

**Minutes of the Metuchen Historic Preservation Committee Regular Meeting
April 9, 2013, 7:30 pm, Borough Hall, 2nd floor, 500 Main Street, Metuchen, NJ**

Chairperson Tyreen Reuter called the April 9, 2013 regularly scheduled meeting of the Metuchen Historic Preservation Committee (HPC) to order at 7:39 pm.

Attendance

Tyreen Reuter
Nancy Zerbe
Richard Weber
Richard Miller
Lori Chambers
Council Liaison Jay Muldoon

Review of Minutes from the March 19, 2013 Meeting

The minutes from the March 19, 2013 meeting were reviewed. Richard Weber / Nancy Zerbe (M/S/C, unanimous) to approve the minutes.

2012-2013 Grant Project

Tyreen Reuter reported that she had spoken with consultant Margaret Newman who is making good progress. Tyreen has given Margaret the historic Grimstead photographs.

Nancy Zerbe explained that she went to Borough Hall—where staff were very helpful—and used the tax index to look up the addresses of individual properties; the addresses were added to the tax map that Richard Miller had assembled. Tyreen will give the map to Margaret Newman. Nancy also gave to the Borough a request under the Open Public Records Act to receive a copy of the tax records (with Block and Lot numbers, addresses, and property owners) for all potential properties within the historic district. Per Tyreen's suggestion, we asked for the maximum possible coverage.

The Committee discussed the idea of having a public meeting to discuss our grant project. Topics discussed:

- For the flyer, it's best to think of the program as a general education for the public, not focused on the specific property owners. Also, include on the flyer the topic that Margaret will speak about (i.e., the specific historic district).
- Hold the meeting on June 11 in place of the HPC's regular scheduled meeting. This will allow time for the Committee to review the consultant's draft report with her prior to holding the public meeting. In addition, it will be before the final grant report is due to the county, who emphasized the need for public outreach this grant round. Tyreen will check to see if Margaret Newman is available and will check the availability of St. Luke's.

Scavenger Hunt

Tyreen Reuter reported that:

- Lori Chambers asked Judy Weinburg to take the photographs; she had agreed to do so.
- Suzanne Andrews and Becky Seely will hopefully help with involving the schools.
- The Metuchen Area Chamber of Commerce will donate 4 \$25 gift certificates.
- Tyreen sent a written request for a donation to the anonymous donor who has contributed in the past.
- If needed, copies of the program can be made at Borough Hall.
- Awards will be presented at the Borough's June 3 Council meeting. Jay Muldoon will look into getting a large poster to display at the Council meeting.

New Business

Tyreen reported on the May 19th "Metuchen Day" to focus on the 4 galleries in Metuchen. There will be an Open House at the BIL where our committee can have:

- Copies of the scavenger hunt form
- Poster(s) of the June 11th public education workshop
- Few display copies of Margaret Newman's grant report from last year

Richard Miller asked about two poles at the Lake Avenue Bridge out of concern that they may be removed due to the construction. It was agreed that:

- Richard will contact the Metuchen-Edison Historical Society to see if they have the cultural resources report that was prepared for this project; and
- The Committee requested that the Mayor be informed that if he receives a letter about a historic preservation review for a public project, the Committee would like to be involved.

Richard Miller took the map related to the historic district, will make 2 copies at Fed Ex / Kinkos, and drop the original and the copies off at Tyreen's house.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 pm.

Next Meetings:

May 14, 2013

June 11, 2013

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy Zerbe, HPC Member