

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
BOROUGH OF CLOSTER, NEW JERSEY

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING

Monday,
October 27, 2008
8 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, October 27, 2008 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
Bobbie Bouton Goldberg
Jayne Rubenfeld Waldron
John Kashwick, Council Liaison

Absent: Grisha Davida
Andy Ouzoonian, Planning Board Liaison

IV. MINUTES: Minutes of September 22, 2008 adopted MSC Stella, Reimers

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

VI. Correspondence:

A. Incoming: E-mail from Frederick B. Parsells of Keene, New Hampshire regarding the Cemetery Open House on September 18th, praising the event and expressing concern regarding the condition of Village School. Letter was sent to the Mayor and Council and cc'd to us via e-mail. Discussion. Discussion of upcoming letter to come from District homeowners and how to word it; Mr. Radick has two proposed letters. Ms. Stella suggests keeping the tone light prior to the exhibit. Ms. Bouton Goldberg states that we could invite them both to the exhibit and express the intention to designate the District. Mr. Radick suggests sending out letters in December. Discussion of content of the brochure. Discussion of written aspects of the Exhibit. Ms. Stella reads a draft of her introduction to the Exhibit. Discussion of what to stress, whether preservation or simply history of the District

VII. REPORTS: Bergen County Grant: Bobbie Bouton Goldberg states that in speaking with Janet Strom she was told that we are going to be receiving a grant from the county.

AWARDS SUBCOMMITTEE: Jayne Rubenfeld-Waldron: No report. There hasn't been a meeting recently. Suggests one to three houses from our exhibit be included. Ms. Rothschild suggests that Ms. Bouton Goldberg be nominated for an award creating the library exhibit.

VIII. LIASON REPORTS

PLANNING BD. Mr. Andy Ouzoonian: Absent.

COUNCIL: Mr. Kashwick: Open Space resolution was introduced at last meeting. Final vote will be second meeting in November. Twelve thousand is being granted to the Historic Preservation Commission; four thousand for the cemetery and eight thousand for the District street signs. The bid for an architect specializing in Historic Preservation to evaluate the exterior of Borough Hall was rejected and will not be funded.

ZONING: Ms. Rothschild: No report; nothing pending before Zoning Board of interest to the Commission.

ENVIRONMENTAL: Ms. Bouton Goldberg: The cross-Closter trail was the main topic. Discussion of where the bridge is located. Harvest Festival at MacBain Farm was very successful with about 200 people present.

IMPROVEMENT: Irene Stella: Sign ordinance revision. Will strengthen or change. Ms. Stella had a meeting with Lenny Sinowitz and Vickie Amitai on this topic. Ms. Stella asks that anyone wishing to provide input on this sign ordinance do so. E-mail can be sent to Ms. Stella and she will forward it. (Discussion of awnings and their color and material) Ms. Stella states that there is support for designation of the downtown district with strict guidelines to follow. She also reports that the mayor wants our Commission to obtain grant monies to have a historic element be included in the Master Plan via CLG funds. She asks whether the Commission wants her to pursue asking a professional to do this, e.g. Wayne McCabe. Mr. Wilson and Ms. Bouton-Goldberg endorse this idea.

IX. OLD BUSINESS

- A. WEST ST./HARRINGTON AVE. DISTRICT: Discussion of Library Display and brochure. Meeting at Ms. Rothschild's house where a mock-up of the exhibit is being laid out, will be tomorrow (Tuesday Oct. 28 at 4 p.m.). Discussion of how to present "preservation" to the public. Discussion of P.R. regarding Doug's lecture/slide show. Ms. Stella suggests that we invite people to bring their photos and memorabilia to this event. Ms. Rubinfeld-Waldron states that Northern State Bank wants to sponsor a reception at our event. Ms. Rubinfeld-Waldron is having the press release translated into Korean. Discussion of how to balance slide show with the reception. Ms. Stella states that no program should be more than 40 minutes. We will want them to be able to view the library wall. Mr. Reimers states that we should be tough and effective. Discussion. Naugle/Auryansen Cemetery Open House: Tim Adriance spoke for over two and one-half hours about the history of early settlers and the cemetery, etc. Ms. Stella estimates that 70 people attended. Ms. Rothschild stated that a recording was made of (most of) the event. Ms. Rothschild suggests that a letter go out to Tim Adriance as well. Discussion. It is decided that Mr. Radick should sign the letter; he asks for input as to the content since he did not attend this event.

X. NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Newsletter: Mr. Radick has produced another newsletter that will be ready to go out next week. Ms. Stella asks that something be put in the newsletter regarding Jonathon Nieto and his cemetery clean-up and about the cemetery open house. Ms. Stella discusses mailing lists and how Bev Murray delineated them, and that the list was recently compiled with Mr. Davida's assistance. Ms. Rubinfeld Waldron reports that to mail out to the whole town would be 6.5 cents per unit. Only the Commission can mail to the entire town; the Society would not be allowed to get the mailing list for free since it is not a governmental agency. Three thousand copies of the newsletter would cost \$800.00.
- B. Decorative Historic Street Signs: We now have funds now to do these.
- C. Ms. Rubinfeld-Waldron attended the Northern Valley Historical Society meeting last week and suggests that we mail newsletters to these people. They have been supportive to us. Discussion about what this society is hoping to accomplish (acquire a building in which to store historic artifacts). They also do two presentations per year; the last one was regarding slavery in Bergen county given by Arnold Brown.
- D. Alpine Cemetery dedication of Blue Sign – Bobbie Bouton Goldberg attended and reports that John D. Ferdon, who lived in District, is buried there.

XI. ADJOURNMENT: MSC Rubinfeld-Waldron, Reimers to adjourn at 9:48 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Jennifer Rothschild