



### THPC Minutes of March 4, 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

(There were no members of the public present.)

#### AGENDA

1. Chairman Wall passed around a booklet from the Tenafly Class of '46, Winter 2010, Volume III. It was compiled by Borough Historian Alice Rigney and Assistant Borough Historian Paul Stefanowicz.
2. Chairman would like one of the Commission members to take the Tenafly Railroad Station as their mandate. The station might be inspected each year by Historic Architect Joseph Wesley Haynes. The Certificate of Liability Insurance (for the railroad station) was discussed. Inspection was completed 2/20/2010. Borough of Tenafly gets between six and \$7,000 a month in rent from this property. Don Merino thinks Borough pays for the inspection and Building Department head Frank Mottola approves the payment.
3. MALCOLM MACKAY PROPERTY – 53 Knickerbocker Road – Rita Heller said this

property is 6-1/2 acres; \$83,000 in taxes is paid each year. In 2009, Jeffrey Clyman, now owner, and an aviation buff, was contacted by Rita in a letter stating THPC would like to study this home and hoped to have T. Robin Brown speak with Mr. Clyman. Rita sent the report of Karen Neus' home to him, and added HPC would pay for his report on his house. Discussion about inviting Mr. Clyman to a THPC meeting also took place. Dave asked about full designation of the house and 6-1/2 acres or landmark house and one acre. Rita didn't think HPC could approach him without a specific plan and would be premature to bring him to a meeting. Don asked about Mr. Clyman perhaps putting historic planes on the property. He could make it a Green Acres area and get tax write-off.

Karen Neus is still waiting to hear from Janice Talley, Borough Planner who might have concrete ideas to present to Mr. Clyman. HPC doesn't want to lose money encumbered in 2009 to pay Ms. Talley to consult with HPC. Don said funds were used to save Laimbeer House and some money is still available. Karen said Mr. Clyman is trying to build a museum at an old airfield on Long Island. Members want to get T. Robin Brown in to study the house. Dave said the land is ripe for development, perhaps 8 houses with taxes of \$30,000/year on each home. Karen said keep the mansion. Dave said Teterboro has an air museum. HPC should get Janice Talley away from railroad station and do this project instead.

Rita said send just a "oh, by the way" type letter that if Mr. Clyman is ever in Tenafly, and Karen said perhaps he'd be willing to speak with T. Robin Brown followed by a telephone call. Liz Shanks said be direct as possible, would he be willing to be interviewed by T. Robin Brown. HPC would retain expert at no cost to him, make him aware of the possibilities.

Mario Turchi said there were two issues: house and 6-1/2 acres. Rita said send him a letter requesting interview by T. Robin Brown. She would prefer to take "baby steps". Karen will call Janice Talley and ask what she is doing. Dave said what do we want from her? Discussion concluded: THPC wants Janice to develop options for 53 Knickerbocker and has she logged hours against the \$1,000. Paul said wait until you send the letter to Mr. Clyman.

4. COTSWOLD FOUNTAIN – Dave said Mr. Urdang is anxious to pursue an outcome. Meeting will take place in Council Chambers on Thursday, April 15<sup>th</sup>. Dave will ask the Borough Attorney to be present. Karen said HPC should have outside source: T. Robin Brown, Certified Architectural Historian. Dave will email Borough Attorney regarding Certified Shorthand Reporter and expert witness.
5. PARK STREET – Liz asked about Park Street. Mayor & Council overturned historic landmark district designation they had previously approved and Don doesn't think it can be re-done at the present time.
6. BUDGET – Liz asked if there was a quarterly review of how much is spent/how much left. Rita and Don said monthly reports are received. In December it is important to make sure all that is budgeted will be spent. Rita told Liz only money salvaged from 2009 budget was \$1,000 for J. Talley. \$1,500 was requested for other items, but outcome not known at this time.
7. Dave offered Theodore Roosevelt Journals and Preservation books to anyone interested.

8. Letter to National Trust for Historic Preservation dated 3/4/2010 addressed to Daniel Saunders and D. Callender, re: HARBS. Karen said add sentence regarding T. Robin report. Karen said first cover, as approved by HPC back in November, should be changed. She will get new pages and cover next week and send it. Karen and Dave will revise the letter and send it out.
9. SIGNAGE – Mario said he'd met with police chief and shown him the booklet, as presented to Mayor & Council. Chief had some concerns:
  - a. Highwood sign and 25 MPH sign
  - b. Magnolia & Highwood – 11 feet from fire hydrant and should be 15 feet

The other eight signs were fine. Signs couldn't be installed until after the snow, perhaps another 2-3 weeks.

Mario said a woman from The Record wants to put in an article about the signs. She had called Dave, Dave referred her to Mario.

10. MISCELLANEOUS – Karen said there was an all-day course at Drew University on Saturday, March 6<sup>th</sup>, focusing on items that would be relevant to what is happening in Tenafly. Cost is \$75 – 9 AM to 4 PM.

Dave said a talk on Suffragettes is coming up at the Jewish Community Center.

11. ADJOURNMENT – Motion to adjourn made by Don Merino; seconded by Mario Turchi. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 9:40 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah L. Alvarez, Secretary

Approved April 15, 2010