

**TOWNSHIP OF MAHWAH
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, MARCH 1, 2021 at 7:30 P.M.**

The meeting of the Historic Preservation Commission, held via remote video conference, was called to order at 7:33 p.m. by Anne Powley, Chair. The Opening Statement was read according to the Sunshine Law. Roll call was taken.

Present:

Anne Powley, Chair
Yvonne Beatrice
Reshmee Cuman
Catherine Gramaglia
Carol Greene, Historian (called in at 7:45 p.m.)
Deborah Silvestro
Ronald Wohlberg
Janet Ariemma, Council Liaison

Absent:

Deborah Grob
Barbara Rakov
Linda Dator, Alternate I

Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on February 1, 2021 were approved following a motion by Beatrice; seconded by Silvestro. A roll call of eligible voters revealed four aye votes by Powley, Beatrice, Gramaglia and Silvestro.

Public Session

Powley made a motion to open the meeting to the public; Wohlberg seconded. All members were in favor.

New Member

Powley introduced Martha Steinbach, however Steinbach was having technical difficulties with her computer, so the public portion of the meeting was deferred.

Closed Session

Beatrice made a motion to close the meeting to the public; Silvestro seconded. All members were in favor.

CHAIR'S REPORT

Commission Reorganization

Debbie Grob and Scott Jackson are stepping down, effective immediately. Members discussed looking for a candidate with some expertise in historic preservation or architecture.

Township Newsletter Submissions

The next issue of the township newsletter will be out sometime in April. Article submissions are March 10, 2021.

2021 History Regrant

Beatrice is looking into this grant opportunity. She said the Daughters of the American Revolution also has a grant opportunity we may wish to look into for cemetery maintenance. We would need to work with a local chapter to sponsor it.

Public Session

Cuman made a motion to open the meeting to the public; Silvestro seconded. All members were in favor.

Member Discussion

Powley welcomed Martha Steinbach to the meeting. Steinbach, a Wanamaker Avenue resident, introduced herself and discussed her passion for historic preservation.

Closed Session

Silvestro made a motion to close the meeting to the public; Greene seconded. All members were in favor.

Moffatt Road Cemetery Update - Daughters of the American Revolution Grant

Beatrice will look into the possibility of a grant from the Daughters of the American Revolution to support the maintenance of the Moffatt Road Cemetery. The tree work will be performed as soon as the snow is gone. The Girl Scouts will be coming in sometime around April for a clean-up.

2021 CLG Grant

Powley said our 2021 CLG Grant was submitted last month. We should know sometime in May if we received the grant. We are coordinating with the state Historic Preservation Office, and have invited our representative from SHPO to present at an upcoming meeting to teach us about what they do.

Member Assignments

Silvestro and Gramaglia volunteered to coordinate Facebook posts. Members discussed a topic for March, which is Women's History Month. Greene has some information she will share with the group.

Historic Preservation Awards

Dator is coordinating our annual historic preservation awards for May 20 tentatively. This year, we would like to recognize Ramapo College for the historic rehabilitation efforts the college has completed at four buildings on campus. Storms will prepare a certificate to present to the college.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Cemetery Inventory

Rakov and Powley are working on an inventory of the cemeteries in town.

Mahwah Museum

Powley said the museum is looking for volunteers if anyone is interested. Beatrice reported that the museum is continuing with virtual events and programs. Powley said she would like to coordinate a tour of the museum's archives for all of the members when the pandemic is more under control.

GENERAL DISCUSSION

Nothing to report

OLD BUSINESS

Nothing to report

CORRESPONDENCE

The following correspondence was received and reviewed:

- Various agendas, minutes and public notices

NEW BUSINESS

Nothing to report

Public Session

Powley made a motion to open the meeting to the public; Cuman seconded. All members were in favor.

Member Discussion

Steinbach said it might be fun to do something with residents who are living in these old houses. She asked if the cemetery on Route 202 is on our radar. Powley said we have looked into that cemetery and are trying to figure out who owns the property. Steinbach also said it would be helpful to keep a list of action items for local Boy Scout and Eagle Scout troops.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further questions or discussion, the meeting of the Historic Preservation Commission was adjourned at 8:53 p.m. following a motion by Silvestro; seconded by Greene. All other present members voted in favor.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 5, 2021 at 7:30 p.m. via remote video conference. 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