

MEETING MINUTES
EAST AMWELL HISTORIC PRESERVATION & HERITAGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
September 18, 2013, East Amwell Municipal Building, 1070 Route 202, Ringoes, NJ

Call to Order

The meeting of the East Amwell Historic Preservation and Heritage Advisory Committee was called to order at 7:37 PM by Chairwoman Barbara Sageser. The following notice was read by Recording Secretary Scott Bauman: *“In compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act, this is a regularly scheduled meeting pursuant to the annual meeting notice as published in the July 4, 2013 issue of the Hunterdon County Democrat, a copy of the agenda for this meeting was forwarded to the Township Clerk’s Office, posted on the municipal bulletin board, and faxed to the Hunterdon County Democrat.”*

2013 Attendance

Committeeperson Class / Term Expires	1/22/13	2/26/13	3/26/13	4/23/13	5/28/13	6/25/13	7/17/13	8/21/13	9/18/13	10/30/13	11/20/13	12/18/13
Kat Cannelongo Class B, 12/31/2013				X			X		n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Jim Davidson (Alt #1) Class A, 12/31/2013		X		X		X	X	X				
David Harding Class B, 12/31/2013		X		X			X	X	X			
Jennifer Floyd (Vice Chair) Class B, 12/31/2014	X	X	X	X			X		X			
Pamela McGovern (Alt #2) Class C, 12/31/2014	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			
Paul Sterchele Class C, 12/31/2014		X		X	X	X	X		X			
Peg Sullivan Class C, 12/31/2014		X		X					X			
Pauline Serafin Class C, 12/31/2015	X				X	X	X	X	X			
Mary Van Horn Class C, 12/31/2015	X			X		X	X	X				
Frances Gavigan Class B, 12/31/2016	X		X	X	X		X	X	X			
Barbara Sageser (Chair) Class A, 12/31/16	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X			

Others present on 9/18/13: Will Harrison, Ron O’Reilley, and HPC Recording Secretary Scott Bauman

Approval of August 21, 2013, Meeting Minutes

After the following amendments:

- Page 2, Old Business #3, last sentence- change to: With the support of the Committee, Chairwoman Sageser asked Secretary Bauman to inform Ms. Cannelongo that the Committee needs copies of the drawings and a record of ~~Dipolito~~ interactions with the SADC and Mr. Dipolito.
- Page 3, Old Business #5, third paragraph, first sentence- change Ms. Van Blake, to Ms. Van Horn.

Ms. Gavigan made a motion, seconded by Ms. McGovern to approve the August 21, 2013, meeting minutes as amended. The motion was unanimously approved by voice vote with abstentions by Vice Chairwoman Floyd, Mr. Sterchele, and Ms. Sullivan.

Open to the Public

Vice Chairwoman Floyd made a motion, seconded by Ms. Gavigan to open the meeting to the public. Will Harrison of 4 Larison Lane, Ringoes introduced himself as a long time resident; he is observing the meeting and is considering applying for the vacant membership. Chairwoman Sageser welcomed Mr. Harrison. Hearing no further comments from the public, Ms. Gavigan made a motion to close the public portion of the meeting; Chairwoman Floyd seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved by voice vote.

Old Business

- Inventory Review. Ms. Gavigan said her home computer has been experiencing virus problems and she has not made a lot of progress since the last meeting.

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2. Clawson House. The structural and basement, structural, and roof repairs are on schedule for the first week in October. Chairwoman Sageser reiterated that they cannot spend beyond the allotted budget. Mr. Bauman has not yet heard back from the SHPO regarding submission of revised floor plans, elevation plans, and specifications. As part of the 2013 Open Space Trust hearing of July 11, 2013, the Township Committee allocated to the Clawson House \$8,500.00 for rehabilitation costs.
3. Design Awards. Ms. Gavigan has a person willing to be a candidate; several members discussed the status of other potential candidates. Chairwoman Sageser said it would be nice to have someone outside the Committee make some remarks regarding the nominations as well. Vice Chairwoman Floyd said she contacted an alternate award manufacturer and that person was unable to match the Erie Landmark Company price- 3 awards for \$450. Ms. Sullivan asked if the names of the awardees are on the actual award; Chairwoman Sageser said they were not. The Committee discussed the benefits of buying additional awards of a discount could be had. Ms. Sullivan made a motion to purchase design awards at an amount to be determined once the discovery of the possibility of a volume discount is known. Ms. Gavigan seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously by voice vote.
4. The Quick Collection. Chairwoman Sageser said there is an interest from a member of the public to view the actual pictures from the collection; she has not returned his email yet but she wanted the Committee to know that there is an interest in not only being able to view the information online, but to also see the collection in person. The township should have a way with dealing with these types of requests with regards to properly dealing with archival materials and storage. Vice Chairwoman Floyd said we don't yet have a sense of what is in the collection, once we make more progress son cataloging and organizing the collection we will then be able to plan accordingly.
5. Budget. Chairwoman Sageser the design awards and the Quick Collection both bring to light the necessity of budgetary planning. Ms. Gavigan asked what bills of ours have been paid and is our records up to date. Chairwoman Sageser asked Mr. Bauman to obtain from the township CFO the amount of the HPC budget that has already been spent, and what funds have been encumbered.
6. Cavalier / Dippolito Farmstead. Chairwoman Sageser told the Committee that she called and emailed Mr. Dippolito and has not yet received reply. Recording Secretary Bauman reported to Chairwoman Sageser that it is his understanding that the Ms. Cannelongo's drawings are hers for her and Mr. Dippolito's use; Chairwoman Sageser said while it would be nice to be able to obtain copies of the drawings, they can be reproduced by preparing new field drawings, she is more interested in the discussions between Mr. Dippolito and the SADC and why the house was denied certification of eligibility.

Ms. Gavigan said she was researching this subject on the SADC's website and came up with meeting minutes from December, 2010. A discussion ensued as to the SADC land preservation requirement concerning multiple residences on a property, and the benefits of disconnecting utilities from a historic structure and considering it a "dry", farm / agricultural use-related structure. With regards to the Dippolito farmstead, Chairwoman Sageser said she could contact several historic consultants to obtain price quotes on researching a single structure. Is the owner willing to convert the structure to an agricultural use? Is the SADC willing to support this? It is the goal of the HPC to keep the SADC from tearing down the house, not to permit the landowner to have three residences on the property. A discussion ensued as to how to protect isolated farmhouses- rural historic designation.

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After further discussion, Ms. Gavigan made a motion to send a letter under Chairwoman Sageser's name to the SADC showing support for the preservation of the Dippolito farmstead, copying Mr. Dippolito, and the SHPO. Ms. Sullivan seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved by voice vote.

7. Office / Computer Filing and Organization: Ms. Sullivan expressed her readiness to begin organizing the historic records in the basement office; she wants to consult with Vice Chairwoman Floyd first. Ms. Sullivan asked to make file cabinet locks part of the next HPC budget.
8. Larison/Dubois Production: Ron O'Reilly of Losey Road distributed a revised task list showing already completed tasks; he asked those present to check to make sure the list is accurate. Mr. O'Reilly and Mr. Davidson are meeting with the high school soon to see if they can use their stage as a venue for the performance- it can handle up to 300 persons. The Hunterdon County Library meeting room can only hold 84 persons and there is no stage. It was agreed to shoot for Sunday, February 23, 2014 for the Sylvia Dubois / Dr. Cornelius Larison theatrical dialog.

Vice Chairwoman Floyd said she noted she was listed as being able to assist with obtaining grants- she was not at the last meeting when she was volunteered and at this time she is unable to assist. She asked what grant funds would be needed for. Mr. O'Reilly said he was not sure if the actors are not being paid there might not be a need for obtaining grant funds.

9. Children's Programs: Ms. McGovern, Ms. Sullivan, and Ms. Serafin agreed to meet prior to the next meeting to discuss how to interest middle school students in local history, such as hosting essay or poster contests. Ms. McGovern said she recently saw in the newspaper that Delaware Township students are doing similar contests involving barns and outbuildings in their township.

Correspondence / Announcements

1. Chairwoman Sageser announced that David Harding has expressed interest in being appointed to the HPC to replace Ms. Cannelongo and to act as the liaison to the Farmland / Open Space Preservation Committee.
2. Chairwoman Sageser said she received an email from Marcia Karrow requesting topics for 2-4 page articles for the 350th Hunterdon County Anniversary- the topic can be a building, event, or historic figure that has historic importance to the municipality.

Adjournment

A motion by Ms. Gavigan, seconded by Vice Chairwoman Floyd to adjourn was unanimously approved by voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 9:28 PM. The next meeting is scheduled for October 30, 2013, at 7:30 PM in the East Amwell Municipal Building.

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ Scott Bauman

Scott Bauman, Recording Secretary
September 30, 2013

MOTION TO APPROVE: David Harding
MOTION SECONDED BY: Paul Sterchele
UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED BY THE COMMITTEE: October 30, 2013