

HPC April 20,2016

Meeting was called to order about 7:02 by chairperson Christie Wood.

Attending: Carol Crawford-Jones, Sharon Dysart, Marcia Hansen, Roger Mellick, Richard Miller, Beth Sosidka, Dave Sosidka, and Christie Wood.

John Leonard was present and may be interested in joining our Commission. He has no e-mail.

Minutes of the February Meeting were read. Roger made a motion to accept as read; David seconded the motion. Minutes were approved.

Ice House in Raritan Township. Sear Rogan called Christie and wants to save the ice house in front of the Hunterdon Medical Center. The hospital admin. Gave him permission to move it. It's field stone with a slate roof. He's going to check out moving companies. Richard said that the Raritan Twp. Historic Commission should be contacted, and we can offer our verbal support. History, is it worth preservation, - Sean will let us know if he makes any progress. The option is demolition. It has to be demolished prior to its reconstruction. It would have to be placed where it would have been historically accurate.

Recognition Plaques. Several homes have been renovated and perhaps the owners should receive recognition. Carol will check the folder to see if there's a record. There should be a uniform sign with the Town seal that could be awarded. We should drive around and perhaps pick three homes deserving of the recognition.

Dave suggested that we ask the Town to consider changing the font on the seal to something more dignified and in keeping with the integrity of the town.

Allison of the building dept. could supply us with the names of people who are doing an historic renovation. A full list of who has done renovations, and then we can go and look. Marcia will ask Allison for the list. Historic District or homes older than 50 years.

Boarded up house on West Main - Town has no recourse as it's private property. All the Town can do is require the grass to be cut and that there is no safety hazard.

hbonnell@bonnelltaVERN.com. It's still at a standstill. Want to preserve, but there needs to be backing and support. It's in both Union Twp. And Clinton Town. There's no liquor license available in Clinton. The idea was to move it 15 feet. Christie is having lunch with him tomorrow at 12:30, Clean Plate. The current location is a traffic nightmare. Perhaps we could have it designated as historic. Beth thought he could get loans and tax breaks for renovation, but it might cost more due to restrictions.

Dave's Business. He has been putting up pictures but we still have to think of more ways to get the information out to more people. We could put it in the next newsletter. It could go to the non-government town web site. Good response to the postings. Now we need feedback from people. Someone sent old pictures of the Fox residence. Beth asked John how he would know that they exist since he does not have e-mail - decided that we have articles in newspapers. Maybe we could give some photos to restaurants for posting so that more people have access. Commission's page on the Town web site, but there's no opportunity for interaction as on FaceBook. Perhaps another site can publish the pictures so there's a dialog (not permitted on

the Town's web site). Dave suggested that the Commission have its own FB page where people could comment. We make it clear that it's a project of the HPC.

Other business. Plaque about the fire says very little. Now we're to the 125th and there should be a couple of sentences about the historic events. Sharon talked about the sycamore tree that survived the fire. Perhaps there should be a picture attached to the signs.

Roger. Historic preservation but from the LUB he talked about the house that wants a paver stone instead of the sidewalk - it should be brick. There's no ordinance about the materials used for this. If there's a better way. The Historic Preservation Commission can make recommendations or suggestions.

How we get tied in - the LUB will inform us of applications. We then may make suggestions or educate to on authenticity. The Shade Tree commission has encouraged pavers, so we might contact them to suggest that they consider more historically correct suggestions. Our Commission should be receiving applications, so Allison should also copy the HPC. Roger will ask Allison to do this.

Richard - invitation tomorrow at 6 p.m. Is the annual meeting of the Red Mill Museum Village and John Kuhl will speak on HC history.

New exec. Dir. Of the RMMV and the idea of the HPC working on the WWI exhibit. We need to know the budget how much to request - we need to know around September 2016 for it to be put in the budgets.

8:03 Sharon motioned, Richard seconded.