



THPC Minutes of February 6, 2014

Chairman David Wall called the meeting to order at 8:15 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:

Present:

Chairman Dave Wall
Dr. Rita Heller
Dr. Don Merino
Michael Barone
Reno Danese
Karen Neus

Also Present:

Council Liaison Max Basch
Historical Liaison Paul Stefanowicz
Student Liaison Nick Stefanowicz
Planning Board Liaison Kevin Tremble

Excused: Mario Turchi

Certificates of Appropriateness – nothing at this time

Members of the Public – no one present

Minutes of January 2014 – not available at this time

Chairman Wall introduced newly-elected Councilman Max Basch, who said he will report back to Mayor & Council of the happenings at HPC.

Final Report to the Public Re: 53 Knickerbocker Road

Chairman Wall asked members to please look at draft of "FINAL REPORT TO THE PUBLIC ON RECOMMENDATION OF LANDMARK STATUS FOR BLOCK 602, LOT 9, ALSO KNOWN AS 53 KNICKERBOCKER ROAD, TENAFLY, NEW JERSEY". Every member present said they had had an opportunity to read it.

Chairman said the owners did not attend the public hearings of December 5, 2013 or January 9, 2014 and had requested an adjournment. The owners did not attend any public hearings even though they requested them, and THPC rescheduled twice. Neighbors of this property were in attendance, but did not object.

At the January 9th, 2014 meeting, a vote by all members present on designation of 53 Knickerbocker Road for landmark status was unanimous.

Chairman Wall said the attorney for owner of 53 Knickerbocker had called Borough Attorney in the afternoon or evening of January 9th. Borough Attorney McClure relayed excuses owner had. Dave said it was his understanding THPC should go forward with the issue of landmark status. Criteria were satisfied. Dave said if attorney, owners or neighbors have objections they should be presented in an open forum. HPC should not get involved in he said/she said. Owner of this property has opted not to participate in the matter. Dave said as Chairman of HPC, he has to write Mayor & Council of Final Report of THPC.

PB Liaison Kevin Tremble said there may be a possible amendment regarding the elm trees, only one left at this time. Mayor & Council can designate elm trees upon recommendation of Superintendent of DPW. The lone remaining tree was probably there when the home was built, criteria for historic landmark tree. Historical Liaison Paul Stefanowicz said he'd never heard of a tree being designated. Don Merino said on Park Street, which has a streetscape designation. Dave said he has not had access to the property, but the Mackays and Lowes were wealthy people who would not have scrimped on landscape. The report focuses on home and ancillary buildings.

Kevin compared 53 Knickerbocker with Cotswold and the 5 Senses statue. The 5 Senses statue was discussed with regards to the landscape in the historical report. Kevin said should the Mackay-Lowe Estate come before the Planning Board, they'd like as much information as possible. Karen Neus asked if there was an upcoming Planning Board hearing regarding this property and what is the next step. Kevin said there was no hearing planned. If the Land Use Ordinance is considered, it would go before the appropriate parties for review. The designation report is looked at.

Rita Heller read from Page 4 of T. Robins Brown's report stating it is a grand residential property. Landscaping is also mentioned. Dave said it would go immediately to Mayor & Council, who will not act until they receive recommendation from the Planning Board.

Don said about the Planning Board that there is an element regarding landscape. Rita said THPC talked about report, but did not delineate in detail about Knickerbocker Road, and that did

not make it into the final report. Kevin said he was satisfied with T.R. Brown's report. THPC did due diligence.

Motion to approve amended version made by Donald Merino; seconded by Karen Neus. So approved.

Kevin and Reno said it was a well-written report.

Elizabeth Cady Stanton Sign

Karen and Mario came up with the final wording for the historic sign. They have two versions of how the sign will look. Only problem is "B" in **Susan B. Anthony**. It doesn't fit correctly. Some suggested S.B. Anthony. Rita said use Susan as generations referred to her as Aunt Susan. This is consistent with every other sign in Tenafly. Finalization of wording is needed as historic sign for Alice Rigney's home at 48 Knoll Road is completed and company is just waiting to ship it with E.C. Stanton's sign. Karen wrote to Erik Kahn, homeowner of E.C. Stanton's house, on October 10, 2013 with regards to wording on the sign and placement. Mr. Kahn approved.

The Tenafly Railroad Station sign will be repainted with a clear coating.

A Separate Letter on 53 Knickerbocker Road

Don spoke regarding the letter to Mayor & Council. HPC has a job to do. They want to be respected for their endeavors by the Mayor & Council. Dave said Mayor & Council must have two meetings first and then it is sent to the Planning Board. Kevin suggested referencing the Land Use Law; responsibility of HPC is to be an advocate. Kevin said reference Municipal Land Use 40:55D-109(f).

Donald Merino said to amend Final Report to add facts about the lack of an appearance by the owners.

Budget

MOTION MADE BY DON MERINO; SECONDED BY RENO DANESE THAT CHAIRMAN WALL SPEND UP TO \$500 TO CONSULT WITH MARY DELANY KRUGMAN, INC. SO APPROVED.

Rita, as Treasurer of HPC, said all of the funds of the 2013 budget were spent and HPC dipped into the 2014 budget using a few hundred dollars for necessary items.

Mayor & Council have approved HPC having a student liaison and have appointed Nicholas Stefanowicz.

MOTION TO ACCEPT APPOINTMENT OF NICHOLAS STEFANOWICZ MADE BY DON MERINO; SECONDED BY RENO DANESE. SO APPROVED.

Kevin said an ordinance had been passed for Nick to be the liaison.

REPLACEMENT OF SIGNS AT ROOSEVELT COMMONS

Kevin spoke about Reno's project to replace the signs and information regarding President

Theodore Roosevelt at the area where WELCOME TO THE ROOSEVELT COMMONS and the ROOSEVELT MONUMENT. Previous signs were put up in 2000. Rita, Reno and Mario discussed where the replacement signs could be placed so there was less deterioration.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn made by Reno Danese; seconded by Michael Barone. So approved.

Meeting adjourned at 10:05 PM

Respectfully submitted, Deborah L. Alvarez, Secretary

Approved at March meeting.