

**EAST AMWELL TOWNSHIP HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES**

Hybrid- March 15, 2022-7:30PM

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88235430327?pwd=aFB6dHhja3JaS1VIZzMxTThBZmYyQT09>

CALL TO ORDER & OPEN PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE

The meeting of the East Amwell Historic Preservation Committee was called to order at 7:33 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 27, 2022 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 March 11, 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
Alexis Antracoli- Class B (12/31/2022)	A	X	7:37									
Jenna Casper-Bloom TC Liaison (12/31/2022)	X	X	X									
Frances Gavigan- Class B (12/31/2024)	X	7:36	7:37									
Will Harrison- Class B/Vice-Chair (12/31/2025)	X	X	X									
Paul Sterchele- Class C (12/31/2022)	A	X	X									
Peg Sullivan- Class C (12/31/2022)	X	X	X									
John Seramba- Class C/Chair (12/31/2025)	X	X	X									
Renee Stemcovski- Secretary (12/31/2022)	X	X	X									

Others present: Alison Castellano

REVIEW OF AGENDA

The were no additions to the agenda.

CITIZENS PRIVILEGE TO SPEAK ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

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

PRESENTATION OF MINUTES

February 15, 2022 Minutes

A motion made by Will Harrison, seconded by Peg Sullivan to approve the minutes as corrected was unanimously approved.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

East Amwell Historical Society and Museum

Frances Gavigan discussed the calendars printed by the Historical Society and shared the theme for the 2023 calendars. The Historical Society hopes to have next year's calendars ready for distribution by late November.

The Historical Society has published its first newsletter, which is available on its website. Frances Gavigan would like for the Historical Society to repair its relationship with the local schools and get students more involved at the museum. The Historical Society is also working on having a more collaborative relationship with The Grange. The museum is looking for docents. Anyone interested can sign up through the Historical Society's website. The museum needs to improve its security and repair the BILCO doors. A motion made by Will Harrison, seconded by Paul Sterchele to have Jenna Casper-Bloom discuss with the Township Committee about these improvements was unanimously approved. The Historical Society has hired a cleaning company to clean the museum once per month. A lease between the Township and the Historical Society for use of the museum still needs to be created.

Historic Preservation Ordinance

There were no updates.

Meeting Location

The Committee decided to hold the April 19th and October 18th meetings at the museum.

Museum Use Policy

Members of the committee shared their opinions for the Museum Use Policy:

- Alexis Antracoli: Make clear that not all activities are appropriate for a museum.
- Jenna Casper-Bloom: Explained the township's Facilities Use Policy.
- Frances Gavigan: Worried the rules and application will be a deterrent for possible groups. Shared a decision tree she created to determine who would be in charge based on where an activity would be held. Would like the Historical Society to be the sole deciders of which groups can use the museum.
- Will Harrison: Had questions about groups that are too small to have insurance.
- Paul Sterchele: Current draft of the policy is a good foundation.
- Peg Sullivan: Would like an activity table in the museum so current tables are not damaged.

- John Seramba: No food or drinks. East Amwell Township residents only. Groups/events must be related to history. Insurance clause is necessary in order to protect the museum and township from potential lawsuits. Should guarantee that potential events would not conflict with days that the Historical Society has the museum open.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business for discussion.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

There were no items for discussion.

ORAL REPORTS

Jenna Casper-Bloom said that the Township Committee is getting quotes for the burial ground.

PRESENTATION OF VOUCHERS

There were no vouchers for approval.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

A motion made by Frances Gavigan, seconded by Peg Sullivan to open the floor to the public was unanimously approved. Alison Castellano asked a question about what will happen to the contents of the museum's attic when the roof is replaced. She also asked if the Historical Society's website has a link to the Historic Preservation Committee's website. She suggested that when the Museum Use Policy is approved that the Historical Society's website should have a calendar displayed so that the public can see what days/times are available for use. She also explained the township's policy on deposits. She then requested that Museum Use Applications are copied to the Parks & Recreation and Ringoes Village Advisory Committees in addition to the other groups. A motion made by Will Harrison, seconded by Alexis Antracoli 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 Paul Sterchele to adjourn the meeting at 9:10pm was unanimously approved by voice vote.

Renee Stemcovski, Secretary