

# **HISTORIC COMMISSION**

## **MINUTES**

**May 28, 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 Busteed</u>	X	

AUDIENCE:

**PHYLLIS ANGELO:** Questioned Ellen if the budget was approved.

**ELLEN BUSTEED:** Stated it was approved.

**PHYLLIS ANGELO:** Advised they put a scanner and computer in the budget. Questioned how to accomplish what they want done if they do not get the Grant.

**MIKE GINCH:** Stated the Oradell Archivist will be able to teach fundamental instructions and you will at least be able to get started.

**PHYLLIS ANGELO:** Indicated she sent a letter to the State CLG, who advised they have not made a decision yet as to the Grant, but believes they will hear by the end of June.

**MIKE GINCH:** Stated while it is a fair amount of money, it will be used up quickly, so a plan should be made as what is to be done going forward.

**MEMBER:** Questioned of George Carter is a paid employee or volunteer.

**MIKE GINCH:** Stated he believes he is a volunteer.

**PHYLLIS ANGELO:** Stated the town provided the space at the Oradell library, but believes he is a volunteer. Indicated once the Grant comes through, hopes Daragh will

feel it is important enough to archive material on a regular basis that the two librarians that are certified archivists, can make it part of their library duty.

**MIKE GINCH:** Stated he does not believe adding more responsibility to the librarians would be ideal.

**SARA BARTELLONI:** Questioned about contacting the High School for a student volunteer to help with the archiving.

**PHYLLIS ANGELO:** Indicated she thinks it would be easy to teach a High School student that is computer literate to do this, if they are willing.

**MIKE GINCH:** Questioned about finding adults to volunteer, so it would be a long term project and commitment.

**PHYLLIS ANGELO:** Stated Daragh is anxious to have these historic photographs and documents, as he gets asked questions about certain historic documents of River Edge. Advised she emailed everyone the legal decision she received from Mr. Neiss regarding the Planning Board. Stated if there is any re-writing of the Master Plan with the Historic Component in it, it would require the Borough Attorney. Indicated when the Commission appears before the Planning Board they present their case of what they think should be historically designated within the Master Plan. Stated some of the procedures were not followed by the Planning Board, like advertising prior to the meeting, having public input about the Master Plan. Stated she asked the attorney and the Town Planner, what they require from the Commission prior to having a meeting, but has not received an answer. Advised the River Edge Hotel is the only building that is not presently designated, that is on the National and State Registry but is in the process of being designated. Indicated the Borough Attorney may need to come to a meeting with the Commission and the Planning Board to explain his decision.

Advised when Town Council received letter about continuing the Historic process, she and Sara went to the meeting and they thought getting the Historic Component to the Master Plan should be done first before designating the homes. Stated she will advise everyone how to proceed once she hears from the Borough Attorney and would like everyone to appear before the Planning Board at the time of the hearing.

**SARA BARTELLONI:** Advised the flash drive provided updated pdf files of the survey, and are not editable, unless we receive a copy of the data base.

**PHYLLIS ANGELO:** Stated if they do not get the data base, Sara and herself will work on what to send to the County and the County will edit it. Advised Robin Brown, the County Preservationist, is leaving at the end of the month and does not know who her replacement will be.

**JOAN KRISTAN:** Advised she emailed Don Herrick but has not heard back from him.

**SARA BARTELLONI:** Suggested calling him, as she is not sure if he gets email.

**JOAN KRISTAN:** Indicated she will call him and try to set up the interview.

**PHYLLIS ANGELO:** Stated he is the person who grew up in River Edge and is very valuable to have.

**JOAN KRISTAN:** Questioned if there is information on Mr. Herrick, so she can do some research prior to doing the interview.

**PHYLLIS ANGELO:** Stated to google the name as his father and grandfather are in the River Edge books.

**MIKE GINCH:** Stated while the focus should be on people still living in River Edge, it should not prevent doing histories on individuals that have passed away, as their families may still be around.

**PHYLLIS ANGELO:** Stated she agrees, but wants to wait until the Grant comes through. Stated Bob Graliat is not well and may not be up to giving an interview.

**ELLEN BUSTEED:** Questioned if Phyllis had received a letter from Denise Dondiego before she retired regarding volunteers using a Borough email address for correspondence, for purposes of OPRA requests.

**PHYLLIS ANGELO:** Stated she did and she reached out to the Borough, but it was not set-up yet.

**PHYLLIS ANGELO:** Stated there will be meeting in June of the Planning Board and will advise everybody once a date has been set for the Commission to appear.

**MEETING ADJOURNED**