

Historic Preservation Commission  
Township of Readington  
Monthly Meeting Minutes  
January 13, 2015

- **Call to Order**

Chairperson Pat Fisher-Olsen called the meeting to order at 7:32 pm. She announced that all laws governing the Open Public Meetings Act have been met and that this meeting had been duly advertised.

- **Roll Call**

In attendance were Commissioners Pat Fisher-Olsen, Herb Fischer, Erin Brennan, Jim Horvath, Alan Harwick, Chuck Waters, Jim Carden and alternate member John Woodward.

Absent: Recently appointed alternate member Derek Dandurand and Township Committee Liaison Betty Ann Fort

Guests: Dave Reading and Ann Rotunno of the Mt. Amwell Project, Inc.

- **Organizational Matters**

- **Election of Chairperson**

Motion to nominate Pat Fisher-Olsen, by Alan Harwick, seconded by Jim Horvath, approved by vote of J. Horvath, P. Fisher-Olsen, E. Brennan, J. Carden, A. Harwick, C. Waters and H. Fischer.

- **Election of Secretary**

Motion to nominate Erin Brennan, by Alan Harwick, seconded by Jim Carden, approved by vote of J. Horvath, P. Fisher-Olsen, E. Brennan, J. Carden, A. Harwick, C. Waters and H. Fischer.

- **Meeting Calendar**

Motion to approve in the form presented to the Commissioners and amended to include January 12, 2016 in the list, by Alan Harwick, seconded by Jim Horvath, approved by vote of J. Horvath, P. Fisher-Olsen, E. Brennan, J. Carden, A. Harwick, C. Waters and H. Fischer.

- **Minutes**

**December 9, 2014:** Motion to approve, by Jim Carden, seconded by Alan Harwick, approved by vote of J. Horvath, P. Fisher-Olsen, E. Brennan, J. Carden, A. Harwick, C. Waters and H. Fischer.

- **2015 Objectives**

The Commissioners discussed the objectives, which include the historic district audit, as well as activities relating to the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966.

- **Historic Preservation Commission Design Reviews**

None

- **New Business**

*Haypress Cemetery Project.* Chairperson Fisher-Olsen introduced Dave Reading and Ann Rotunno of the Mt. Amwell Project, Inc. ("Mt. Amwell"). Mt. Amwell is a New Jersey non-profit corporation established to promote, educate, and publicize the historical accomplishments and contributions to the history of Hunterdon County New Jersey by the early settlers. Their activities include the restoration and stabilization of historically relevant sites in Hunterdon County such as structures, cemeteries, and roadways. Recent activities include the restoration of the Reading Burial Ground in Kingwood Township, and they are currently working on restoring the Swackhammer Lutheran Churchyard in Lebanon Township. Mr. Reading explained that Mt. Amwell's goal with respect to historic cemetery restoration and maintenance is to enter into a memorandum of understanding with the owner to take over the restoration and maintenance

Mt. Amwell would like to take over the restoration and maintenance of Haypress Cemetery, located off High Street in Whitehouse Station. Haypress Cemetery dates back to the 1740's and is believed to be owned by Readington Township. Chairperson Fisher-Olsen will verify the ownership.

The Commission discussed Mt. Amwell's proposal. Chairperson Fisher-Olsen inquired about Mt. Amwell's restoration and maintenance methods and emphasized that they must be reversible, in accordance with the Department of the Interior standards. She also advised that the Township Committee would have to approve the memorandum of understanding with Mt. Amwell and then asked for a motion supporting Mt. Amwell's proposal.

Jim Horvath moved that the Commission support Mt. Amwell's application to the Township Committee to restore and maintain the Haypress Cemetery. Jim Carden seconded the motion. Motion carried by vote of J. Horvath, P. Fisher-Olsen, E. Brennan, J. Carden, A. Harwick, C. Waters and H. Fischer.

- **Other Business**

- **Historic District Audit and Database Update**– in process
- **Sanderson Property/Ryland Developers:** The Commissioners discussed the site visit on January 10, attended by members of the Board of Adjustment, Environmental Commission, and the Commission, represented by Jim Carden, John Woodward, Alan Harwick and Pat Fisher-Olsen. They also discussed a letter received from Ryland Developers' legal counsel, stating their objections to the Commission's recommendations. Chairperson Fisher-Olsen sent the letter to the Commission's counsel.
- **Code Enforcement Follow-Through of Commission Recommendations:** Chairperson Fisher-Olsen reported on the discrepancy of the windows being installed at 131 Main Street with those recommended by the Commission. The drawings were changed and approved by Code Enforcement. The Commissioners discussed how we can ensure that Code Enforcement includes the Commission's recommendations in their inspections. The Commissioners agreed that a meeting with Mike Kovonuk was required.

- **Adjournment**

Erin Brennan made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Alan Harwick seconded the motion. All were in favor. Meeting was adjourned at 8:54 pm.

Minutes recorded and submitted by Erin Brennan.