

**HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
BOROUGH OF CLOSTER, NEW JERSEY**

(unapproved) MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING

Monday, March 23, 2009, 8:00 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 February 23rd 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 liaisons were present at the meeting:

Doug Radick

Irene Stella

Jennifer Rothschild (left at 9:05)

Jayne Rubenfeld Waldron

Bobbie Bouton Goldberg

Grisha Davida (8:05)

Orlando Tobia. (8:17)

John Kashwick, Council Liaison (8:10)

Andy Ouzoonian, Planning Board Liaison

Absent:

MINUTES: Minutes of February 2009 adopted MSC Stella, Bouton Goldberg w/no changes.

MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC RE: MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA: No public present

IV. Correspondence:

A. Incoming: Wilson Reimers resignation letter; Samuel Dorsky event regarding Marcel Jovine inviting people to the event on March 20th. Ms. Stella, Bouton-Goldberg and Rothschild attended; Discussion; Newsletter; Invitation to county-wide preservation commission meeting on April 1st. B. Outgoing: Letter to council re: request for procedures regarding payment and reimbursement and announcement of designation hearing delay (not available tonight; Ms. Rothschild will e-mail to commissioners) Discussion of past outgoing letter regarding condition of Village School. Ms. Stella suggests using boro website e-mail form.

VII. REPORTS.

AWARDS SUBCOMMITTEE: Jayne Rubenfeld-Waldron: Applications for Cochran and Urso houses were submitted on the Friday deadline; Bill Cahill nominated the committee who did the library exhibit.

HISTORIC STREET SIGNS: Delay in ordering signs due to deliberation over color and additions to the sign at the corner of West and Harrington commemorating Marcel Jovine by a separate banner. Discussion of pole height, etc. Discussion about black being easier to repair (Mr. Davida). Ms. Stella will discuss whether we need three quotes and she and Mr. Radick will decide as to details such as color, diameter of pole and additions to signs, such as Borough Seal.

VIII. LIASON REPORTS:

PLANNING BD. Mr. Andy Ouzoonian: Master Plan Reexamination Report was approved in March and sent to the Council. Discussion of recommended changes on Piermont Road between High Street and Homans Avenue.

COUNCIL: Mr. Kashwick: Budget: will introduce on the first meeting in April. There is no exact amount, but enough to cover the costs of designating the district, including Rose Mitchell.

ZONING: Jennifer Rothschild: No Report. There is nothing pending before the Zoning Board regarding any designated historic properties or properties within our proposed District. Distributed letter regarding the request for more time for permitting of Village School.

ENVIRONMENTAL: Bobbie Bouton-Goldberg: Discussion about building plans in Tenafly to build an apartment complex within 25 feet of a C-1 stream.

IMPROVEMENT: Irene Stella: No report per se. Ms. Stella noted that when she mentions signs that do not conform to Mr. Sinowitz or via the website, they are eradicated. They are proposing awards to three business owners for upkeep and improvements.

Northern Valley Historical Society will be having an event on April 26th (Sunday) at 3 p.m.

IX. OLD BUSINESS

A. WEST ST./HARRINGTON AVE. DISTRICT: (see below)

B. CLG Report: Jayne Rubinfeld-Waldron: We have received the return request receipt showing that they received our report. Discussion about filling vacancies on the board.

C. MLUL: Mr. Radick suggests that we re-submit the order form.

X. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Vacancies on the Board: We have two vacancies; one is an alternate position and the other is an unexpired portion of a four-year term. Suggestions are Tim Adriance and Stephanie Spencer Lee. Ms. Stella suggests that some PR could follow the appointment and in that press we could seek another qualified person. Ms. Bouton-Goldberg suggests that PR could be done right now about Orlando Tobia's joining the Commission.

B. Designation Hearing Date: Postponed. Proposal to have a meeting in the Jovine garden on April 25th at 11 a.m. with a rain date of Sunday, April 26th at 1 p.m. The letter proposed by Ms. Stella should go out to the owners to invite them to this event. Discussion regarding wording of letters to homeowners and wording. Mr. Radick suggests that we include an article about the increased value of historic districts. Ms. Bouton Goldberg and Ms. Rubinfeld Waldron will see what they have in their files. Ms. Rothschild will insert the Commission's collective edits and circulate to the Commission via e-mail. Proposal to hold designation hearing in June discussed.

C. Permanent District Exhibit: Mr. Tobia and Ms. Bouton Goldberg note that the Lions' Club is providing financial and technical assistance to place the mounting background on the walls for the exhibit.

D. Ms. Stella reports about the one-day workshop at Drew University regarding Planning and Zoning advocacy. Discussion about how to approach council and boards – “respond, don't react.” Persuade others rather than pointing out that they are wrong. Always make a fact sheet and know your subject area. Designate a media spokesperson; always use the same person. Make the editor your friend, because the editor writes the editorials. Keep message simple and be prepared. Use the “most endangered” listings to persuade. Limit e-mails. Ms. Rothschild discussed preservation easements and the brochure that was distributed from Preservation New Jersey.

XI. ADJOURNMENT: MSC Rothschild, Davida, to adjourn at 9:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, JHR

Addendum: List of motions passed at the March meeting:

PLANS OTHERWISE MADE BY COMMISSIONERS DURING THE MEETING:

Mr. Davida suggests a contest for drawing an historic house, for the elementary school children, to be displayed at the library. Ms. Stella suggests that the Tenakill school children be encouraged, using our District brochure, to walk the historic district.