

**EAST AMWELL TOWNSHIP HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMITTEE  
REORGANIZATION MEETING MINUTES  
January 18, 2022-7:30PM**

**CALL TO ORDER & OPEN PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE**

The meeting of the East Amwell Historic Preservation Committee was called to order at 7:32 PM by Renee Stemcovski.

The following statement of compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act was read into the record by Renee Stemcovski: "In compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act, this is a regularly scheduled meeting pursuant to the annual meeting notice as published in the January 28, 2021 issue of the Hunterdon County Democrat, a copy of the agenda for this meeting was forwarded to the Hunterdon County Democrat, filed in the Township Clerk's Office and posted on the bulletin board on January 14, 2022."

**ROLL CALL**

Committee Member (term expires)	1/18/2022	2/15/2022	3/15/2022	4/19/2022	5/17/2022	6/21/2022	7/19/2022	8/16/2022	9/20/2022	10/18/2022	11/15/2022	12/20/2022
<b>Alexis Antracoli- Class B</b> (12/31/2022)	A											
<b>Jenna Casper-Bloom TC Liaison</b> (12/31/2022)	X											
<b>Frances Gavigan- Class B</b> (12/31/2024)	X											
<b>Will Harrison- Class B/Vice-Chair</b> (12/31/2025)	X											
<b>Paul Sterchele- Class C</b> (12/31/2022)	A											
<b>Peg Sullivan- Class C</b> (12/31/2022)	X											
<b>John Seramba- Class C/Chair</b> (12/31/2025)	X											
<b>Renee Stemcovski- Secretary</b> (12/31/2022)	X											

*Others present: John Allen and Kathy Wolfe*

**REVIEW OF AGENDA**

The were no additions to the agenda.

**NEW BUSINESS-REORGANIZATION**

**Nomination and Vote for Chair**

Renee Stemcovski asked for nominations for Chairperson. Will Harrison nominated John Seramba. Hearing no more nominations, a motion to appoint John Seramba as Chair was made by Will Harrison and seconded by Frances Gavigan and was unanimously approved by voice vote.

### **Nomination and Vote for Vice-Chair**

Peg Sullivan nominated Will Harrison. Hearing no more nominations, a motion to appoint Will Harrison as Vice-Chair was made by Peg Sullivan, seconded by Frances Gavigan was unanimously approved by voice vote.

### **Motion to approve Roberts Rules of Order**

A motion was made by Frances Gavigan, seconded by Will Harrison to approve Roberts' Rules of Order with exception of Board recognizing member of the public to provide information out of turn was unanimously approved by voice vote.

### **Motion To Approve 2021 Meeting Schedule- 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of Each Month at 7:30**

**PM**, January 18<sup>th</sup>, February 15<sup>th</sup>, March 15<sup>th</sup>, April 19<sup>th</sup>, May 17<sup>th</sup>, June 21<sup>st</sup>, July 19<sup>th</sup>, August 16<sup>th</sup>, September 20<sup>th</sup>, October 18<sup>th</sup>, November 15<sup>th</sup>, December 20<sup>th</sup> and January 17<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

A motion made by Will Harrison, seconded by Peg Sullivan to approve the meeting schedule was unanimously approved by voice vote.

### **CITIZENS PRIVILEGE TO SPEAK ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA**

A motion made by Frances Gavigan, seconded by Will Harrison to open the floor to the public was unanimously approved. The public had nothing to add at this time. A motion made by Frances Gavigan, seconded by Will Harrison to close the floor to the public was unanimously approved.

### **PRESENTATION OF MINUTES**

#### **October 19, 2021 Minutes**

A motion made by Frances Gavigan, seconded by Peg Sullivan to approve the minutes was conducted by roll call vote:

Jenna Casper-Bloom: Abstain; Frances Gavigan: Yes; Will Harrison: Abstain; Peg Sullivan: Yes; John Seramba: Abstain.

#### **December 21, 2021 Minutes**

A motion made by Will Harrison, seconded by Frances Gavigan to approve the minutes as corrected were unanimously approved.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

#### **East Amwell Historical Society and Museum**

John Seramba congratulated and welcomed Jenna Casper-Bloom to the Township and Historic Preservation Committees. Will Harrison would like to give the museum an official name. John Seramba would like to create a lease between the Historic Preservation Committee, Historical Society, and Township Committee.

## **Historic Preservation Ordinance**

There was discussion that the Historic Preservation Committee (HPC), Ringoes Village Advisory Committee (RVAC), and Planning Board should all collaborate on this project. Will Harrison expressed that a subcommittee should be created, but this will require a quorum change from 3 to 4. John Seramba said that up to 4 additional members could be added. Frances Gavigan suggested having an RVAC liaison attend HPC meetings. Renee Stemcovski mentioned the state has a Certified Local Government program that offers grants for historic preservation projects.

## **NEW BUSINESS- OTHER**

### **Meeting Location**

There was mixed discussion over where the meetings should be held- in the Municipal Building or the museum. The Committee decided to table it for now and revisit next meeting.

### **Historical Society Calendar Donation**

The Purchase Order has been signed and the check has gone to the Historical Society. The calendar will include all public meetings and contact information. The county is helping to print them along with other ephemera. Frances Gavigan explained how calendar is funded and the general operations/events that happen at the Historical Society and museum. John Allen will give a lecture at the museum on January 26<sup>th</sup>. John Seramba explained that the Historic Preservation Committee has always given its extra funds to the Historical Society to help with public history outreach. He also said that he would like to work with the public school and have regular fieldtrips to the museum to educate students on local history.

## **ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION**

### **Goals for 2022**

- Increase interaction between local schools and the Historic Preservation Committee/Historical Society
- Collaborate with The Grange and increase public interaction
- Collaborate with the Planning Board to identify all bridges in need of repair
- Adopt a “Sanity Clause” to create a more civil and flexible environment
- Fix museum’s BILCO door to be weatherproof and fire safe
- Make museum’s basement suitable for storage (or create additional storage)
- Revamp museum’s docent program
- Organize Historic Preservation/Grave Restoration volunteer projects

## **ORAL REPORTS**

No updates at this time.

## **PRESENTATION OF VOUCHERS**

There were no vouchers for approval.

**OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

A motion made by Frances Gavigan, seconded by Will Harrison to open the floor to the public was unanimously approved. The public had nothing to add at this time. A motion made by Frances Gavigan, seconded by Will Harrison to close the floor to the public was unanimously approved.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

There was no correspondence for discussion.

**ADJOURNMENT**

A motion made by Will Harrison, seconded by Frances Gavigan to adjourn the meeting at 9:07pm was unanimously approved by voice vote.

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Renee Stemcovski, Secretary