



100 RIVEREDGE ROAD TENAFLY, NEW JERSEY 07670

THPC Minutes of July 10, 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.

PRESENT:

Chairman Dave Wall  
Rita Heller, Treasurer  
Michael Barone  
Karen Neus  
Mario Turchi

EXCUSED: Reno Danese

ALSO PRESENT:

Max Basch, Mayor & Council Liaison  
Kevin Tremble, Planning Board Liaison  
Nicholas Stefanowicz, Student Liaison

MEMBERS OF PUBLIC:

Alice Rigney, Borough Historian  
Paul Stefanowicz, Assistant Borough Historian  
Mark Feldman  
Martha Kerge  
Bruce Baker

Chairman Dave Wall approved two Certificates of Appropriateness:

1. 78 Magnolia Avenue - for a generator to be placed at rear of property. Front of home is early 1920's architecture.
2. 173 Serpentine Road – paint colors. Home will be repainted in same colors.

Alice Rigney, Borough Historian, spoke against proposed pavilion for Huyler Park. Huyler Park is one-half acre memorial park. Alice was instrumental in raising funds to rebuild bandstand there, at no cost to Borough or residents. It has been enjoyed by many these past four years.

Mark Feldman said Chamber of Commerce raised \$17,000; Paul Keyes, no longer a Tenafly resident, redesigned Huyler Park. Volunteers cleaned park, grants were received from Bergen County.

Martha Kerge added in mid-1990's an effort was made by Chamber of Commerce to have a gazebo built in Huyler Park; they had a design for it. Funds were collected privately, there were fundraisers, but money never spent. Marge spoke to Lissette asking if there were minutes from these meetings. Martha thought Paul Keyes generated the plan for the construction.

Kevin Tremble, Planning Board Liaison to THPC, said this was discussed last evening at Planning Board, but it was a non-agenda item. Members discussed the issue and vote taken in support of the pavilion. 3 – Nay/Rest – Yeas. Huyler Park is part of Tenafly Railroad District in Tenafly's Master Plan.

Bruce Baker asked about maintenance. He has been a member of the Parks Commission. Alice Rigney got three bids for construction of bandstand, came before Mayor & Council, and citizens wanted it to happen. For pavilion project:

1. \$100,000 grant received - \$50,000 from Tenafly
2. \$17,000 received from Chamber of Commerce
3. \$3000 to write grant
4. \$70,000 coming from coffers from Tenafly

Martha said Huyler Park has come to be a picture of life in Tenafly. Memorial bushes are placed there; concerts are held there, site of war monument, holiday decorations.

What is the hurry on the vote? Bandstand paid for by private donations. There is no outcry for a gazebo, residents should be consulted.

Max said Borough Administrator wants \$3,000 for preparing complicated grant. Mayor & Council didn't know it was 50/50 project. Someone sent Planning Board a letter about "Green Acres Grant". Public hearing is required re: Green Acres Grant. Kevin said two programs are involved here. DEP announced statewide in May 2014 there was \$100 million available for grants, but letters of support must accompany grant. Kevin added not enough information has been received to make a determination. Mario asked who wants this pavilion. Martha asked when is public hearing. Kevin said \$3,000 has already been appropriated; Mayor & Council approved it 5-1. Max said there are better ways to spend money than on a pavilion.

Dave suggested grand stand speaker system should be fixed. Alice asked Jewel about lights for the bandstand; Jewel indicated it couldn't be wired. Bruce spoke with head of Chamber of Commerce, who indicated they will not take a stand at this time.

Karen said in the Green Acres criteria placement of pavilion would be about 50 yards from Tenafly Railroad Station. Can THPC make a resolution against this project? Dave asked if THPC takes position against project, will it kill it. Mike asked why project isn't coming before THPC for Certificate of Appropriateness. Tenafly Railroad Station should be a museum, not a business.

Paul Stefanowicz, Assistant Borough Historian, said Borough Administrator said they're using plans from four years ago. Rita indicated a half-acre park can't accommodate another structure. Chairman Wall said he was impressed by everyone's statements tonight. Max said don't use money for pavilion, spend \$3,000 for Roosevelt Commons and other historic venues needing repair. THPC would support other repairs to historic works. Dave asked if Borough Historian and Assistant Borough Historian would write something. It is necessary for THPC to be a force of opposition. Kevin added all parks in Tenafly already restricted. He agrees with Max. It will have an impact on Tenafly Railroad site. Rita had photos of railroad station; tenant pays \$6,000/month. That money could be spent on repairs to the station. Rita asked if it would be better to endorse what Alice and Paul say. Max said as a public entity part of the \$72,000 received in rent should be used to maintain the station. It needs to be taken care of.

**Motion that THPC opposes the construction of a pavilion or any similar structures in Huyler Park. The Tenafly Railroad Station is the signature landmark in our community. Views from westbound Hillside Avenue and from County Road is not to be obstructed or compromised in any way made by Michael Barone; seconded by Rita Heller. So approved.**

Dave asked if any member wished to be present at the 7/15 meeting of the Mayor & Council; that way it would get into the official record.

Round-about going to be renamed in memory of Sgt. Nicholas Oresko. Mayor requested THPC design a sign for there. Sgt. Oresko was a WWII veteran and former Grand Marshall of parade. Karen thinks a blue marker sign would be more befitting. Dave said a metal sign indicating ORESKO PARK, named for Sgt. Nicholas Oresko, Congressional Medal of Honor recipient. Karen asked should a military insignia be placed on sign. Dave asked Paul to check on precise number of years Sgt. Oresko lived in Tenafly.

Mario reported on home at 10 Huyler Avenue. Realtor says there's a buyer; property was to have been maintained; it's going to be a tear down soon if not maintained better. Mold is in basement. Kevin added if on landmark status, it would be easier, Tenafly has maintenance of property rules, someone should go after the bank that owns it. Dave suggested a permit to demolish with condition that plans include a new Victorian house using historic Atwood window. Mario said no one has said demolition. Recourse: house is in violation of Tenafly property maintenance codes and other special codes. THPC should tell Code Enforcing Office and he should give report to THPC.

Chairman wrote letter to thank Mr. Robert Culvert and DPW for their excellent work in installing three blue signs: Railroad Station, Elizabeth Cady Stanton house and Sickles-Melbourne House, plus two story boards in Roosevelt Commons.

New member for THPC is needed. Any suggestions?

Mike had report from Tenafly Nature Center.

Meeting adjourned at 10:20 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah L. Alvarez, Secretary

**MINUTES APPROVED JANUARY 2015**