

HISTORIC COMMISSION
MINUTES
April 23, 2014
8:15 p.m.

<u>ATTENDANCE:</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent</u>
<u>Phyllis Angelo</u>	X	
<u>Mary Donohue</u>	X	
<u>Judi Sussman</u>	X	
<u>Sara Theresa Bartelloni</u>	X	
<u>Harold DeYoung</u>	X	
<u>Mike Ginch</u>		X
<u>Joan Kristan</u>		X
<u>Liaison Ellen Busteded</u>		X

AUDIENCE: _____

PHYLLIS ANGELO: Stated the database was given to Mr. Carter, who has customized it and it is ready to go, if the Committee gets the Grant. Advised the Committee should know by the end of April of they got the Grant.

MEMBER: Stated she feels they must be weeding out the people who would not be considered regarding the Grant and that the Historic Committee must still be in consideration.

PHYLLIS ANGELO: Stated if they do not get the full amount of the Grant, that hopefully they will get part of the money. Questioned if they do not get the Grant, since they have an \$800 data base program, how should they proceed.

MARY DONOHUE: Stated not to discuss the possibility of not getting the Grant, as it may be a waste of time, since the Committee may get the Grant.

PHYLLIS ANGELO: Stated she believes they can still do something this year with the database and what has already been budgeted. Indicated she would like as many people as possible to go to the meeting on May 5, 2014.

MARY DONOHUE: Indicated she would like Harry to attend the meeting, since he was on the Zoning Board at the time.

PHYLLIS ANGELO: Questioned Harry if he would be able to attend the meeting.

HAROLD DeYOUNG: Indicated he would be able to attend.

PHYLLIS ANGELO: Discussed the main points they would like to bring to the attention of the Mayor and Council.

HARRY DeYOUNG: Stated the legal decision indicates that "...the creation, adoption and amendment of a Master Plan are tasks within the exclusive jurisdiction of a Planning Board. ...adoption of a Resolution of Approval of the Historic Preservation Plan element, following its deliberation of the matter, the Board's Minutes of its July 18, 2002 meeting reflect only that Mayor Watkins moved the adoption of a Resolution... and the minutes state that the Historical Preservation Plan was adopted as written." Advised he is not clear on the point regarding "public participation."

PHYLLIS ANGELO: Advised that the Borough Clerk did give the required ten day notice prior to the hearing.

HARRY DeYOUNG: Advised that those notifications do not have to be itemized at the meeting.

MEMBER: Stated she is sure all of the conditions that were required were met.

MARY DONOHUE: Stated to look at the conclusion in the attorney's report, which states "...the Historic Preservation Plan element was not appropriately adopted by the Planning Board of the Borough of River Edge" and suggested they do it all over again.

MEMBER: Stated rehashing the issue and guessing what happened does not solve anything.

SARA BARTELLONI: Stated that it is good the attorney finally came to a conclusion, as now we know what the recommendation is. Questioned where to go from here.

HARRY DeYOUNG: Questioned what role this Committee has at all, as it is now between the Planning Board and the Mayor and Council.

PHYLLIS ANGELO: Indicated it is more complicated than that, as the version they have is not the final version, which has all of the historic sites and does not differentiate between what is historically designated and what is historically relevant.

SARA BARTELLONI: Questioned if there would be any record of that in the Mayor and Council minutes.

PHYLLIS ANGELO: Stated that they do have it on record.

SARA BARTELLONI: Suggested submitting it to the Borough Clerk beforehand so it can be placed in the Council packets before the meeting.

PHYLLIS ANGELO: Advised she spoke with Ellen, who told her that she did not have the Committee's letter asking them to resume the historic designation in her packet. Stated she feels the historic designation of the two homes is a separate issue from the Historic element of the Master Plan.

SARA BARTELLONI: Suggested focusing the Mayor and Council on the Historic element of the Master Plan first.

PHYLLIS ANGELO: Advised she only brought it up as every day in the paper there is an historic house that goes up for sale.

SARA BARTELLONI: States she does not think they would be receptive, if both issues were brought to their attention.

PHYLLIS ANGELO: Advised the historic designation meeting was a year ago and the owner of the Blair House, who was a member of the Historic Commission, did not come to the meeting as he had no objection and wanted the designation.

SARA BARTELLONI: Stated she believes getting the Master Plan is the first thing to do, so the historic designation can be revisited.

PHYLLIS ANGELO: Advised that Bergen County is in the process of editing the Bergen County Historical surveys and the River Edge survey. Stated there is a historic workshop in case anyone is interested in attending, which will be held at the Caldwell Library.

SARA BARTELLONI: Advised she put a new oral history up on You Tube.

PHYLLIS ANGELO: Stated she did see the oral history, however, they never stated who was doing the interview, or the full name of the person that was being interviewed, as well as the date it was done.

SARA BARTELLONI: Stated it was a video from 15 years ago, taken by John Mauthe, Jr. while he was in high school.

PHYLLIS ANGELO: Advised that Sara Bartelloni was able to get a flat file from the high school for the Committee, which is located in the library. Questioned if Sara was able to look at the You Tube the children made.

SARA BARTELLONI: Stated she did not have an opportunity, but thought this is a tough time of year to get the high school children involved in a project.

PHYLLIS ANGELO: Stated she was thinking of doing it in September, 2014. Advised that the video was of kids telling a story of the history of River Edge and she would like

to add pictures to the video. Questioned if this is a project the kids in the TV department in the high school would be willing to do.

SARA BARTELLONI: Advised it is worth putting out there for the kids.

PHYLLIS ANGELO: Advised the video is 30 minutes and asked Sara if should would find out if they would be willing to do it in September. Questioned Mary if there is an updated on New Bridge.

MARY DONOHUE: Stated they are having a big gala for the 350th Anniversary of the founding of Bergen County on October 17 in Garfield and hoped to get support from River Edge. Advised the ticket cost is \$100 per person and the proceeds will be going towards the building of the museum.

PHYLLIS ANGELO: Questioned how the funding was coming along.

MARY DONHUE: Indicated so far it is going good, but slow and hopefully they will have shovels in the ground in Spring 2015.

PHYLLIS ANGELO: Stated hopefully before the next meeting, May 28th, they will know about the Grant and if they get the Grant, possibly they can have an informal meeting over the summer, as they need to give a report to the State as to what was done with the money.

HARRY DeYOUNG: Indicated if there is going to be a meeting over the summer, it should be a formal meeting, especially if there will be a discussion with what to do with the Grant.

PHYLLIS ANGELO: Advised if it is to be a formal meeting, she will have to notify the new Clerk so she can advertise the meeting.

MEETING ADJOURNED: 9:05