



### **THPC Minutes of December 4, 2014**

Chairman David Wall called the meeting to order at 8:05 P.M. and read the Open Public Meetings Act.

#### **Open Public Meetings Act**

In compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act, P.L. 1975, Chapter 231, the notice requirements have been satisfied.

Meeting dates for the year are confirmed at the Annual Meeting, and posted on the public bulletin board in the lobby of the Municipal Center and published in the Press Journal and The Record within the first 10 days of the New Year.

Copies of all revised or additional meeting notices are sent via fax to the Press Journal, The Record, Suburbanite and Northern Valley News and are posted on the public bulletin board in the lobby of the Municipal Center.

#### **Roll Call**

Chairman David Wall  
Rita Heller, Treasurer  
Michael Barone  
Karen Neus  
Mario Turchi  
Paul Stefanowicz, Assistant Borough Historian  
Nicholas Stefanowicz, Student Liaison  
Councilman Max Basch, Council Liaison

Excused: Reno Danese, Donald Merino

**Certificates of Appropriateness** - There were no Certificates of Appropriateness this month.

#### **Approval of Minutes of November 2014**

Motion to approve minutes of November 6, 2014 made by Rita Heller; seconded by Michael Barone. There were no corrections and/or additions. So approved.

### Sign for Sgt. Nicholas Oresko Park

Chairman Wall suggested it might be nice to name the park **ORESKO MEMORIAL GREEN** since there are several parks in Tenafly: Huyler and Froggy to name a few. Mr. Basch said it had a distinctive feature. Question asked if “memorial green” would be on the sign. Suggested sign would be just biographical. Mario Turchi, Graphic Design Artist, showed a “mock-up” of sign with Sgt. Oresko’s picture on it. Karen Neus suggested getting a landscape design architect to give sign a proper setting. Etching could be on both sides. Trees overhead will preserve sign longer. Members liked sign being placed at a slant. Site of sign discussed; several places suggested – near Tenafly Road was suggested due to amount of foot traffic headed into park or perhaps put on a pole and moved later. Mario drew a quick schematic of his suggested placement in the “green”. Alice Rigney said historic sign placed near her home is viewed by at least 6 cars a day with people stopping to read the sign. Karen said members should go to park before January’s meeting.

Four major points members decided on: 1) Sign placement should be slanted; 2) Heading should be: **Sgt. Nicholas Oresko**; 3) Reference to “memorial green” should be in the body of text. Mario said he’d bring three samples of the sign. Rita said that less than \$2,000 was the cost of our blue historical markers and hence that was a reasonable amount.

### Blue Historic Marker at 20 Forest Road

Formal motion to refurbish blue historic marker at 20 Forest Road made by Karen Neus; seconded by Mario Turchi. It will be sent to same people who refurbished historic sign at Tenafly Railroad Station. Cost is \$800. So approved.

### Blue Historic Sign for 168 Serpentine Road

Mr. Atwood bought a tract of land from Peter Huyler and it was named Highwood by the developers. Mr. Atwood moved to Tenafly in 1860’s. George & Peter Huyler purchased the land in anticipation of the railroad coming through Tenafly and then they sold it to developers. Virginia Mosley said Serpentine Road was an early Indian trail. Rita said 168 Serpentine is the key historic house in the district – Design 1 in Atwood’s 1871 Pattern book. Mr. Atwood lived in the house 7 years; Benjamin Franklin Pond, a sea captain, lived in the house 20 years. While traveling from Australia to San Francisco on a ship carrying Mormons, there was a ship wreck and many were saved through the efforts of the Captain. Paul advocated **ATWOOD POND HOUSE**. Karen read wording from another historic house description – “the later recessed addition” and said that was appropriate for this home. Karen will revamp the writing for the sign after getting more information from Paul and Dave.

### Sisson House with Tower at 89 Highwood

Paul Stefanowicz, Assistant Borough Historian, has been speaking informally with the owners. 6-7 years ago the owners thought historic designation was “too restrictive”. Paul said nothing has been changed on the house. He explained a blue sign means celebration of house and one of the homes that Tenafly is proud of. Home could have a historic blue sign, and yet not be designated. Dave added that Mr. Sisson was the President of the railroad.

### Historic Tenafly Railroad Station

Borough of Tenafly receives \$72,000 in rent a year. Borough should be maintaining and

repairing anything at the train station. Max believed the lease will be coming up in a year, and he suggested THPC make a request to Mayor & Council that Borough funds be used for repairs and maintenance, not THPC, but THPC should supervise the repairs to see they are done properly in accordance with a registered historic site. Max said whoever rents it next, repairs are necessary. Rita said train station repairs are THPC's first priority. Dave said Tenafly has to report to T.R. Brown every year about the railroad station. Dave suggested Kevin Tremble, historic home owner and Planning Board Liaison, create a list of costs relating to repairs of the train station and email it to Max to present for the Borough budget.

### **Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn made by Michael Barone; seconded by Karen Neus.

Meeting adjourned at 9:37 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah L. Alvarez, Secretary

Minutes approved January 2015.