



THPC Minutes of April 9, 2015

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:

Present: Chairman Dave Wall
Michael Barone
Richard Bennett
Reno Danese
Rita Heller
Mario Turchi

Excused: Karen Neus

Also Present: Paul Stefanowicz, Mayor's Liaison
Nicholas Stefanowicz, Student Liaison
Kevin Tremble, Planning Board Liaison

Member of the Public: Jerry O'Brien

Motion to open meeting to the public made by Mario Turchi; seconded by Rita Heller.
So approved.

Certificates of Appropriateness

Mr. O'Brien, realtor and builder, brought architectural drawings of the type home he is hoping to build on the piece of property, 75 x 160, to be purchased from Dr. & Mrs. Docktor, owners of the Christie-Parsels House, 195 Jefferson Avenue, which has had three additions. Jerry O'Brien had samples of Eldorado stone in cobblestone color. He is planning to have black shutters on windows, carriage style doors. Planning Board allows up to 37%, this will be 30% coverage. It will have the requested 48 foot set back with a 75 foot back yard, 27.9 feet high. Christie-Parsels House is 48 feet from curb. Kevin asked where shadows fall, does it have visual compatibility.

Jerry said he has met the four conditions requested by THPC and discussed at March's Planning Board:

1. Move proposed home back to 48'
2. Existing brownstone from wall are not to be destroyed
3. Hemlocks are to be removed
4. Any artifacts are to be saved and shown to THPC

Planning Board attorney indicated the final approval is with HPC. Mr. O'Brien stated that he has complied with HPC requests. Discussion ensued as to Mr. O'Brien's submission of C/A to Building Department, which Mr. O'Brien himself had filled out and submitted. After much discussion, Chairman found C/A amongst his paperwork. Chairman indicated he has so many days to determine if it is a major or minor application. It was decided there will be a special meeting on Thursday, April 23 to continue this application. Kevin said Mr. O'Brien should get proper advice and have site plans at the April 23rd meeting. Mr. O'Brien indicated that he would have to pay his architect to get additional elevations of the house. Mario suggested Mr. O'Brien take photographs of existing houses he's already built. Mr. O'Brien did have some photos with him and left them with members. Kevin wants exact elevation. Rita suggested he copy something from an Atwood house and incorporate it into the design of the new home, which would enhance the historic character.

Motion to close meeting to public made by Chairman Wall; seconded by Rita Heller. So approved.

Annual Ethics Form

Dave told members they must file their Annual Census Paper by April 30th.

Dinner for Don Merino

Rita said there will be about 30 people in attendance to share in the festivities of honoring Dr. Don Merino at Knickerbocker Country Club commencing at 6:30 P.M. on Wednesday, April 15th.

Planning Board Meeting of March 23, 2015 Results

1. Discussion regarding 195 Jefferson
2. 88 Norman Place – Dave filled out Planning Board report before HPC met
3. 50 Knickerbocker – this is the home with eight pillars. It was hoped that HPC could consider future of this house, but it appears it will be torn down. Kevin said this was the type of home that could have been saved, just by sliding it forward. Everyone's hands are tied in that regard as there are no conditions; same for home at 88 Norman, which has a stone lower exterior, but is not on Master Plan. The home could have been easily moved forward, as property is flat.

May is THPC Library Display Month

Dave would like to show items regarding Camp Merritt or military memorabilia; perhaps Glenn Miller items as he lived at Cotswold. Unfortunately, Library display case not secure enough to show Sgt. Nicholas Oresko's Congressional Medal of Honor.

Valley Hotel – former Charlie Brown Restaurant

Dave has the plans for proposed project for this building, which was supposed to be before Tenafly Planning Board last evening. Kevin said it will now come before Planning Board on May 13th. Proposed project is a permitted use. People hoping to have a child care facility there. No proper notice was given, thus the postponement. People are envisioning 188 children in attendance; they'll bring their architect, State license required. Traffic is a major concern, they'll have a special traffic person and will need variances. Dave is recommending original part of building be preserved. Paul added the foot print is not much different now, perhaps they could make front of building the entrance. Susan B. Anthony and Elizabeth Cady Stanton entered Valley Hotel through those front doors. They attempted to vote, but were turned away. Women owning property at that time had to pay taxes at the hotel. Mike asked what are State safety requirements for child care. Richard said building would have to be thoroughly remodeled and second floor cannot be used. Paul said residents of Tenafly do not want hotel taken down. Dave said perhaps tear down addition, but leave front portion, which is square and in the Master Plan. Paul added the history extends beyond Tenafly; it is national and Women's Movement. Paul said HPC should pursue path to preserve building. May 13 is demolition hearing. Mike suggested just putting up a plaque, as building is falling apart. Richard asked Kevin how would you deny demolition approval. Kevin said day care center is permitted use in New Jersey under Municipal Land Use Law. Kevin said Elizabeth lived in Tenafly for 20 years. Mario asked what is original on building, and at what point can you say Elizabeth voted here. Dave asked how would you compare what you can see to the 1876 Atlas. It seems to be the same shape and footprint; same steps out front. Addition built in 1911. Paul has picture from 1930's and it looks like it does now. There would be interest from feminists and Elizabeth/Susan followers. Dave asked Richard if he thought the columns are original; they look like picture of 2nd Empire house with one story loggia. Paul said this was built in 1870 as a saloon and inn; people who built Highwood House lived there. HPC next meeting is May 7th. Paul will report to Mayor & Council that HPC members discussed Valley Hotel

in detail. Dave will write a one page report telling story about Elizabeth wanting to vote, and recommend that front of building be maintained. Rita mentioned putting up a blue historical sign, but Mario said road might be too busy for someone to stop and take notice, perhaps design a mini-plaza with a sign.

Sgt. Nicholas Oresko Sign

Mario, Dave and Karen met with the attorney that was a friend of Sgt. Oresko, who relayed stories of Sgt. Oresko. He had the Medal of Honor and suggested scraping a bit of the Medal, which is bronze, into the Sgt. Oresko sign. A picture of him could be laser etched. A bas relief would cost \$600-\$800 but lasts longer. Medal could be under glass in library. He likes what HPC is doing. Mario has been in touch with John Lange, a landscape architect from Sprung Memorial. Mario submitted a cost of \$10,000 to Mayor & Council, but members suggested it should be more money. Mayor & Council will set aside money and add 15% contingency. Next order of business is to get approval of funds.

Minutes of March 2015 – not available for approval at this time

Elizabeth Cady Stanton/Susan B. Anthony Statues – Huyler Park

Nick has joined the Commission working on this endeavor. Huyler Park seems to be the ideal place where the statues should be placed. Dave foresees a bench with each woman at either end and people being able to sit in between them. Elizabeth's great, great granddaughter would like the statues standing. Dave and Nick suggested the spot where the pavilion was to be. Stanton's great, great granddaughter, Coline Jenkins, recently offered to donate \$1,750 toward the Stanton/Anthony statues project. Mario said he'd join the discussion group.

Tenafly Railroad Station

Mike postponed meeting with architect and asked for revised submission re: HPC submission to him. Station needs countless hours of repair. HPC members need to set a date and meet at the station to review work needed. Mike contacted Joann Tall, Architectural Historian, **Kamen Tall Architects, 4 Liberty Street, Ossining, NY 10562, 914-923-4032**, who has done work on railroad stations. He wrote to her, she did a road trip here, proposed and recommended people, took photos and gave an \$18,000 proposal. Richard said that \$18,000 was not out of the question. Mike said Tenafly is collecting rent from this building, but no money is going back into it for repairs. \$18,000 is not a lot to hire someone to be gatekeeper. There are leaks, and slate shingles missing. Richard had her report. Kevin has electronic files, the plans are digital and thinks cost more like \$5,000. Mario has maintenance manual. Mike said no one has been doing anything. Dave has the easement report and CD from 1994.

Adjournment at 10:55 P.M. -- Motion made by all to adjourn. So approved.

Respectfully submitted, Deborah L. Alvarez