



THPC Minutes of July 8, 2010

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, Rita Heller, Paul Stefanowicz, Mario Turchi
Excused: Don Merino, Karen Neus, Liz Shanks

Minutes of June 2010 Approval

Motion to approve minutes made by Paul Stefanowicz; seconded by Mario Turchi. So carried.

Motion to Open Meeting to Public

Motion to open meeting made by Chairman Wall; seconded by Mario Turchi. So carried.

Mr. David Jefferson of David Jefferson Design, 657 Main Street, Sparkill, NY 10976 @ 917-974/7042 requested to speak to the Members. Mr. Jefferson is designer for Palmer House. Mr. Palmer was first mayor of Tenafly. Home is listed in Atwood's Modern American Homestead. It is chateau roof cottage @ 183 Serpentine Road. McCarthys are the owners. Porch now has steel columns supporting building. Mr. Jefferson would like to bring back some detail, tile the floor, and make it more formal. It now is covered with indoor/outdoor carpet, but wood floor is underneath. He would like to panel lower section, columns will be 18 inches wide, hand rail on older homes is lower than 36 inches. Some older home's railing are 30 inches or no hand rails at all. Rita said the two recent previous

owners did well know the significance of the home. It is not known who put up steel columns. Mario asked if porch is concrete. Mr. Jefferson said he's doing the home a section at a time. Mario asked if owners want the "spirit" of the home or as it was? Mr. Jefferson said "spirit". Dave explained process is: when you get the design together, go to Building Department, fill out form for C/A listing construction materials, colors, etc. Dave said it would probably be a minor application. Dave and Frank review the application and then give their approvals. Dave passed around pages for comments from other members. It was noted the sunburst over the porch will be removed. It is not on the original. Designer Atwood did staggered effect. Rita said in WWII it was a two-family home. Mario said he had an architectural issue: would like straighter detail of curve frieze and fascia board. Dave said house was from before 1876, has stone floor. Mr. Jefferson said it is diagonal slate with interest. Mr. Jefferson will take a look at porch. At Mario's home, the side porch was concrete, but now has wood over it.

(At this point in the meeting, Planning Board Liaison Member Kevin Tremble joined the meeting.)

Kevin Tremble said they make a modern material like recycled wood or wood-like material for porches. Porch surface will not be visible from Serpentine, but perhaps East Hill Court. Mario didn't find any tongue and groove for his project. Dave will get final proposed diagram. Mr. Jefferson showed diagram joining columns on porch and asked if steps can be added to right side of porch leading to garden. Dave asked if it will throw off the look. Mario said you're so close to original design, do you want only two columns. Mario said posts that go down to grass, should be pressure-treated wood which moves around a bit and to pick pieces with certain grain. Kevin said bushes should be 18 inches away from porch. The fan or sunburst went on home just before district was declared historical. Kevin said Building Department has historic color chart in Cape May binder.

Dave Wall can approve a minor application conditionally, and applicant, if he chooses, can wait to select color. Mario asked if Mr. Jefferson could scan photocopy for HPC as it is one they've not seen before.

Paul said he will look for Atwood's Modern American Homesteads & Country & Suburban Houses in Rare Book websites. Rita added that we could pay for this book from our Historic Preservation Trust Fund in which we have a few hundred dollars.

Cotswold Fountain Discussion

Fountain has been identified as **FIVE SENSES**: Touch – figure holding ball; Smell – flowers; Taste – grapes; Hearing – conch; Sight – mirror. Reason 6/24 meeting was cancelled is attorneys are entering a settlement involving donation of fountain to Borough of Tenafly. Fountain will remain where it is. A brochure of ENID YANDELL's works was found by Agnes, Tenafly Reference Librarian, from University of Rochester. Dave said this applicant's attorney for C/A waives 45-day time period for making of decision by HPC.

Approved Minor Applications for Certificates of Appropriateness

1. Ravine Road – generator in back yard
2. David-Johnson Park
3. 3 East Hill Court – a fence made of black aluminum with condition that some bushes and trees would be placed around the fence. Blue stone sidewalk on Serpentine will not be disturbed. Mario said fence will be black and go from side yard on corner, half way to front.

Kevin offered some advice and Paul found similar black iron fence in Walker's 1876 book. Paul said that block of Serpentine is longest flagstone sidewalk in all of Tenafly. Kevin said he suggested to Mayor and Council that they take flagstone from other areas to repair sidewalks. Paul said there are many flagstones in Davis-Johnson Park just sitting there.

Presbyterian Church of Tenafly wanted C/A, but Dave denied white vinyl fence near chapel. Martha Kerge sent a letter to ask for approval. Questions raised: what if fence is boardwalk type in imitation gray. Church officials are thinking of renting out house and would like to give that property some privacy. Dave said he favors a pressurized, unpainted wooden fence. What's preferable – black iron-like on other side of chapel perhaps. Dave said there is a sidewalk between chapel and house. Rita asked what choices are. Dave said black aluminum, boardwalk or pressurized, treated wood.

HPC said house at Magnolia/Highwood required unpainted wooden fence, it is now gray. Kevin said he has a book on fences. Mario said go to Emerson, pick unpainted wood or black aluminum. Kevin said black aluminum in front. Dave said HPC can apply more restrictive conditions: material, height, openness, color, significance to streetscape.

Treasurer's Report

Rita said report was not available, but Kevin said budget had just passed. Rita asked Mario if he was writing an article for newsletter due end of September. Mario said yes.

Miscellaneous

Kevin thanked Mario for his work on the signs. Kevin requested that THPC minutes be changed to reflect that he is Planning Board Liaison. Kevin reported on designation report by Virginia Stowe: "Cotswold – The Herbert Coppel Estate" returned to HPC, part of Historic Designation Report dated 7/15/2002" and park Street Historic District Designation Report.

91 WEST CLINTON AVENUE (Tenafly Montessori) going before Planning Board. Dave looked at property. He has indicated his willingness to approve new stairway required by Tenafly and State of New Jersey for annex building: new door, expanded dormer,

use of second floor for child care. Kevin asked if HPC has any comments. Dave said he approved the C/A. Items are required by State of New Jersey and Dave doesn't see any difficulty.

Tenafly Planning Board refers to HPC for comments, site was inspected by Chair, he has approved C/A regarding rear of modern building, which is required by State and the tree does mitigate the view.

Kevin spoke about 44 Franklin Street. He is speaking as owner of Westervelt House, which is near Ridgewood Plumbing Supply. A notice went out on 6/29 from FCC. Maps developed might be of interest to HPC archeologically. How tall is the tower. Kevin would like HPC to express concern about tower and physical effects of it being near Atwood Historic District. Dave said should we be alarmed. Are people going to be sick? It is visually intrusive on historic properties.

Kevin handed out pamphlet re: Section 106 Process – “Protecting Historic Properties – A Citizen’s Guide to Sec. 106 Review.” There is a 30-day comment period. No August meeting for THPC.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn made by Rita Heller; seconded by Mario Turchi. So carried.
Adjourned at 10:35 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah L. Alvarez, Secretary

NEXT MEETING: Thursday, September 16, 2010 – 8:00 P.M.