

CLOSTER HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION MINUTES**Monday, October 27, 2014 8:00 PM**

A. Mr. Adriance called the meeting to order at 8:05 p.m. and made a statement of the Open Public Meetings Act, noting that the meeting was duly advertised.

B. Pledge of Allegiance – called by Mr. Adriance

C. Attendance : Present: Tim Adriance, Jennifer Rothschild,, Bobbie Bouton Goldberg, Jayne Rubenfeld-Waldron, Orlando Tobia, Susan McTigue, William Martin, John Kashwick, Council Liaison

Absent: Mr. Zelnik

D. Oath of Office – Erik Lenander was sworn in by John Kashwick, Council Liaison, as a Class C member of the Historic Preservation Commission for a four year unexpired term to 12-31-15 (replacing Irene Stella)

D. The minutes of July 28, 2014 MSC Martin, Rubenfeld-Waldron to table reading of minutes until the next meeting.

E. Certificate of Appropriateness – 40 Old Hook Road, Closter NJ Block 202 Lot 1, for re-roofing the house. Mary Crain, president of the Abram Demaree Homestead, presenting. She was sworn in by Mr. Adriance. Mr. Adriance reads from the application. The other name for the organization is Northern Valley Association for the Preservation of the Demaree Homestead; it has been shortened to the Abram Demaree Homestead. Ms. Crain states that the re-roofing hadn't been planned, but that upon an effort to repair, it became apparent that the roof needed to be replaced with in-kind wood shingles, and replacement of copper flashing where necessary. Mr. Martin asks if the old roof is coming off completely. Ms. Crain answers that the old roof needs to be removed, and the furring strips will remain unless replacement is needed. It is the main building and the small wing. She states that the other buildings are not listed on the historic register. Mr. Adriance asks if any programs are being held. Ms. Crain states that there used to be programs - for twenty years - but that they were poorly attended, and she no longer holds programs. People only wanted to buy things. She explains that she instructed the contractors to maintain the original fabric of the building. Ms. Rothschild asks if it has been recently re-painted, and Ms. Crain answers yes. Ms. Crain explains how the prior owner maintained the house, keeping its integrity intact in the interior. Ms. McTigue asks how much longer the roofing job will go on. Ms. Crain states that it will be finished in approximately a week. Ms. Crain describes the property, the architectural beauty of the buildings and her desire to maintain them. Mr. Adriance asks if programs might be held in the future and asks if the property can be visited. Ms. Crain agrees to visits. Mr. Adriance asks if she might consider forming an alliance with another group. Ms. McTigue echoes the sentiment. Ms. Crain describes programs held in the past and collections that she holds there. She does not have anything displayed, because it would require docents and guards. Ms. Bouton-Goldberg describes a plan to have a "Year of the Stone Houses" and asks if the house could be used. Ms. Crain states that people can come onto the property. Discussion about various

venues and programs; Ms. Crain describes negative reactions of people to the programs in the past. Ms. McTigue asks if she would work with the Closter Historical Society on future programming, and Ms. Crain states that she is open to anything. Mr. Adriance asks if he can join her organization, and she states that it's a private organization. Mr. Adriance asks if there are any questions from the public and there were none. MSC TOBIA, BBG –to approve the application. Unanimous approval. Mr. Adriance states that he will email the Construction Code Official; Ms. Crain asks if the work could start tomorrow. Mr. Adriance states that he will make sure that they will be aware of the approval tomorrow.

F. Open to Public – No one in attendance wished to be heard

F. Correspondence – none

H. Old Business

1. Properties being researched for potential historic designation:

A. Hickory Lane nomination report is nearly complete. Mr. Adriance reads from and references the nomination report. Discussion. Mr. Tobia states that he has a photo of the Doremus girls on bicycles in front of the corner Doremus house. Mr. Adriance would like to set the hearing date for the next meeting of December 1.

A. Nagel/Auryansen Cemetery – no report

B. High Street District – Ms. Bouton Goldberg reports that research is progressing. She would like Mr. Martin to do his slideshow/talk at the library regarding the architecture. She asks him to figure out how he wishes to do it, and when, then she will arrange for the room being reserved at the library. Mr. Adriance suggests that February would be a good month for the talk. Ms. Stella states that the residents of High Street should get notice, ask them to offer information, etc. She states that they need to be an active part of the process. Give a program asking them to come and give help with it. Ms. Stella reminds the Commission of all of the events that took place before the West Street/Harrington Avenue District was formally proposed. Mr. Martin expresses concern that the program might divert to questions and answers about historic preservation. Ms. Bouton Goldberg states that questions could be answered after the program by others on the Commission e.g. Mr. Adriance and Ms. Rothschild. Discussion. “Share and learn about the old houses on High Street.” Bring any old photos taken at your home, e.g. Aunt Mildred and Uncle Harry inside of the house.”

C. G. Trautwein-Haring Area - no report

D. Vervalen House 151 West St. – no report. Ms. Rothschild will provide the owner's email address to Mr. Adriance.

E. McBain Farm – Ms. Bouton Goldberg will be speaking with John McCaffrey soon; he has stated that it was built in 1931 and that he is very knowledgeable about the house.

F. Blanche Avenue - Ms. Bouton Goldberg states that she has started the research. She has spoken to Dr. Arthur Goldberg about it, and he has a copy of the road return

and other materials. Mr. Adriance states that the current path is not the original path of the road. He states that the 1840 Coastal Survey has the road shown in its entirety. Mr. Adriance speaks about the John Ferdon house that was located in what is now Lupardi's nursery.

2. Closter Hall of Fame – no report a copy of a concept was distributed that shows photos of the people in the hall of fame. These images will grab the public's attention. Mr. Adriance states that if the poster is larger, we can give information about where they lived, more bio, etc. Mr. Martin describes the reasoning behind having a map showing where they lived – to focus attention on structures that can be preserved. Mr. Tobia states that Mrs. Hunt still lives in Closter, on Cedar Lane near the brook.

I. Liaison Reports – as related to the HPC's purview, only

1. Council – John Kashwick (Update on Lustron Property, Borough Hall, etc.) The Zoning Board approved the subdivision. Now the Mayor and Council have passed the 1st reading of the ordinance to accept the gift of the house. The final vote will take place on the Monday prior to Thanksgiving, and he encourages HPC attendance. He asks about the calendar and the budget for next year. The Calendar is discussed. Mr. Adriance will let Rose know the dates of the meetings. Mr. Tobia asks for a new contact directory with the meeting dates. Mr. Adriance will ask Rose to do this. The budget is discussed.

2. Planning Board – Mr. Lenander will be the new Planning Board liaison. Mr. Adriance has a stack of plans that were sent to the HPC for review. None were within designated historic districts.

3. Other – no reports

J. New Business

1. Continuing education – none recently. Mr. Adriance has been giving lectures.

2. Talks with Toby – someone needs to take Irene's leadership position. Ms. McTigue offers to work with Orlando. Discussion. Ms. Rothschild will send the notes to Ms. McTigue.

2. Other – Ms. McTigue wishes to rejuvenate the Closter Historical Society and wishes to place a notice in the Northern Valley Press and Suburbanite. Mr. Adriance explains that the HPC is separate from a Society.

Ms. Bouton Goldberg has brought cake and cider to celebrate Irene's hard work as a founding member of the Commission and for all of her hard work. She also notes that Mr. Kashwick will also be leaving at the end of the year. Ms. Stella offers informative pamphlets about historic preservation and other materials to the Commissioners.

K. Adjournment - MSC to adjourn, BBG Rothschild at 9:19 p.m.