

HISTORIC COMMISSION

MINUTES

May 24, 2017

8:15 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: John Cookson - River Dell Student

MARY DONOHUE: Correction on April Minutes. Last sentence should state they are still in discussions with PSE&G about the property and the Mayor is being very cooperative.

MIKE GINCH: Suggested explaining the situation with PSE&G.

MARY DONOHUE: Advised PSE&G had a substation at the bottom of River Edge, across the street from New Bridge Landing, which they have vacated. It cannot be zoned for housing due to flooding and Bergen County Historical Society and the New Bridge Landing Park Commission would like that piece of land added to their property and hope to use it as a parking lot in case of an emergency, as you cannot build on that piece of property. PSE&G indicated they would be happy to sell it to New Bridge Landing, but the price is too high and the Mayor is looking to see about getting it reassessed. Stated they are in negotiations with PSE&G & River Edge and PSE&G is being very cooperative.

PHYLLIS ANGELO: Stated they need to vote on the correction to the Minutes.

MARY DONOHUE: Yes

MIKE GINCH: Yes

ELIZABETH MCGINTY: Yes

PHYLLIS ANGELO: Yes.

PHYLLIS ANGELO: Stated she needs to contact the Chairman of the Planning Board and find out why it has taken this long to complete the Historic Component in the Master

Plan, which is holding them up with re-designations. Explained the Master Plan encompasses the Historic Component, which states everything that is historic and what is already designated. Advised there are 12 sites in River Edge that are designated historic and they are attempting to designate two homes as historic, but they cannot do it as there is a technical problem.

MIKE GINCH: Stated the misconception most people have when a house is listed on the State Register or the National Register is once the house has that status nothing can happen to that house, but it is not until the house is designated locally by the town that the house is protected and up until that time the home owner can bulldoze the house.

PHYLLIS ANGELO: Advised Aiden McGinty worked with the Commission on the video taping of the oral history of Barbara Christiansen, and questioned Elizabeth how that was coming along.

ELIZABETH McGINTY: Advised Sara has the oral history.

MIKE GINCH: Advised John one of the projects the Commission is working on is oral histories and the Commission has created a YouTube channel for them.

ELIZABETH McGINTY: Stated she spoke with Joe Maguire and he is very positive about doing an oral history but would like to wait until June.

MARY DONOHUE: Stated she has a picture of a house she is trying to identify that was supposed to be the old K of C Building, which she received at the archiving meeting with George Carter, and would like Joe Maguire to confirm that is what it is.

PHYLLIS ANGELO: Questioned Sara if Barbara Christiansen is on the website or another device where it can be viewed.

SARA BARTELLONI: Stated it is on a flash drive and will advise when it is put on You Tube.

PHYLLIS ANGELO: Stated there was a discussion at the last meeting regarding 3 different areas that the students may have an interest in doing and one of them is helping Mr. Carter with the archiving, another area is the need for creating a social media site or Facebook page for the Historic Commission and identifying the history of the Street Names in the Borough. Questioned Sara if she received the okay from the Borough to have a Facebook page.

SARA BARTELLONI: Advised they have not received the okay as of yet, but that it will be coming.

ERIC MODEL: Indicated you may not want to say Facebook in case young people do not use Facebook and stated the student, John Cookson, could possibly contribute in the social media aspect to help make the Commission and the information more relevant.

SARA BARTELLONI: Stated that any form of social media the Commission decides to use, the rule is you let the Borough know you are behind the "user name."

MIKE GINCH: Questioned Sara how this was described to John to peek his interest.

SARA BARTELLONI: Stated he came recommended and she summarized the project work with Mr. Carter, indicating it may be an opportunity to get involved in the archiving of historic artifacts, or help get out educational things as to what things were in the Borough or why streets are named what they are through social media.

INAUDIBLE

MARY DONOHUE: Stated it would be wonderful to get young people interested in the history of the town.

ERIC MODEL: Suggested John can be the simultaneous translator between the Member's culture and the culture he is part of with the kids his age.

PHYLLIS ANGELO: Discussion with John regarding the street sign project.

SARA BARETELLONI: Stated since the summer is coming up, it is a great time to help John get started in whatever he is interested in working on.

PHYLLIS ANGELO: Questioned John if he wants to think about what areas he is interested in.

MIKE GINCH: Suggested giving him some time to decide.

SARA BARTELLONI: Summarized the options available to John, such as the project with Mr. Carter, or look into the history behind the street names and create stories and put that on Instagram or Facebook.

INAUDIBLE

PHYLLIS ANGELO: Questioned Mary about Deborah.

MARY DONOHUE: Stated Deborah was happy to accept being a helper to Eric on the Historian position and if Eric had any questions she will be happy to help him.

MIKE GINCH: Questioned who is Historian.

MARY DONOHUE: Advised on paper Deborah is, and that she was just sworn in.

PHYLLIS ANGELO: Advised Deborah will have the official title and suggested asking Deborah to come to the June meeting. Advised she and Mary met with George Carter and he will be scanning the ambulance photo albums and will work with the Fire Department as well, to archive their material. Catherine Mayo had donated some material for archiving. Her father was Terrence McPartland, a founding member of the ambulance corps and a member of the River Edge Board of Education. Questioned having a table in the park on July 4th and advised she will speak to the July 4th Committee. Questioned Sara if she needs help with the survey.

SARA BARTELLONI: Stated she is not sure it would be appealing.

PHYLLIS ANGELO: Indicated to move ahead with the oral history of Joe Maguire and questioned Elizabeth if she would be interested in doing that.

ELIZABETH McGINTY: Stated she would do Joe's Oral History.

MEETING ADJOURNED: 9:10 P.M.

Next meeting June 28, 2017