



THPC Minutes of December 2, 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, Don Merino, Karen Neus, Liz Shanks, Paul Stefanowicz, Mario Turchi and Planning Board Liaison Kevin Tremble.

Approval of November 4, 2010 Minutes

Motion to accept minutes made by Dave Wall; seconded by Don Merino with amendment of adding letter written by Carol L. Klein to THPC, as follows: Letter from Carol Klein, 170 Thatcher Road, Tenafly, NJ 07670 dated October 30, 2010. "Dear THPC: As a 50 plus year resident of Tenafly at this single location and resident of the house located at 170 Thatcher Rd, Tenafly, NJ, I wish to preserve the house as I know the historical value of it. My family fully supports this decision to seek to preserve the house and I request the Commission to research, investigate and declare the house and register it as historically preserved.

Please contact me at your earliest convenience to begin the process. I am aware that the house has been already listed as a potential landmark. I can be reached at (unlisted and redacted.) Thank you for your consideration. Sincerely, Carol L. Klein" (email: jewelqlo@optonline.net)

Minutes approved as amended.

Certificate of Appropriateness

1. 183 Serpentine Road – Home of first mayor of Tenafly – Dave Wall approved on condition that they submit paint samples. Owner came from paint store and said they are using five colors on house. Don said Victorian colors tend to be earth tones. The paint palettes were left in Building Department Office.
2. 8 Huyler Avenue – This home is like one with tower, but this has no tower. It has a circular driveway and is on a busy road. There were no samples of stones for driveway. Dave Wall doesn't want Belgium blocks or palm trees. Dave wants more information on proposed landscaping.

(At this time, 8:15 PM – Rita Heller arrived.)

Open Meeting to Public

Michael McClintick, an NYU MBA Student at the Stern School, introduced himself and said he was required to sit in on an administrative proceeding. He is leaning towards real estate "operations", is a resident of Tenafly, having purchased a condo in Plaza and now on their board.

158 Hudson Avenue

Kevin Tremble spoke about this property and home. It is in R-10 zone, minimum of 10,625 feet, but this has 21,000 square feet. No subdivision would be possible, unless it went before Zoning Board. There is a possibility of tearing down this home. Kevin thinks inner portion could be very old. Dave Wall has been in touch with architect – Anthony Malara. Builder is saving every stone; owner is historically concerned. A.J. Downing did pattern books. THPC can examine the attic for historic evidence. Mario Turchi, Don Merino and Karen Neus volunteered to check it out. Dave feels circumstances are good now to save this home because he reached out to those involved, otherwise, house could have been torn down. Dave feels ordinance has to be strengthened. Frank Mottola did give Dave's name to architect. Kevin and Don feel there is forensic evidence to be found in the attic. Stuart Surick is new homeowner and he came into Building Department for a permit. Home is one of 270 listed in Master Plan. Several years ago Karen Neus had gone into Tax Office and put "H" in pencil on many listings. Dave will sit down with Jewell and explain importance of keeping track of Tenafly's historic homes.

Don will go to home at noon on Saturday to inspect attic and basement. Don said TR Brown needed outside layer of wood to do carbon dating. Carbon dating cannot be done on stone. Kevin wondered about checking age of paint.

Bandstand Fund Raising

Tenafly Borough Historian Alice Rigney is forming a committee to raise money to repair Grand Bandstand to its former elegance. Liz Shanks suggested Alice do a Christmas card as fund raiser. Printer will do job gratis.

Davis-Johnson Park Gates

Mario Turchi got quotes, including installation, for gates: Mahogany was \$3,000-\$3,500 plus copper cap on top was \$5-600. Teak would be an extra \$2,000 for each gate and they would be shipped from Washington State. Mario said they were fantastic craftsmen. He also said

perhaps a local builder could mill them for a lesser amount of money. Mario said his doors were less coming from Washington, even with the shipping. He will look for another quote. Dave Wall forwarded gate information to Jewell and to Bob in Maintenance. Don said maybe Maintenance could install them. Don will email plans to Jewell.

Franklin Street Cell Tower

Temporary monopole cell tower 120 feet high will be erected on December 3rd at 10:30 AM and left up for a few hours. Dave thought regulation was to leave up for several days. Westervelt House is one block away. Kevin said it will be visible from railroad station and also he will take pictures on Serpentine and Huyler. Dave will write letter to Zoning Board.

Speaking Engagement

Dave Wall will give a lecture about St. Cecilia's at Englewood Public Library on December 7th at 2:00 PM.

Calendar/Meeting Schedule for 2011

Monthly meeting of Tenafly Historical Preservation Commission will be on the first Thursday of each month unless it is a holiday. In that case, it will be on the 2nd Thursday.

Budget – Rita Heller

Almost \$3,000 is left in THPC budget. \$675 for 27 North Brae and \$600 for 35 Knoll Road are encumbered. Rita is not sure if Mayor & Council will allow encumbering for 2011. Agreements must be signed before 12/31. THPC has committed already for TR Brown report on 170 Thatcher, with purchase order already in the pipeline. \$8,000 for enhancing Ordinance. Don said rewrite Tenafly's ordinance using Closter's book, just amend where necessary. Reliance shall be made on their guidelines book. Dave has what changes have to be made to the book; eliminate pictures and captions under pictures. TR Brown doesn't think it will cost \$8,000. Important areas: 1. Boilerplate section; 2. House & gutter; 3. History of Tenafly. The purpose is to strengthen Tenafly's position: Phase I in 2011 and Phase II in 2012. Paul will be author and has photographs for the book.

Don said get TR Brown to modify Phase I, send an email to everyone and get them to sign so it will be under the 2010 budget. **Don Merino made motion to give Chairman Dave Wall the authority to sign contract with TR Brown for Phase I of Ordinance Project, as per email proposal, to be not more than \$2,500; seconded by Karen Neus.** So carried.

Don asked if TR Brown could come in for a half-hour workshop some evening before meeting commences. Don said a link to THPC is needed on web site; scan all brochures onto web and Karen said designation reports also. Dave said in 2011, THPC should organize a web committee to get all information on web site. Kevin will make two copies of Closter's book.

Rita reported budget for is the same as 2010. Budget had been \$12,300 before Mayor & Council cut it to \$9,895 in 2010. Professional fees is again \$3,000 including \$2,200 for Secretary. Rita said there would be \$4,000 for TR Brown and \$2,000 for blue markers. Don said HPC should tell Mayor & Council we need more blue markers and they should come under capital budget, not THPC budget. Don said Mayor & Council should help to pay for I/T as it will help Tenafly. Don & Dave said pay for two houses now - \$2,500. **(RITA: I'm not sure what**

this means – perhaps markers for 2 houses now.)

Miscellaneous

Kevin Tremble said there was mortar on stone wall @ Davis-Johnson Park. Dave had no answer as to why.

Chairman Dave Wall thanked Liz Shanks for cookies from Miller's Bakery. Dave mentioned Janice Jacobs, a resident living in a historic house in historic Tenafly district as potential member of THPC. Her son has historic architectural background. Karen spoke about a teacher in grammar school that had a copy of Tenafly history in her classroom.

Motion by Dave Wall to thank Elizabeth Shanks for her work on Tenafly Historic Preservation Commission, who worked very hard with Rita Heller and Karen Neus sending out letters to residents living in historic homes and for supporting Virginia Moseley Memorial and the work of Tenafly Historian Alice Rigney was unanimously passed.

Elizabeth Shanks read the following letter to the Members of THPC: "December 2, 2010 – To the members of the HPC, I wish to thank the Commission for its individual talents and collective wisdom it shares so generously with our community. Our small town, whether it agrees or no, more than ever needs the passion and tenacity of this HPC.

I am not an ideologue, but as I served, I began to see a bit of a moral imperative in the work of the Commission. In a society where people and things are increasingly disposable, the Commission's role, as I saw it, was to serve the present by preserving a sense of time, place and people and not just in physical structures alone.

HPCs have been labeled obstructionists, foot draggers and anti-progressive. But let them label away. Time is the great equalizer and it judges rightly and with the aid of much needed perspective. We hurtle today, with ever increasing speed, towards a future where people are losing the ability and time to reflect on what is lasting, what has value, what has meaning and what can stand the test of time.

The HPC provides a closing window of opportunity to answer those questions. Hopefully, in some distant time, there will be an HPC to preserve what we held dear and pass it on to future generations. Thank you for allowing me, for a short time, to participate in the Commission's important mandate. I applaud you all for your work and thank you for everything that you have taught me. Sincerely, Elizabeth Shanks."

Adjournment – 9:53 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah L. Alvarez, Secretary