



THPC Minutes of January 7, 2016

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
Vice-Chairman Mario Turchi
Treasurer Rita Heller
Secretary Karen Neus
Reno Danese
Richard Bennett
Paul Stefanowicz, Mayor's Liaison
Nick Stefanowicz, Student Liaison

Excused: Michael Barone

Member of the Public

Eugene M. Peters, President
E.M. Peters & Co., Inc.
10 Lancaster Road
Tenaflly, NJ 07670

Certificates of Appropriateness - nothing at this time

Swearing In

Chairman Wall swore in Mario Turchi and Sereno Danese, 1st Alternate, to begin their new terms.

Election of Officers

Reno nominated Dave Wall for Chairman. Dave thanked Reno, but refused the nomination. Rita Heller nominated Karen Neus for Chairman; seconded by Mario Turchi. So approved.

Rita acknowledged to David Wall, with gratitude, for his leadership, his idea of the Guidelines Booklet and working with T.R. Brown to that end, for his concept of the CIRCA plaques, guided tours of historic homes and areas in Tenafly, lectures and research of numerous reports, his legal perspective to the Commission, and for work on Lyman House at 170 Thatcher Road.

Karen nominated to retain Rita Heller at Treasurer; seconded by Richard Bennett, as Rita's been doing this for 20 years. Her knowledge of budget, line item numbers and relationship with Finance Department are wonderful. So approved.

Dave nominated Mario Turchi as Vice-Chairman; seconded by Karen Neus. So approved. Dave praised Mario for his work with Certificates of Authenticity, and his knowledge in those regards.

(At this point in the meeting, newly-elected Chairman Karen Neus requested former Chairman David Wall continuing chairing this evening's meeting.)

Discussion followed concerning whether it is the Chairman or HPC Secretary that decides if C/A is major or minor. Paul said the Chair should determine major or minor application. Karen and Richard will discuss it and figure out a procedure to follow. Karen added the Zoning Official determines a major or minor application. If a major application, notice has to be given to neighbors within 200 feet. It is the Secretary that decides if application is complete and proper exhibits are attached. Mario asked if C/A is on HPC web side. Note should indicate to those coming before HPC that they bring everything with them the first time to help expedite their application. Check list should be updated at this time, similar to filling out a college application, for applicant's use.

Motion to nominate Richard Bennett as Secretary made and approved by all.

Remarks of Citizens

Mr. Eugene Peters introduced himself. He has been a resident of Tenafly since 1962; worked with FBI and CIA, and friend of 2-star general. Mr. Peters would be interested in becoming a member of HPC. Dave said number is 7 now, could be raised to 9 at pleasure of Mayor & Council. Rita invited Mr. Peters to attend the meetings held on first Thursday of each month except for August.

Sgt. Oresko Monument

Karen said at this time there is no Planning Board Liaison to HPC. Mayor Ruskin will get in touch with Estate Attorney for Sgt. Oresko, wanting the monument and park work to be completed as soon as possible. Rita asked what the role of the attorney is. Paul said there is no money forthcoming from the estate. Mario added a budget for landscaping was created,

Mayor & Council need to find the funds and everyone pull together to complete this. Paul suggested Karen go to Mayor & Council offering to get everything started; put the order in for the bas relief monument, then get landscaping design done. Rita added the Mayor is committed to the oval. Paul said landscaping will be whatever money Borough Administrator can find. Mario added he only has to make the call to monument man, who in turn will call Borough Administrator. Mario said this man has landscape architect background. Mario will call and ask if cost needs to be updated, does he have an idea regarding landscaping. Dave suggested Mario send email to Mayor saying HPC is ready to get started. If we don't hear from Mayor & Council, we will go forward now with this project. HPC looking at Memorial Day for this to happen. Estate Attorney says he will have 1,000 veterans here in attendance.

Unlandmarked Properties

Dave said we are to study and send out by certified mail on two prospective properties (Church of the Atonement and Everett Dunn House/20 Forest Road) and give a report.

T. Robins Brown not able to do reports before this very meeting due to illness. Study will be available at February or March meeting. HPC will then notify owners that reports are done. Karen asked if they would be completed by February's meeting, and then public hearing on March 1st. Dave read Ordinance to members. Rita asked if all four were being done at once. Dave said three are related: 2 Sisson houses and Church of the Atonement; fourth property the owners empathetically want report done. Karen suggested waiting to see what T.R. Brown gets done.

Training for HPC Members

Karen said she contacted Mary Krugman. Mary's price is \$5,000 for three hours in morning; three hours in afternoon on a Saturday. Questions asked as to what HPC wants training on. Suggestions involved Elizabeth Cady Stanton House and 172 Serpentine Road; what to look for on Certificate of Appropriateness; should a list be made of what homes to go over; should training be three hours two Saturdays in a row; should Tenafly HPC share with Closter in order to split cost, as THPC is a small group. Mary prepares the material; her home is in Montclair and she will bring someone with her. Karen asked what members' biggest questions and concerns are. Reno asked why this training class wasn't done years ago; the list of properties are very important. Mario said prioritize the list; take Elizabeth Cady Stanton house plans and see how Mary goes through the drawings; what does Mary think about the breakfast nook. We need an example and this is a recent case to discuss. Karen spoke about the National Trust Meeting she attended in Washington, D.C. back in November. Richard asked Karen what kind of funding does Bergen County have. Treasurer Rita Heller has asked for significant increase in HPC budget. Paul said budget meetings are February 6, 16 and 20. He suggested HPC get 15-20 minutes to speak and defend budget increase. February 13-15 is a holiday. Two important things are designations and training. Everyone agreed on a Saturday and said three hours would be good; don't include Closter, just THPC members this time.

Sunshine Law

Dave said topics should be clarified under Sunshine Law – what can be described and discussed in emails amongst members; how many can be on a subcommittee; what is allowable.

Budget – Rita Heller/Treasurer

Mayor scolding HPC these past two years for not getting more done, but HPC needs more money to work with. ECS will be a great case study as will 172 Serpentine Road.

Mario said do all the paperwork electronically using PDF. Dave explained process and added that Building Department has copies and not much space for all the plans, etc.

Buzzoni farm tools

Farm was on W. Mahan Street off of Grove. Mrs. Buzzoni is still alive. Her daughter has farm tools she'd like to donate somewhere – a sickle and part of a tractor. Dave said HPC doesn't have a museum and suggested daughter contact Closter as Buzzoni Park is there. Dave will write to New Bridge Landing or perhaps put the items in Garden Room at Davis-Johnson Park or ask the County. Karen asked Dave to have daughter take photographs of the items. Paul said he would do that. Karen said yes, we want the tools and requested Paul get the oral history of them.

Letter of 12/8/2015 from Alice Renner Rigney

Dave shared Alice's letter regarding her thoughts on saving Mackay Estate and Sisson Houses.

Approval of Minutes

Motion made and approved regarding minutes of September 2015 and December 2015.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn made and approved.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 9:50 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah L. Alvarez
Secretary/Transcriber

MINUTES APPROVED MAY 5, 2016