

# **HISTORIC COMMISSION**

## **MINUTES**

**April 13, 2017**

8:10 p.m.

<u>ATTENDANCE:</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent</u>
<u>Phyllis Angelo</u>	X	
<u>Mary Donohue</u>	X	
<u>Sara Theresa Bartelloni</u>	X	
<u>Mike Ginch</u>	X	
<u>Joan Kristan</u>	X	
<u>Eric Model</u>	X	
<u>Elizabeth McGinty</u>	X	
<u>Liaison Dario Chinigo</u>	X	

AUDIENCE:

**PHYLLIS ANGELO:** Questioned Dario on the progress of the historic component.

**COUNCILMAN CHINIGO:** Advised they are still working on it.

**PHYLLIS ANGELO:** Indicated they may have to ask the Chairman of the Planning Board about the progress, as that needs to be in place. Advised they did the oral history with Robert Christiansen.

**SARA BARTELLONI:** Stated going forward it would be wise to get the oral histories on a DVD and file it with the archive digital highway, which would make it easy to access.

**PHYLLIS ANGELO:** Questioned if the disclaimer was put onto the video.

**MEMBER:** Stated it was placed in the front of the video.

**PHYLLIS ANGELO:** Questioned Sara if she had a list of interested students.

**SARA BARTELLONI:** Advised she does not, but April is a terrible month due to spring break, PARC testing and AP tests. Questioned if she should tell the students to come to a meeting or if they should submit something.

**PHYLLIS ANGELO:** Indicated originally the students were going to be interviewed, and questioned if you would want the students come to a meeting and talk about their interests, at which time they will be advised what projects they could be involved in.

**SARA BARTELLONI:** Stated she thinks they need a specific task for the students, otherwise they will be overwhelmed.

**COUNCILMAN CHINIGO:** Agreed. Stated at that age they need direction and feels they will be very effective at whatever task you give them.

**MIKE GINCH:** Indicated the students need to know what they are signing up for.

**SARA BARTELLONI:** Advised the high school students like to get volunteer hours, as they are getting ready to apply for college, so the Commission should pick a task for the students to do and she may be able to get a couple of students to volunteer.

**MARY DONOHUE:** Suggested having 4 or 5 streets researched for the street sign project.

**SARA BARTELLONI:** Questioned where they would go for their research.

**MARY DONOHUE:** Stated they can go to the County.

**SARA BARTELLONI:** Stated she is not sure if junior high school students are going to drive to the Bergen County Historical Society.

**PHYLLIS ANGELO:** Indicated they can also be given a specific area of the archives to research and they could work with George Carter and Margaret.

**SARA BARTELLONI:** Agreed that students could do that, as Mr. Carter already has high school students help him in Oradell.

**MARY DONOHUE:** Stated the Mayor's idea with the names of the streets is something the town would notice.

**PHYLLIS ANGELO:** Indicated she mentioned to Mike about the Records' archive.

**ERIC MODEL:** Suggested telling the students to be an investigative reporter and pick a story of their own liking and if they cannot find one, the Commission has a street sign project that can be done.

INAUDIBLE

**SARA BARTELLONI:** Questioned if there should be some type of guidance for the students, where the students could check in once a month with someone on the Commission.

**ERIC MODEL:** Stated he would be willing to do that.

**MARY DONOHUE:** Suggested herself and Eric can guide the students.

**PHYLLIS ANGELO:** Questioned how many students Sara thinks would be interested.

**SARA BARTELLONI:** Indicated possibly a handful of students.

**PHYLLIS ANGELO:** Stated there are three different things the Commission needs, such as build up the social media, putting a story to the pictures on the survey and archiving.

**SARA BARTELLONI:** Stated she wanted to make sure there was a plan in place for the students.

**ELIZABETH MCGINTY:** Indicated to start with archiving, so they have a better idea of what the Commission does.

**MARY DONOHUE:** Indicated the first thing the students should do is work on five streets to be researched.

**ERIC MODEL:** Stated he would like them to walk around the town and tell the Commission what they see.

**SARA BARTELLONI:** Indicated initially they were looking for a student who would serve as a commission person, now the Commission is looking for volunteers.

**MIKE GINCH:** Stated he is disappointed, as getting a student appointed to the Commission has evolved into giving them busy work or giving them assignments, when originally they were going to be an active participating member.

**PHYLLIS ANGELO:** Advised there was no choice, as there are no positions available.

**MIKE GINCH:** Stated originally it was discussed, even though there was not a position available, the students would be utilized as a full participating member, just not a voting one. Stated he thought it would be great to treat a student as a full member, now they are given a task to do.

**MARY DONOHUE:** Stated she believes the students would be bored if they came to the meetings and sat on the Commission and they would not come back.

**ERIC MODEL:** Indicated they are two distinct ideas.

**MIKE GINCH:** Stated he is not diminishing what is being discussed, but originally it started out as much more, and the students were going to be given a full member.

**SARA BARTELLONI:** Indicated originally the discussion was about promoting this as a unique opportunity for the students to sit on the Commission.

**PHYLLIS ANGELO:** Advised they could be a voting member, but there are no spots available.

**MIKE GINCH:** Agreed they don't have that option now, but eventually they will and he is willing to give up his spot to let that happen, as he can do as much as a non-voting member, as he believes this is a great opportunity for a student.

**PHYLLIS ANGELO:** Stated they want to see what the students envision is as to what they want, before saying they will be part of the Commission. Suggested to see how good the students are at handling the special project.

**MIKE GINCH:** Indicated they are two separate things.

**SARA BARTELLONI:** Advised she will get the students, but she needs to know what she is going to tell the students.

**MIKE GINCH:** Agreed to have the students perform a task and use that as a way to learn about how to interact with them and what they might be interested in and then have them as a member.

**PHYLLIS ANGELO:** Stated to give them the three areas where the Commission could use help, which is the social media, the archives and the street signs.

**MIKE GINCH:** Stated you also want to get their opinion on anything, to make them feel included.

**PHYLLIS ANGELO:** Questioned if May is a good month for the students to come.

**SARA BARTELLONI:** Stated she believes that should be okay.

**PHYLLIS ANGELO:** Advised Eric indicated he would be interested in helping the Borough Historian and the Mayor reached out to Deborah to see if she was interested in being the Borough Historian. Stated Mary also reached out to her and questioned Mary what happened.

**MARY DONOHUE:** Stated Deborah is very busy with New Bridge Landing and the Historical Society, but she did agree to do it provided Eric would be the lead Historian.

**ERIC MODEL:** Stated he would be fine with that.

**PHYLLIS ANGELO:** Questioned if she has to be approved by the Council.

**COUNCILMAN CHINIGO:** Stated he believes she does, she would have to be appointed by the Mayor.

**PHYLLIS ANGELO:** Advised the house located at 788 Kinderkamack looks great on the outside and everything that Sara suggested to the homeowner regarding the house, they did. Advised Mary to speak to Deborah and have her reach out to the Mayor. Stated Eric could do the writing and Deborah would be the resource.

**ERIC MODEL:** Stated he is not sure where the process would be initiated.

**PHYLLIS ANGELO:** Stated it would be initiated by the Commission.

**JOAN KRISTAN:** Advised after communication with Lynn, Joan Sullivan's daughter, they are not interested in participating in the oral histories at the moment.

**MIKE GINCH:** Questioned if you can you give the daughter some printed questions and she could write down the answers, in order not to lose the information.

**JOAN KRISTAN:** Stated that could be done and originally her daughter offered to be present for the interview because Joan's memory may not be what it was, which would be fine, but she said she was not interested in the interview.

**MARY DONOHUE:** Suggested having Joe Maguire give an oral history.

**SARA BARTELLONI:** Advised they have his veteran story and the oral history should be done soon.

**ELIZABETH McGINTY:** Stated she brought Joe to her classroom and he spoke to her class and that he was all dressed and brought all his equipment and the students enjoyed it.

INAUDIBLE

**PHYLLIS ANGELO:** Stated Don Herrick should be done over the summer. Questioned Councilman Chinigo if the final budget was approved.

**COUNCILMAN CHINIGO:** Stated the final budget has been approved.

**PHYLLIS ANGELO:** Advised the archiving can be started up again and she will reach out to Mr. Carter and Margaret.

**MIKE GINCH:** Questioned if they are continuing to maintain TIF.

**SARA BARTELLONI:** Stated yes they are.

**PHYLLIS ANGELO:** Stated there is no reason the students could not assist with the oral histories. Advised they completed the CLG and next year everyone is going to get a project to help with the CLG. Questioned Sara if by the next meeting the Facebook page will be up and running.

**SARA BARTELLONI:** Indicated it should be done by that time.

**PHYLLIS ANGELO:** Questioned Sara if the historic survey has the photographs in an edited version.

**SARA BARTELLONI:** Stated that is correct.

**PHYLLIS ANGELO:** Questioned if the County is still working on that, so they can get it in, or should she call and ask when the photographs will be put onto the historic survey.

**SARA BARTELLONI:** Stated the Commission has the photographs, the historic survey is done by the County and the survey can be edited in the same fashion as the County.

**MIKE GINCH:** Questioned how many properties in River Edge are on the survey.

**PHYLLIS ANGELO:** Advised between 25 and 30.

**MIKE GINCH:** Stated the worst case scenario is to recreate the content from scratch.

**SARA BARTELLONI:** Advised it is by district, such as Elizabeth Street is not on the survey because of its location.

**MIKE GINCH:** Suggested creating a new template and put the information into the new template.

**SARA BARTELLONI:** Advised you could do that.

**MARY DONOHUE:** Advised they hope to have shovels in the ground at New Bridge Landing sometime soon, just waiting for a couple of legal issues to be cleaned up and there is going to be a Memorial Service for Kevin Wright. Stated they are still fighting with PSE&G about the property, which the Mayor is dealing with.

**PHYLLIS ANGELO** – Before the next meeting Drew Peterson will be performing at Temple Avodat Shalom in River Edge Tuesday, May 23rd at 7:30PM. He is the winner of the International Steinway Competition.

Meeting was adjourned

Next meeting is May 24, 2017