

**Minutes of the Metuchen Historic Preservation Committee Regular Meeting**  
**May 12, 2015**  
**Metuchen Borough Hall, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, 500 Main Street, Metuchen, NJ**

Chairperson Tyreen Reuter called the May 12, 2015 regularly scheduled meeting of the Metuchen Historic Preservation Committee (HPC) to order at 7:41 PM.

**Attendance**

Tyreen Reuter, Nancy Zerbe, Richard Miller, Becky Seely, Lori Chambers, Michele Clancy, and Councilman Jay Muldoon, Liaison

Metuchen-Edison Historical Society Board member Evelyn Grant

Councilman Muldoon reported that Michele Clancy has now been appointed to the Committee.

**Review of Minutes from the April 28, 2015 Meeting**

The minutes from the April 28, 2015 meeting were not available; their review was tabled until the next meeting.

**Scavenger Hunt**

Tyreen Reuter handed out copies of the form and reported that notices had been sent to local newspapers and emailed to past participants. The Metuchen schools sent the form out electronically to parents. In addition, the form is available on the Borough website.

**National Register Nomination**

As reflected on the agenda, work is ongoing. Tyreen Reuter and Nancy Zerbe to meet next week.

**Current Grant Project**

As reflected on the agenda, work is ongoing. A draft copy is due to the County on June 22.

**New / Old Business**

Tyreen Reuter reported that she would be attending the Middlesex County Cultural and Heritage Commission's first annual History Fair on May 31 to represent Metuchen historical organizations, including the Historic Preservation Committee; Richard Miller agreed to join her.

The Committee discussed the Colonial Cemetery, including the need to stabilize the embankment to preserve tombstones, the need for a preservation plan for the cemetery, a potential meeting with

cemetery expert Mark Nonestied, a cemetery tombstone that is now at the Borough's Department of Public Works and needs to be returned to the cemetery, and the Borough's management of the site as the property owner. The Committee agreed to coordinate with the Metuchen-Edison Historical Society (represented at the meeting by Evelyn Grant) to develop a grant application for next year's County Cultural and Heritage Commission grants, for which applications are due June 19. The purpose of the grant will be to hire a consultant to develop a preservation plan to help guide the Borough on the proper treatment of the resource.

Nancy Zerbe expressed concern that although the cemetery is an important project, the Committee has two ongoing responsibilities (the National Register nomination and the current grant year's booklet) and these documents should preferably take precedence as a focus for the committee's agenda and discussion. The Committee discussed how to better divide up the needed tasks in order to get the booklet done by June and the National Register nomination ready for presentation to the Council in the fall.

Tyreen Reuter reported that the Metuchen-Edison Historical Society is developing a postcard book and is also sending a marketing letter to all homeowners whose homes were photographed by Lloyd Grimstead in the 1930s.

Council Liaison Jay Muldoon reported that he had arranged for the Committee to have storage space at Borough Hall.

The meeting ended 8:40 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Nancy Zerbe, HPC Member

### **Upcoming Meetings**

June 1 (to review the Scavenger Hunt submissions)

June 9