

Rumson Historic Preservation Commission
Minutes of the Meeting of April 9, 2015
Charles S. Callman Courthouse Conference Room

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM by Chairman Charles Shay.

2. Roll Call: Present: Councilwoman Laura Atwell, Vice Chairman Thomas Clark, Mr. James Fitzmaurice, Mr. Ross Millhiser, Mr. Steven Peterson, Chairman Charles Shay, and Mrs. Roberta Van Anda

The Chairman declared a quorum present and announced that the notice requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act had been met by the posting and mailing of a schedule of all regular meetings of the Historic Preservation Commission for 2015 to the *Asbury Park Press*, the *Two River Times* and the Rumson Borough Website.

3. Approval of Minutes of February 12, 2015

The minutes of the February 12, 2015 meeting were approved by a motion made by Mr. Fitzmaurice and seconded by Councilwoman Atwell. Mrs. Van Anda was asked to forward them to Councilman Day for posting on the Borough Website.

4. Old Business

A. Chairman's Report

1. New Meeting Dates

Because Fair Haven is going to be using the Courthouse on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month, the meeting date for the Rumson Historic Preservation Commission will be returned to the 3rd Thursday of each month. This will take effect with the May meeting.

2. Use of Court Room

Chairman Shay described the meeting that he and Vice-Chairman Clark had in the George Moss Local History Room with Former Borough Administrator Gary Sammon and current Borough Administrator Tom Rogers. Mr. Rogers gave them a tour of the room which included storage areas and new glass display cabinets that he was able to acquire for the room. Chairman Shay inquired about the availability of the space for Commission meetings. Because

the Open Public Meetings Act requires that the public have access, the room may only be used during regular Borough Hall business hours. He offered the use of Bingham Hall and the Court Room for the Commission meetings, and Chairman Shay and Vice-Chairman Clark decided that the Court Room best suits the needs of the Commission at this time.

B. Sub Committee Reports

1. Enhance the HPC Website (Mr. Peterson, Mr. Millhiser)

Mr. Peterson reported on his potential plans to create the HPC Website.

2. Website Content Committee (Mr. Fitzmaurice, Councilwoman Atwell)

Mr. Fitzmaurice reported that he has estimates for framing the Borough map which will be available for Commission meetings. He also discussed progress on the list of historically significant homes. Color coding will make the list more user-friendly. He has taken many photographs of the homes on the list. He reported that his goal is to have the list ready for release within the next 3-4 months.

3. Incentives Committee (Vice-Chairman Clark, Mr. Peterson)

Vice Chairman Clark reported that his committee has looked into several state level funding and grant programs. He has learned that the Borough can not negotiate discounts for homeowners who are restoring historic homes, but it is possible to research various programs and provides links to them on the HPC website.

4. Communications Committee (Mrs. Atwell, Mrs. Van Anda)

Mrs. Atwell reported that she has researched the idea of starting an award to recognize residents for restoring historic homes. She will work on this at the Borough Council level in the hope of instituting such an award.

5. Team with other Groups Committee (Mr. Millhiser, Mr. Clark)

Mr. Millhiser and Mr. Clark have researched existing historic commission websites from other communities and discussed the merits of several of them. They will continue to look at what other towns are doing and will work with Chairman Shay to determine what ideas to incorporate into the HPC site.

6. Chronicle/Record/Document Committee (Mrs. Van Anda, Mr. Fitzmaurice)

Mrs. Van Anda discussed research on 54 Bingham Avenue, an historically significant home which is presently on the market for sale. She shared old photographs of the home and an old deed. Mr. Fitzmaurice has toured the home and photographed it.

New Business

A. Liaison Reports

Vice Chairman Clark, Planning Board Liaison, informed the Commission that the list of historically significant homes that the Commission is working on was mentioned in the new 2015 Master Plan. Of those homes on the list, 77 historic properties are considered to be in flood plain areas.

Councilwoman Atwell discussed plans for an award for residents who have done restoration work on historic homes.

Next Meeting Date

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, May 21, 2015 at 6:00 PM.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 PM after a motion by Vice Chairman Clark seconded by Mr. Peterson.

Respectfully submitted,

Roberta H. Van Anda, Secretary