

**TOWNSHIP OF MAHWAH  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES  
MONDAY, JANUARY 7, 2019 at 7:30 P.M.**

The meeting of the Historic Preservation Commission, held at the Municipal Building, 475 Corporate Drive, Mahwah, New Jersey, was called to order at 7:31 p.m. by Deborah Grob, Chair. The Opening Statement was read according to the Sunshine Law, followed by the flag salute. Roll call was taken.

*Present:* Deborah Grob, Chair  
Yvonne Beatrice  
Reshmee Cuman (arrived 7:35 p.m.)  
Anne Powley  
Deborah Silvestro  
Barbara Shanley  
Deborah Silvestro  
Ronald Wohlberg  
Barbara Rakov, Alternate I (arrived 7:32 p.m.)  
Scott Jackson, Alternate II

*Absent:* Randall Brewster  
Carol Greene, Historian

Public Session

Mrs. Powley made a motion to open the meeting to the public. Mrs. Shanley seconded. All other members voted in favor.

Councilman Robert Ferguson was in attendance and volunteered to serve as a council liaison on the commission. New member Scott Jackson introduced himself and briefly discussed his background in history. Council President David May introduced himself and said he is interested in the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration of the town.

Mrs. Beatrice made a motion to close the meeting to the public. Mrs. Powley seconded. All other members voted in favor.

Meeting

Mrs. Rakov introduced herself to the Commission. All other members went around the room to introduce themselves and discuss their respective backgrounds.

Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on December 3, 2018 were approved following a motion by Mrs. Shanley; seconded by Mrs. Silvestro. A roll call of eligible voters revealed six aye votes by Mrs. Beatrice, Mrs. Grob, Mrs. Powley, Mrs. Shanley, Mrs. Silvestro, and Mr. Wohlberg.

**CHAIR'S REPORT**

Hamlet of Darlington Sign

Mrs. Grob said she met with Tony Iannacone today about the sign and the Route 202 location has been marked. The sign is currently being stored in the garage at Continental Soldier's Park.

103 Oweno Road

The property is still under contract. Mrs. Silvestri will update us as more information becomes available. She said that according to the MLS, it has not closed yet.

#### Town Council Liaison

Mrs. Grob asked members if they would like to have a liaison to the Town Council. All members were in favor appointing Councilman Ferguson as a representative.

#### 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Incorporation of Mahwah as a Township

Mrs. Grob said Council President May brought it to her attention that this year is the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the incorporation of Mahwah as a township. She asked if members would like to do anything to commemorate the date. Members discussed.

#### Public Session

Mrs. Powley made a motion to open the meeting to the public. Mrs. Shanley seconded. All other members voted in favor.

Council President May said there is nothing on the calendar at this point, but he said the town will likely do something to celebrate the incorporation. Council President May is going to reach out to some of the groups around town who may be interested. Members discussed reaching out to longtime residents,

Mrs. Shanley made a motion to close the meeting to the public. Mrs. Silvestro seconded. All other members voted in favor.

#### Meeting Attendance

Mrs. Grob asked if members would like to establish a new rule regarding member attendance. Members discussed.

#### Public Session

Mrs. Silvestro made a motion to open the meeting to the public. Mrs. Cuman seconded. All other members voted in favor.

Council President May said that on the other commissions, if a member misses three meetings in a row they can be removed. Mrs. Grob said she will reach out to any member after he or she misses three consecutive meetings to discuss whether they would like to remain on the Commission.

#### Historic Preservation Awards

Mrs. Grob asked if anyone had updates regarding historic preservation award recipients. Mrs. Cuman spoke to the homeowners of the cottage and asked that we wait until discussion at our next meeting to move forward with a ceremony. Mr. Wohlberg visited several locations around town to consider any properties we might want to recognize. Mr. Wohlberg said he has taken pictures of some of the restored rock walls around town, but it is difficult to determine who owns them.

#### Moffatt Road Cemetery Cleanup – Saturday, May 4, 2019

Mrs. Grob reminded members that our cleanup is scheduled for Saturday, May 4, 2019. Mrs. Powley has arranged for the Boy Scouts to help with a spring cleanup of the Moffatt Road Cemetery. The cleanup will begin at 9:30 a.m.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### Moffatt Road Cemetery

Mr. Wohlberg said the sign at the cemetery is not in an ideal location. Members will take a look at it in May during the cleanup. Members also discussed contacting the owners of the cemetery again to see if they are interested in being listed on the historic ordinance. The property is currently held in a trust by the neighboring gas station. Mrs. Grob said she and Mrs. Shanley will draft a letter to submit to the Township Attorney requesting assistance.

### Vanderbeck Lane Cemetery

Mrs. Shanley said she has not yet been able to take photos of the cemetery. We have received reports from neighboring residents that the cemetery is in disrepair. We are trying to figure out who owns the property. Mrs. Shanley will forward the addresses to Mrs. Silvestro and Mrs. Rakov.

### Carmelite Retreat

Mrs. Silvestro and Mrs. Rakov said the property is currently under attorney review.

### Ackerman House Renovations

Mrs. Grob said she will follow up with the homeowner regarding the well on the property.

### HPC Facebook Page

Mrs. Powley said she will announce the new members on the page in the coming week.

## **GENERAL DISCUSSION**

### Applications

None at this time

### **OLD BUSINESS**

None at this time

### **NEW BUSINESS**

None at this time

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

The following correspondence was received and reviewed:

- Various agendas, minutes and public notices

## **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further questions or discussion, the meeting of the Historic Preservation Commission was adjourned at 8:34 p.m. following a motion by Mrs. Powley; seconded by Mrs. Beatrice. All approved.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, February 4 at 7:30 p.m. in the Municipal Building, 475 Corporate Drive, Mahwah, New Jersey. These minutes are a synopsis of the Mahwah Historic Preservation Commission Meeting. A verbatim audio recording is on file at the Township Municipal Building.

J. Storms  
Secretary