

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
BOROUGH OF CLOSTER, NEW JERSEY

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING

Monday, January 26, 2009, 8:10 p.m.

I. Mr. Douglas Radick, Chairman, called the Regular Monthly Meeting of the Historic Preservation Commission of the Borough of Closter, New Jersey held on Monday, January 26th in the municipal chambers of the Borough Hall to order at 8:10 p.m. He stated that the meeting was being held in compliance with the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act of the State of New Jersey.

II. Mr. Radick invited all persons present to join the Board members in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. The following Board members and professional persons were present at the meeting:

Doug Radick
Irene Stella
Jennifer Rothschild
Jayne Rubenfeld Waldron
Bobbie Bouton Goldberg
Wilson Reimers
Grisha Davida
John Kashwick, Council Liaison (8:50)
Andy Ouzoonian, Planning Board Liaison

Absent: Orlando Tobia

- IV. MINUTES: Minutes of November, 2008 adopted MSC Stella, Rubenfeld-Waldron
- V. ELECTION OF OFFICERS: MSC: Bouton-Goldberg, Rothschild for Radick as Chairman; MSC Reimers, Rubenfeld for Stella as Vice-Chair: MSC: Rubenfeld-Waldron, Bouton-Goldberg for Rothschild as Secretary.
- VI. MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC RE: MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA: No public present
- VII. Correspondence:
 - A. Incoming: (outgoing) Completed Grant Application per Mayor Heymann for Historic Element of the Master Plan, for \$20,000.00; Notice of Grant; Bergen County History Breakfast (in December); Notice of deadline for Bergen Cty. Historic Commendation awards – deadline of March 6th; Save the Date: NJ; estimate for Palisades Tree ; George Chidley regarding non-receipt of CLG report and suspension status; OUTGOING: draft of letter to Building Department regarding condition of Village School; Jennifer read thank you notes to Tim Adriance and to Jonathon Nieto, the Eagle Scout who organized the cemetery clean-up

VII. REPORTS. Master Plan Reexamination Report: Doug and Jennifer attended the December Planning Board meeting and discussed edits of law and fact within sections regarding historic preservation. Discussion. Jennifer explained the importance of the changes. Discussion of communication between Planning Board and Historic Commission. Jennifer suggested to PB that a member of the Historic Commission be included as a member of the master plan reexamination subcommittee in the future.

AWARDS SUBCOMMITTEE: Jayne Rubenfeld-Waldron: No report. Discussion about which houses to nominate. Lobosco, Urso, Bradbury and Cochran are being considered. Awards application are in the packet tonight.

VIII. LIASON REPORTS

PLANNING BD. Mr. Andy Ouzoonian: New member on Board is David Baboo. David Fabrikant is a new alternate.

COUNCIL: Mr. Kashwick: Any courses to be taken should be approved in advance of taking the course and it should be paid by the Borough unless there is not time. Submit application to Borough and have Borough send in the payment. Council is working on the budget. Mr. Radick will be meeting with them next Tuesday. Budget should be introduced by April of this year. What we applied for is in November's minutes.

ZONING: Ms. Rothschild: Has been reappointed for a two-year term on the Zoning Board. .

ENVIRONMENTAL: Ms. Bouton Goldberg. Discussion of Cross-Closter Trail and need for an historical sign at one portion of the trail. She suggests describing the "trotting track" between the A&P and Demarest. Ms. Stella suggests speaking with Mr. D'amico about this.

IMPROVEMENT: Irene Stella: Sign ordinance revision. Asks for input. Currently there is nothing in the ordinance about temporary signs. Want Renaissance area signage rules to be stronger. RadioMasters hasn't been heard yet before the Planning Board. Discussion of HPC's involvement in reviewing sign applications (we could only advise the appropriate authority unless the property is legally designated). Discussion of limiting colors. Anne Brewster, Vicki Amitai, Eric Mattes and Irene Stella are members of the subcommittee reviewing the sign ordinance.

IX. OLD BUSINESS

- A. WEST ST./HARRINGTON AVE. DISTRICT: Discussion of Exhibit being installed at Borough Hall. Ms. Bouton Goldberg is in communication with Mayor Heymann, who is discussing it with Don Farrell (of the Library and Belskie Museum), about which wall on which to place the exhibit in the Council Chambers. There will be a cloth or other background behind the photos. Frames have been purchased with funds from the grant for these photos, which are plain black metal. Mr. Reimers will contribute his expertise in this installation. Ms. Rothschild suggested allowing the library to hold the photocopied materials such as the Ferdon diary and Closter brochures dating back to 1900. Discussion expressing concern that these materials were expensive to produce and would risk being stolen.
- B. CLG Report: Jayne Rubenfeld-Waldron. She expresses that what happened to the 2007 CLG report is unknown. Ms. Stella asks if we are still on suspended status. Ms. Rubenfeld-Waldron states that she spoke with Andrea Tinghey, who is the new CLG liaison, and she states that we are no longer on suspended status. Discussion of where our mail will go within the Borough Hall. It is now on the windowsill in the mayor's office. Ms. Waldron is asking Andrea Tinghey to write a letter to the Commission, cc'd to the mayor.

X. NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Designation Hearing Date: MSC: Bouton-Goldberg, Rothschild for March 23, 2009 for District designation. Discussion: Mr. Reimers suggests that a rehearsal be done of the hearing, e.g. one person give a short talk about advantages of historic preservation, etc. MSC Rothschild, Stella that Rothschild, Bouton Goldberg and rotating members of Radick and Stella be a subcommittee to complete the writings necessary; MSC Rothschild, Radick that Reimers, Davida and Rubenfeld Waldron be a subcommittee to orchestrate the roles in the hearing MSC Radick, Davida to look into hiring outside counsel for the March 23, 2009 hearing. Ms. Stella, Bouton-Goldberg and Rothschild will get the photos and letter together to give to the homeowners. MSC Rubenfeld Waldron, Reimers to accept the proposed resolution with revisions.
- B. Proposal to ask Rose Mitchell to assist us, for \$125. Per meeting attended, and for hourly pay (proposed at \$15/flexible) for other clerical duties that come up from time to time, such as keeping our files, fielding phone calls and e-mails, and setting up the recording equipment for hearings. MSC Rothschild, Reimers to allow Jennifer to ask Rose Mitchell if she is willing to work as our part-time clerk, paid by voucher.
- C. Proposal to buy two copies of the MLUL (Municipal Land Use Law) at \$14/each MSC Rothschild/Davida to purchase these books. Mr. Davida will research on EBAY the availability of the Cox book (summary of legal decisions in land use law) and we will decide on its purchase later.
- D. Mr. Reimers has been asked to speak at the Closter Rotary Club regarding Historic Preservation.
- E. Decorative Historic Street Signs: Ms. Stella will meet with Bill Dahle tomorrow and asks Commissioners for input as to what the signs should look like. Proposed that the sign have a small area saying "Closter Historic District."
- F. Update on Cemetery by Ms. Stella regarding tree work done with Open Space money to remove dead tree and branches by Palisades Tree Service.

XI. ADJOURNMENT: MSC Rubinfeld-Waldron, Bouton-Goldberg to adjourn at 10:10 p.m.
Respectfully submitted, Jennifer Rothschild

Addendum: List of motions passed at the January meeting (MSC means Motion Seconded and Carried):

MSC: Bouton-Goldberg, Rothschild for Radick as Chairman;

MSC: Reimers, Rubinfeld-Waldron for Stella as Vice-Chair;

MSC: Rubinfeld-Waldron, Bouton-Goldberg for Rothschild as Secretary

MSC: Bouton-Goldberg, Rothschild for March 23, 2009 for District designation.

MSC Rothschild, Stella that Rothschild, Bouton Goldberg and rotating members of Radick and Stella be a subcommittee to complete the writings necessary;

MSC Rothschild, Radick that Reimers, Davida and Rubinfeld Waldron be a subcommittee to orchestrate the roles in the hearing

MSC Radick, Davida to look into hiring outside counsel for the March 23, 2009 hearing.

MSC Rubinfeld Waldron, Reimers to accept the proposed resolution with revisions.

MSC Rothschild, Reimers to allow Jennifer to ask Rose Mitchell if she is willing to work as our part-time clerk, paid by voucher.

MSC Rothschild, Davida to order two copies of the Municipal Lane Use Law

MSC Rubinfeld-Waldron, Bouton-Goldberg to adjourn at 10:10 p.m.