

**HISTORIC COMMISSION
MINUTES
June 28, 2017
8:12 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: Advised Joan Kristan sent a Letter of Resignation. Questioned Dario if the Historic Component to the Master Plan is completed.

DARIO CHINIGO: Stated nothing further has been done.

PHYLLIS ANGELO: Indicated she will contact the Chairman of the Planning Board. Stated as far as she is aware there is no problem with the text of the Historic Component because if there was the Planning Board would have gotten back to the Commission. Stated they were advised it was procedural, the formalization of sending the proper notification to the newspapers and general public. Questioned Dario what he suggest be done.

DARIO CHINIGO: Suggested one of the Board Members appear at the next Council Meeting on July 11, 2017 and ask them about the status of Historic Component.

MARY DONOHUE: Indicated she will go to the Meeting with Phyllis and suggested Dario keep an eye on the Council and mention it.

DARIO CHINIGO: Stated he was told by the Mayor the Historic Commission is aware there is an issue with some of the procedural parts.

PHYLLIS ANGELO: Advised the problem is not with the Commission.

DARIO CHINIGO: Stated he is only stating what he is being told.

MARY DONOHUE: Advised the CLG status is in danger because the Commission will not be able to apply for Grants.

PHYLLIS ANGELO: Stated Mary is correct that in order to be a CLG you need a Historic Component to the Master Plan and they had it since the inception of the CLG.

MARY DONOHUE: Advised they received a \$19,000 Grant from the State last year.

PHYLLIS ANGELO: Questioned if the oral history of Barbara Christiansen is going on YouTube.

SARA BARTELLONI: Indicated it is and believes she sent everyone the link.

PHYLLIS ANGELO: Stated she mentioned to Elizabeth that Barbara Christiansen does not have any internet or email and thought her daughter would have something, but her daughter does not have email or internet either and questioned how they could get her to see the video.

SARA BARTELLONI: Suggested burning a DVD if they have a DVD player.

ELIZABETH MCGINTY: Stated she may have a DVD player to bring over in order for Barbara to see the interview.

PHYLLIS ANGELO: Questioned John what project he decided to work on.

JOHN COOKSON: Stated he came up with a few ideas for the social media page and indicated the Commission is interested in a project on street signs and believes that can be incorporated into a social media page. Indicated you will reach a lot of high school students through an Instagram page and a Facebook page would be for the adult age group.

PHYLLIS ANGELO: Indicated they will probably need both. Questioned Sara how he would go about creating the Instagram page and if permission is required from the Borough.

SARA BARTELLONI: Stated you probably will need approval and the policy is a "social media" policy. Advised the Borough does not need to give you permission to do it, but you need to report who the point person will be on the account.

PHYLLIS ANGELO: Questioned Dario if John could start setting up the Instagram account.

DARIO CHINIGO: Stated he believes he can as nobody would have an objection with the Commission having an Instagram page.

PHYLLIS ANGELO: Believes that starting the Instagram page and the street sign project is plenty and questioned John if there was anything else he wants to include.

MARY DONOHUE: Questioned how many street names he will be starting with, as she believes he should start with a couple of names, because sometimes doing research you run into different problems and it would be more productive.

JOHN COOKSON: Stated he will possibly post once a week or once every two weeks and one week could be about a street name and the following week you can pull an interesting photograph from the archives and write about it.

MIKE GINCH: Stated the street sign would have to be researched.

PHYLLIS ANGELO: Indicated they will help John start off. Advised due to the resignation of Joan Kristan there will be a spot available on the Commission and questioned John if he would be interested in that spot.

JOHN COOKSON: Stated he will think about it.

MARY DONOHUE: Stated it is a wonderful thing to have a young person on the Commission.

PHYLLIS ANGELO: Advised the Borough Attorney said they can put a student on the Commission for the full term and it can be a voting member, but if you want to modify it to make it a one year term, she does not think that would be a problem but it would have to be taken up with the Council or the Borough Attorney, as the Ordinance says the term is for 3 years. Indicated the person would be an alternate and would not get to vote unless the full members were not present.

DARIO CHINGO: Questioned if you can add a one year term member for a high school student and fill in the regular position with a regular member, so there is a 3 year continuity.

MARY DONOHUE: Stated she would make him a regular member.

DARIO CHINGO: Stated every year you would have to look for someone else.

MARY DONOHUE: Indicated you would have him for 2 years.

PHYLLIS ANGELO: Advised they usually do not have people on the Commission longer than 2 years as they move or whatever and agreed a 1 year term would need a change in the ordinance. Questioned John what he thought, as she would approach the Mayor or the Borough Attorney about a full term and the 1 year option.

ELIZABETH MCGINTY: Stated she believes that is a good option if the Mayor disagrees to add an additional Commissioner, so you could still fulfill it and John could still be part of the Commission.

MIKE GINCH: Stated he agrees with that but it requires changing the Ordinance.

PHYLLIS ANGELO: Advised just because the Ordinance states 3 years, people do not necessarily make that commitment.

SARA BARTELLONI: Stated John should have time to think about it.

PHYLLIS ANGELO: Indicated they will give him time but this is what they were thinking about before because there was a position available and thought there were high school students interested in the history of River Edge who wanted to participate more than sitting in the audience. Stated Deborah Powell advised she would be available to come to tonight's meeting, however she did not make it and indicated she would like to question Deborah about possible documents she has that could be archived. Questioned Michael about the painting of the kiosks.

MIKE GINCH: Advised the last time the kiosks were painted by the prisoners from the County Jail and this time they asked the Boy Scouts if they could paint the kiosks. Permission from the Scout Master was given and the DPW advised the Boy Scouts could paint the kiosks and they would provide the material, however since the Scouts are involved the paint is being tested for lead and if it comes back positive the Scouts cannot paint the kiosks.

PHYLLIS ANGELO: Questioned if there is a time table as to when it would be done.

MIKE GINCH: Stated he is concerned about getting people involved over the summer.

PHYLLIS ANGELO: Stated if the Boy Scouts cannot do the job, they will ask the Council to have someone paint them.

SARA BARTELLONI: Questioned if the kiosks were originally painted and stated reapplying paint over and over to a structure that was never intended to be painted is deplorable and offends her senses. She further stated it has been seven months and the Agenda still does not have the anniversary of Roosevelt School listed.

PHYLLIS ANGELO: Advised when she moved to town the kiosks were already painted.

MARY DONOHUE: Advised when she moved to town in 1952 they were painted.

ERIC MODEL: Indicated he vaguely believes they were not painted a long time ago.

SARA BARTELLONI: Stated she remembers having conversations with families regarding what are the kiosks. Stated they spoke about 1 ½ years ago about the Claredon Court sign, which is in deplorable, horrific, offending her senses condition. Questioned if it was ever repaired in the past and what was done.

PHYLLIS ANGELO: Advised it was repaired by a professional person.

ERIC MODEL: Questioned if there is a picture of the original sign.

PHYLLIS ANGELO: Stated there is not, they do not have anything before the 80's and it was already painted.

SARA BARTELLONI: Stated she sent everybody the Barbara Christiansen interview. Advised the Facebook page will be easy to do and once she has something to put up she can start the page, as she needs content to put on the Facebook page.

PHYLLIS ANGELO: Indicated she could send Sara an old picture of Roosevelt School to put on the Facebook page.

MEMBER: Suggested putting it next to the YouTube videos, which would be great content to being with.

PHYLLIS ANGELO: Questioned putting Barbara Christiansen's video on Facebook. Advised the Commission will try to meet informally over the summer and if something comes up she will email everyone.

SARA BARTELLONI: Stated she thinks the Instagram page will be a complete hit as it will tap into an entirely different group and together Instagram will post to Facebook, which is perfect. Advised she can set up the Instagram Account and give the password to John, as the Commission as the gmail, which is where they should connect to everything, not personal emails.

MIKE GINCH: Advised you need to be selective about what is posted, because if you start putting boring stuff on the Instagram Account you will lose people very quickly and John should start with what he thinks people would want to hear.

JOHN COOKSON: Stated it is very important to find an interesting picture to get the interest.

PHYLLIS ANGELO: Indicated the story regarding the house that was located where Chase Bank currently is, and it being a stop on the Underground Railroad is very interesting.

ERIC MODEL: Said you need a "cool" factor.

PHYLLIS ANGELO: Questioned if you think an old tunnel under the bank is interesting.

JOHN COOKSON: Stated he does.

SARA BARTELLONI: Stated she does not know if a 16 year old would think so.

ERIC MODEL: Stated we find it interesting but you do not know if the younger kids would, which does not mean it is not interesting.

JOHN COOKSON: Stated you need to find a good picture because if they are interested in the picture they will read the caption.

ERIC MODEL: Advised they will give him pictures and if he believes it is good, they can discuss the story behind it.

MIKE GINCH: Suggested the amusement park.

PHYLLIS ANGELO: Questioned Eric what the playland was called.

ERIC MODEL: Stated it was called Kiddie Land.

PHYLLIS ANGELO: Advised there was an amusement park where the parking lot is for New Bridge Landing and Eric has pictures on that, which he could send to John.

INAUDIBLE

PHYLLIS ANGELO: Advised they have archive information regarding Roosevelt School with early pictures of early classes, Troup 1 and old July 4th pictures.

ERIC MODEL: Suggested the old town hall where the printing company is located on Kinderkamack, or the ghost that was on this property, the original McDonald's, or when the hotel was there.

SARA BARTELLONI: Advised Barbara Christiansen video has had 35 views.

PHYLLIS ANGELO: Advised they received notice of the 50th Anniversary of the National Historical Preservation Act of 1966 and River Edge is being honored as a CLG District. Advised Mary and herself met with George Carter last week and found out the Borough Historian before Kevin Wright was Alice McKenzie, who kept every newspaper article about River Edge from the 1960's until the late 1980's. Indicated they are not going to scan every article, but would catalog that information as she believes that is very important.

ERIC MODEL: Stated he liked the idea of adding pictures that could go into what has already been done and one picture is the picture of the big 200 year old tree that was by Kinderkamack Bagels.

PHYLLIS ANGELO: Advised she will go to the library with John and go through the book of the 1980's and he could look to see if there is anything of interest. Indicated she received more information from Catherine Mayo, whose father started the ambulance corp. Stated Mary and herself will be doing a table on July 4th and requested if anyone would be available for an hour to help at the table. Questioned Mike if he could make something for the archives and put the picture of the Knights, to show people what they have.

MIKE GINCH: Indicated he will do that, but he does not believe that picture of the Knights will stir any interest.

MARY DONOHUE: Stated people are looking for is when that "ugly" building became the K of C and advised she spoke to an old Knight who told her it was in 1957 or 1958, but is not sure whether they took down the house and built another building, but believes they restored that house.

MIKE GINCH: Questioned if that building was the Men's Club.

MARY DONONUE: Advised it was the Men's Club of River Edge.

MIKE GINCH: Stated he could put a frame on the picture to place on the table.

PHYLLIS ANGELO: Showed some pictures she received from Catherine Mayo.

MIKE GINCH: Questioned if she has the original pictures.

PHYLLIS ANGELO: Believed Catherine kept the original.

MIKE GINCH: Stated scanning the original photographs would be better, if you could borrow the originals.

MARY DONOHUE: New Bridge landing update. Historic Baseball at New Bridge on Saturday July 8th.

Next Meeting September 27, 2017