

**JANUARY 21, 2015 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 7:31 PM by Barbara Sageser. 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 December 18, 2014 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 1/21/15

Committee Member (term expires)	1/21/15	2/18/15	3/18/15	4/15/15	5/20/15	6/17/15	7/15/15	8/19/15	9/16/15	10/21/15	11/18/15	12/16/15
Jim Davidson (12//31/17)	7:35											
Frances Gavigan (12/31/16)	X											
Will Harrison (12/31/17)	X											
Suzanne Koeniger (12/31/18)	X											
Barbara Sageser (12/31/16)	X											
Pauline Serafin (12/31/15)	X											
Paul Sterchele (12/31/18)	X											
Peg Sullivan (12/31/18)	X											
Mary Van Horn (12/31/15)												
vacant (12/31/14)												
vacant Alt #3 (12/31/14)												
Charles Van Horn (TC Liaison)												

Others present: Committee Secretary Sharon Brighthaupt,

ELECTION OF CHAIR

Francis Gavigan nominated Barbara Sageser, seconded by Peg Sullivan. All in favor.

ELECTION OF VICE CHAIR

Barbara Sageser nominated Pauline Serafin, seconded by Peg Sullivan. All in favor.

ORDINANCE CREATING COMMITTEE

Barbara Sageser called attention to an Historic Preservation Ordinance in the Township Zoning Code, Chapter 86 adopted by the Township Committee in 1990.

TASKING OF COMMITTEE

East Amwell Code Chapter 86-8, E. (1) through (22) – The entire ordinance is available on line.

GOALS OF THE COMMITTEE

TC Resolution regarding digitizing of township records for discussion.

- Resolution asks the Historic Preservation Committee to focus on the core responsibilities of the committee. The core functions to be focused on by the committee are the historic inventory, the work with the Quick collection, and developing guidelines for work done in the historic districts. A plan for the implementation of the proposed additional scanning of other township records is to be developed, with care given to exploring funding costs, avoiding overuse of the employees of the township, handling of the records, and the planned storage and retrieval of said records. But the core functions are to be given precedence.

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- Francis Gavigan asked to have the record show that when she proposed digitizing of records at the Freeholders Meeting she was not representing the Historic Preservation Committee, but was making the proposal as an individual; she discussed shared services with the county.

Jim Davidson suggested the Historic Preservation Committee focus first on completing the inventory. He asked Francis Gavigan to bring the files she has compiled to date to the next committee meeting. He suggested a sub-committee of two or three individuals be assigned to complete the task.

Francis Gavigan has discs with the spreadsheets. She will make a copy for the committee and hand them off to Barbara Sageser.

Barbara Sageser has the printed documents the Planning Board is currently using from a document prepared by Iona English in 2006.

Jim Davidson made a motion that at the meeting next month (February) a sub-committee be elected to complete the inventory. Pauline Serafin seconded. All in favor.

Peg Sullivan mentioned as a point of interest and clarification. Charles Van Horn, the Chairman of the Clawson Park Advisory Committee cautioned the members to refrain from “reply to all”. It is a violation of the open meeting rule of the Sunshine Act.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Chairwoman Sageser noted there were no members of the public present.

PRESENTATION OF DECEMBER 17, 2014 MEETING MINUTES

Chairwoman Sageser asked for a motion to approve the minutes. Jim Davidson made a motion to approve the minutes seconded by Will Harrison. Pauline Serafin and Paul Sterchele abstained, all others in favor of approving the minutes as submitted.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

EAST AMWELL HISTORICAL SOCIETY UPDATE

Jim Davidson reported the Historical Society has the meeting earlier this month. They have a number of projects planned for 2015. Examples are:

Blacks in the Sourlands – A program presented by some individuals from Hopewell Township, they have had sold out presentations in Hopewell.

Seeking East Amwell Artifacts – Collection has been started and already about a dozen items have been obtained. Of note is an East Amwell dog tag from the 1940’s. Milk bottles, milk caps, 1909 ledger pages from Dilts General Store in Hopewell. The railroad plans and a number of other items.

Even though the Black River and Western Railroad is still in operation, the Historic Society has begun to collect objects related to the Railroad from the 1960’s and 1970’s. The items collected for this project are not included in the Quick Collection. People are looking for items at flea markets, on ebay, and donations are being accepted. The donations include late 1800 clothing, evening gowns and parasols.

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They are looking into the possibility of a grant being offered by Provident Bank that may be available for funding an educational program in 2015.

The Cemetery Tour and House Tour are on the schedule of events. A Garden Tour has also been proposed.

They plan to interview Senior Citizens and keep an audio record of historical events they remember. Suggestions of interviewees should be sent to Jim Davidson. Pauline Serafin has some Seniors in mind she will provide to the group.

CLAWSON HOUSE REHABILITATION UPDATE

Chairwoman Sageser reported nothing new to report at this time.

QUICK COLLECTION UPDATE

Barbara Sageser reports she spoke to Ilona English and invited her to speak to the committee and outline a history on what was done in the past. She agreed and we are arranging a mutually agreeable date and time. The two Cape reports should be reviewed in advance to prepare for asking pertinent questions during the presentation.

Suzanne Koeniger has the book and would like to hold onto it until she has a chance to re-read a few chapters to better prepare herself. It was agreed.

HISTORIC INVENTORY REVIEW UPDATE

To date has not progressed further.

NEW BUSINESS

At this time it was suggested the meeting come to a conclusion as it has been snowing and the roads are getting slippery. All in favor.

CORRESPONDENCE

Former Historic Preservation Committee member Jennie Floyd now resides in an historic township

She has sent us a copy of their inventory to use as a guide

A copy of the demolition ordinance – Chapter XXVI Demolition Delay By-Law

Application for Significant Structure Review – Topsfield Historic Commission

ADJOURNMENT

Chairwoman Sageser declared the meeting adjourned at approximately 8:20PM.

The next Historic Preservation meeting is scheduled on February 18, 2014 at 7:30PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/Sharon Brighthaupt, Secretary