

**TOWNSHIP OF WYCKOFF
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
MAY 14, 2024 MEETING MINUTES**

The May 14, 2024 Historic Preservation Commission meeting was held in the Conference Room in Memorial Town Hall. Doug Swenson called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

Ms. Mitchell read the Open Public Meeting Notice: The May 14, 2024 Open Public Meeting of the Wyckoff Historic Preservation Commission is now in session. In accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, notice of this meeting appears on our annual schedule of meetings. A copy of said annual schedule has been posted on the bulletin board in Memorial Town Hall; a copy has been filed with the Township Clerk, The Record, The Ridgewood News, and the North Jersey Herald News – all newspapers with general circulation throughout the Township of Wyckoff. At least 48 hours prior to this meeting, the agenda thereof was similarly posted, filed, and emailed to said newspapers.

Roll Call

Present: Curtis Bajak, Steve Zmuda, Joseph Haftek, Rudy Boonstra, Doug Swenson, and Maureen Mitchell.

Absent: Joseph Cestaro, Richard Lynch, Patricia Constance, and Beth Van Emburgh.

Old Business

Approval of the April 9, 2024 meeting minutes.

Mr. Bajak pointed out a couple of typos in the minutes. Ms. Mitchell will make the corrections to the minutes as noted.

Mr. Bajak made a motion to approve the minutes as corrected. Second, Mr. Zmuda. Voting in favor: Mr. Bajak, Mr. Zmuda, Mr. Haftek, Mr. Boonstra and Ms. Mitchell. Abstained: Mr. Swenson

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
NO ONE FROM THE PUBLIC COMMENTED
CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC

New Business

Mr. Swenson referred to the list of 33 homes/structures the HPC is working on for incorporation into the Historic Element of the Master Plan. He said the Old Rail Station/Economy Shop and Memorial Town Hall had been removed from the final list however, he feels they should be on the list as they are not protected even though the structures are owned by the Township.

Mr. Swenson previously sent out the list of homes/structures with a notation as to which Historic Sites Survey contains information on each of the structures. The HPC members will use the base form utilized by the County when the Historic Site Surveys were performed in 1982-83 and 2000. The members will refer to those surveys to begin gathering any historic information available. The surveys were previously sent to all of the Commission members.

The next item of business was a discussion about the proposed window replacement at the historic home located at 131 Godwin Avenue. Mr. Swenson said there has been a voluminous amount of work and renovations done to the home and detached garage. The window company provided detailed information about the vinyl replacement windows. The existing exterior framework and trim will remain in place, and the window grids will match the existing grids.

Mr. Zmuda asked if the grids will be on the outside or the inside of the windows. Mr. Swenson said he will get that information from the window company representative.

Mr. Boonstra asked what the timeframe was for all of the renovations that were done to the home and the garage. Mr. Swenson said it looks like most of the work was done in 2011 by Mr. Hartger. Mr. Boonstra said he believes most of the renovations were done by the previous owners, the Mitchells.

Mr. Swenson said three of the windows being replaced face Greenhaven and can be seen when you come down Godwin Avenue. Two of the three will be double hung, and one will be a casement window. Everything they are proposing will match what is existing.

Mr. Haftek said the proposed windows should be aesthetically similar to what is there.

Mr. Swenson said the window company representative inquired as to whether an application for the proposed renovation must be completed and submitted to the HPC. Ms. Mitchell found that other Municipalities, specifically Mahwah, requires homeowners of historic homes to complete an application which outlines the scope of the work. Mr. Swenson suggested that the Commission may wish to adopt this as it would be a good basis to have a document that is uniform across all the purview we have.

With regard to the direct replacement of existing windows, Mr. Swenson said he advised the window company project manager to contact the Wyckoff Building Department to see if a permit is required. He also said he will reach out to inquire about the type of window grids, and the casement/awning windows.

The homeowner and/or project manager had indicated to Mr. Swenson that they would like to attend the June 11th meeting of the HPC to plead their case. Mr. Haftek said there is really no pleading necessary based on what they are proposing. The Chairman agreed. Mr. Boonstra said it wouldn't hurt to have them come in to get to know them a little and have somewhat of a rapport with them.

Regarding the June 11th meeting, Mr. Swenson said he will be unable to attend due to a business trip. Mr. Bajak said he also has a conflict on the 11th and will not be able to attend the meeting. Ms. Mitchell will check the availability of the court room and provide the Commission members with a couple of different dates in June to choose from in order to reschedule the meeting.

There was a discussion about the two very large lots located at 685 and 694 Mountain Avenue. There is a large 2-story chicken coop on one of the properties. Mr. Boonstra said he heard that the owner of the property with the small bungalow and large chicken coop was trying to sell however he could not verify it. He added that in a similar situation, we moved the old small green barn from the Meer property to the Community Park which is nice. Mr. Haftek suggested moving the chicken coop to Russell Farms. Mr. Boonstra said his hope is that whoever develops the lot will preserve it.

With regard to the list of homes the HPC is working on, Ms. Mitchell pointed out that the Bergen County Historic Sites Survey lists the address of the old Franklin Grange property as 479 Franklin Avenue. However, according to the tax map, the current address for the property is 619 Fairview Place. In 1987, the building was renovated, and the front entrance to the home was moved from Franklin Avenue to Fairview Place.

Finally, Mr. Swenson asked Mr. Boonstra if there are any updates on the Town Hall roof replacement. Mr. Boonstra said we are waiting for a report from an engineering company. They were tasked with giving us a report on both asphalt and slate.

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn the meeting was made, seconded, and passed unanimously. The meeting concluded at 7:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Maureen Mitchell
Commission Secretary