

HISTORIC COMMISSION

MINUTES

JANUARY 2015

8:15 p.m.

ATTENDANCE:

Present

Absent

<u>Phyllis Angelo</u>	<u>X</u>	
<u>Mary Donohue</u>		<u>X</u>
<u>Judi Sussman</u>		<u>X</u>
<u>Sara Theresa Bartelloni</u>	<u>X</u>	
<u>Mike Ginch</u>	<u>X</u>	
<u>Joan Kristan</u>	<u>X</u>	
<u>Liaison Ellen Busted</u>		

AUDIENCE:

PHYLLIS ANGELO: Stated she and Mary met with Brigette Bogart regarding the Historic Component to the Master Plan and the Plan should be ready for the Commission to view in a few weeks at the end of February it should be finalized. Advised there is a new Planning Board Attorney, who will need to get up to speed before getting involved in the Historic Component. She advised Brigette the Commission's Ordinance already had architectural guidelines and the Commission's role is advisory in amending the Master Plan. Stated she advised Brigette that once something becomes historically designated in falls on the privy of the Historic Commission, which is where the power of the ordinance comes in. Indicated she advised Brigette she wanted to move the historic designation as forward as possible as it is holding up the two houses that are pending designation and that State expects the house that is on the national and state registry to be designated locally. Also spoke about the process to continue with houses that would be added to the historic component of the Master Plan and if it could become a simple process. Advised Brigette is looking into putting in a clause that would indicate unless it involves a zoning change or easement change, than the Commission does not have to be involved with the Planning Board.

MIKE GINCH: Stated that the Master Plan does not need to be revised in order to designate a house.

PHYLLIS ANGELO: Stated yes and that Brigette will add the powers the Commission has regarding designation. Also spoke with Brigette about a tax break for the individuals who own a historic home. Questioned if this would be something the Commission would like to ask the town to do, which are only 5 to 6 houses.

SARA BARTELLONI: Stated she thinks it should be asked, since there are certain limitations on people's properties.

PHYLLIS ANGELO: Advised she thinks it would help to ask the town for \$1,000 tax break as anything less than that would not be worth it.

MIKE GINCH: Questioned what the motivation would be to apply a tax break to houses that have been designated historic in the past.

SARA BARTELLONI: Indicated that you can tell the homeowners they are getting a tax break to help take care of the property which is important to the community.

MIKE GINCH: Questioned what the incentive is for the Town to give a tax break.

PHYLLIS ANGELO: Stated it would only be a small amount.

MIKE GINCH: Suggested finding out if there is a precedent for give a tax break.

PHYLLIS ANGELO: Advised she could email the State Preservationist who would know if any towns have given a tax break.

SARA BARTELLONI: Stated she is not sure when the Council has ever been supportive of any of this Commission's initiatives. Indicated they will want to know the Commission's intention on designating properties.

PHYLLIS ANGELO: Advised New Bridge Landing is locally designated, but the Commission has no say what the State does to that property.

SARA BARTELLONI: Indicated she believes the tax initiative should be brought before the Mayor and Council and that they did support the archiving.

PHYLLIS ANGELO: Stated there was a question regarding the Historic Component regarding the McMansions, but the Commission does not want any involvement in that. Indicated that Brigitte Bogart advised she put it in because there is a reference to McMansions in the Master Plan. Indicated Ellen advised they added \$2,000 to the legal fees to continue with the Historic Component. Advised on February 23, 2015 at 11:00 a.m. there will be a meeting with the State Preservationist regarding the finances and how to administer the grant monies. Stated the archiving is a lot of work and she divided up the work among the members to do the initial work.

MIKE GINCH: Stated he could scan the photographs at home and could not see paying someone \$20.00/hr. to scan photographs. Indicated he would like to see them do the documentation and not scan photographs.

PHYLLIS ANGELO: Advised the Minute Books have to be done as the State would like to see them done. Stated she put money into the 2015 budget for more archival

material, along with the hourly rate, as well as the case and the hutch. Advised the designation of the 2 homes that was started in 2012, need to wait for the Historic Component to the Master Plan to be settled prior to going back to those designations. Stated she needs the digital form of the survey to give the State.

SARA BARTELLONI: Stated they can send them the pdf that was on the flash drive.

PHYLLIS ANGELO: Advised Sara to give her something to show the State that the Commission is moving forward with digitizing the survey.

JOAN KRISTAN: Stated she asked Mary to reach out to Bob Graliat, and Mary has tried a couple of times but has not heard back.

PHYLLIS ANGELO: Suggested starting with Don Herrick.

JOAN KRISTAN: Indicated that would be fine, however she had not prepared any questions for Don Herrick.

PHYLLIS ANGELO: Stated she has some information on Don Herrick, and possibly Sara has some information to give you.

SARA BARTELLONI: Indicated she could just call Don Herrick up and let him talk.

PHYLLIS ANGELO: Stated she could question him about the Newman House.

JOAN KRISTAN: Stated she just needs to know about him in order to ask questions and to get her any specific information you may have about him.

MEETING ENDED