paul Sterchele, Pauline Serafin, Mary Van Horn

Secretary: Terri Stahl, Clerk

Absent: Jennifer Floyd, Frances Gavigan, Kat Cannelongo, David Harding, Margaret Sullivan,

Statement of Compliance:

In compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act, this meeting was advertised as a regular meeting in the February 7, 2013, issue of the Hunterdon County Democrat. Notice of this meeting was filed with the Township Clerk, posted on the Township bulletin board, and sent to the Hunterdon County Democrat, the Trenton Times, and the Star Ledger on June 20, 2013.

The meeting was called to order at 7:38 p.m.

Approval of May 28, 2013, Minutes

Motion by Paul Sterchele, seconded by Pam McGovern, and carried with two abstentions to approve the minutes as written.

Open to the Public

There were no members of the public present.

Old Business

New Meeting Time: The new secretary, Scott Bauman, was appointed by the Township Committee. His experience and qualifications were noted. He has a conflict with the current meeting night, and some emails were exchanged about another night. Motion by Jim Davidson, seconded by Paul Sterchele, and carried unanimously to notice the meetings for the third Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. Terri Stahl will check with the absent members tomorrow and then advertise.

Hunterdon Expo Report: Barbara Sageser reported on a great expo, held in conjunction with a history of the arts day. The Committee displayed the trifold, provided a map of the township, and a coloring page of Clawson House, among other items; they felt that there was a lot of interest from the public. Participants were referred to the Township's website to locate the Quick Collection of photos and also advised that there would be a bus tour coming up. Other groups participated that day, and details were provided by Barbara Sageser and Jim Davidson.

Design Awards: Jim Davidson suggested nominating the Chamberlin House on Rainbow Hill Road that has exceptional gardens. Barbara Sageser suggested nominating the Lears home on Welisewitz and Wertsville Roads. Paul Sterchele will contact the Lears Family with information on the contest. One of the members suggested that Barbara Sageser's house be nominated; however, there was some discussion about potential conflict and a necessity to get outside judges.

Pauline Serafin arrived at 7:55 p.m.

Clawson House Update: Barbara Sageser spoke about jack-hoisting the basement and remediation with Dave Carlson of Riverside Restorations as the contractor. There is an issue with getting Mr. Carlson the correct NJ Business Registration; Pauline Serafin will help Mr. Carlson obtain the NJ Business Registration.

Remediation cannot be completed without final approval from SHPO, and this cannot be completed without the final drawings from Chris Pickell. Jim Davidson will contact Mr. Pickell about the drawings.

Barbara provided information about outstanding vouchers and about County and State considerations of restoration v. rehabilitation, explaining her completion of a summary provided last month to the County. Some discussion took place on the amount of time and "red tape" involved in the process, with Mary Van Horn noting that the house is "tragically" deteriorating. Barbara also noted storm damage to the roof that needed to be repaired.

New Business

Work Day for Office: Peg Sullivan is retiring in mid-July and will be available after that time to set up the basement office. Pam McGovern volunteered to assist, and Mary Van Horn will also be available on pre-arranged dates. Barbara Sageser spoke about having a wooden box with materials at her house, along with other files from the Historic Preservation Committee, which she uses as active files. Peg Sullivan will coordinate the work with volunteers assisting. Barbara noted that there were a lot of missing records, including information on past design awards. Mary Van Horn felt that the design program could be reconstructed based on other members' past knowledge of the event.

Other items discussed included the following: Barbara Sageser spoke about the accomplishments of the Historic Preservation Committee over the past several years, noting active volunteers and "synergy"; Mary Van Horn felt that the crowning achievement for the Committee would be the completion of Clawson House, and she believed that the public should be aware of the bureaucratic obstacles being encountered on all government levels; Barbara Sageser commended all the volunteers, noting their perseverance and dedication to their committee work; Barbara also noted levels of frustration in dealing with agencies regarding

Clawson House; Pauline Serafin commended Barbara for her efforts and pledged support for her continued efforts.

Planning for Programs: Jim Davidson mentioned the Historical Society's plan for a bus tour for which they can charge; they are also looking at a Christmas house tour. Kat Cannelongo also has another potential project that she'll be bringing forth. Pam McGovern mentioned Ron O'Reilly's offer for a program on Dr. Larison; she will follow up with him to set a date.

Pam McGovern also mentioned an essay contest in Delaware Township, suggesting that East Amwell might want to do something at the school level as a partnership in history education. Jim Davidson said that East Amwell School used to be involved, but the person in charge, Sally Lord, retired, and there was no successor. Jim Davidson agreed to speak with East Amwell Township School Superintendent Ed Stoloski about children's activities.

Barbara Sageser spoke about the request from Marilyn Cummings for historic district information, and some discussion took place about the possibility of producing historic maps of Ringoes, including a self-guided walking tour of Ringoes and/or a fold out map for a historic drive, e.g., cemeteries, historic houses, etc. The base map prepared by Banisch Associates was also mentioned.

Some discussion took place about the proposed Christmas house tour being proposed and the scope of work and need for volunteers involved.

Correspondence Terri Stahl retrieved correspondence from the Historic Preservation folder in the office area. There was nothing significant for the meeting this evening.

Approval of Bills - None

Next Meeting: Tentatively on July 17, 7:30 p.m., to be confirmed with all absent members.

Adjournment: Motion by Pam McGovern, seconded by Paul Sterchele, and carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 p.m.

Teresa R. Stahl, RMC/CMC
Municipal Clerk