

**HOPE TOWNSHIP  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION  
JUNE 12, 2023 MINUTES**

Zoom Meeting

The meeting was called to order by Robin Keggan, Secretary at 7:04 pm.

***OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT:***

Under the provisions of the “Open Public Meetings Act”, adequate notice of this meeting has been provided by publishing notice in the New Jersey Herald and by posting notices in the Hope Post Office and on the Township Bulletin Board.

**ROLL CALL:** Chris Beatty, Joshua Belverio, Kamil Belverio, Gianfranco DiSalvo, Verity Fox, Maria McDonough, Robert May and Emily Brown. Liaison: Mayor Timothy McDonough was present.

Members Absent: Melissa Debiak.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** The minutes of the May 8, 2023 Reorganization meeting have been distributed to the members prior to the meeting. Emily Brown made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Maria McDonough. Voice vote taken – All members who were present at the last meeting were in favor. Abstentions: Chris Beatty, Kamil Belverio, Gianfranco DiSalvo and Robert May.

**APPLICATIONS:**

None.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS/DISCUSSION:**

Welcome Wagon - Ms. Brown noted that she recently met with Monica Sobon to put items together for the Welcome Wagon bags that are being organized and put together for residents moving into Hope Township. She made mention of the items that are being put into the bag, which consisted of various brochures, ornaments from the Moravian Lantern Tour last year and flyers. Mayor McDonough noted that he would like information put into the bags relating to the Christmas Craft Market held annually, as well as the list of events that was handed out at the annual Appreciation Dinner. There are about 10 bags ready to go.

Discussion Re: 4 Walnut Street – Ms. Brown noted that she invited Mr. Pavese to the Block Party that was recently held. A discussion took place regarding the work he is undertaking at his property at 4 Walnut Street and the pace at which it is being done. Concerns were mentioned regarding the front porch and the poor condition it is in and the fear that someone will get hurt on it. Ms. Fox noted that she believes Mr. Pavese is trying hard to get work done on his property, but feels more patience needs to be exercised as he is working on this alone. A discussion took place regarding having a member of the HPC reaching out to him to find out a progress/status update and that perhaps more encouragement should be given to Mr. Pavese for the work that he is doing as the HPC does not want to be looked at as being vindictive or hard to work with.

Kernoschak Letter – Ms. Brown shared a letter that the Commission Secretary was asked to put together regarding trailers that are being parked in the Historic District near the gas station. The members weighed in on their thoughts regarding the letter and on a motion made by Mr. Josh Belverio and seconded by Chris Beatty, the letter will be sent out as-is, and perhaps once an

ordinance is passed by the Township relating to trailers being parked in Hope Township, a follow-up letter could be sent if the trailers are not moved after the initial letter is received. The trailers are not the Kernoschaks, but rather tenants that are renting one of their homes in the Historic District.

Ms. Brown also noted that the Stuarts' house across the street from her has had their fencing installed. They were approved for vinyl fencing by the HPC, however, they were able to find a contractor within their budget to install wood fencing, which was the more desirable option that the HPC would like. A thank you letter will be sent to them by Ms. Brown for their efforts in keeping the wood fencing in place instead of the vinyl fencing they received approval for.

CHHP Grant Update – Ms. Brown updated the members on the grant she is applying for to obtain a projector and speakers. This grant is being submitted by the HPC. She has already submitted another grant on behalf of the Creative Team, which was for a computer. A camera has also already been secured via a CHHP grant. Ms. Brown will email everyone a copy of the grant.

Sign for Community Center – A discussion took place regarding the sign that is being ordered for the Community Center (will be installed by the front door and be made of metal). The County already approved the language for the sign she submitted, however, she will be sending the language out to all of the members for revisions and a discussion for approval will be on the next HPC agenda before it is submitted finally to the County. This sign needs to be received by December 2023 in order for the municipality to collect the \$500 grant being offered by the County. Also discussed were the current white wooden signs are buildings. Current owners of those properties will be asked if they'd like a metal sign with a Moravian star to replace the wooden ones which are falling into disrepair. Ms. Brown mentioned she has received a referral for someone who makes the signs, and will be reaching out to them for further information. She will report back at the next meeting.

Mrs. Brown also asked about the status of the Long House and if it is still for sale. She mentioned that it would be great if another non-profit bought the building so that it is still eligible for grant monies.

Mrs. Brown thanked Mrs. McDonough for her hard work in the gardens around town. Also discussed were the sandwich boards around town center, which should be taken in every evening. It was suggested that the Commission look at our current Ordinance regarding this and a discussion can take place at the next meeting.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

Hybrid Meetings – A discussion took place regarding holding the HPC meeting in person again. Ultimately, it was decided to hold the meetings hybrid (in person and via Zoom) starting at the next meeting. The Secretary will re-advertise the remaining 2023 meeting dates as hybrid.

No correspondence was received by the secretary. No applications are at deadline.

**ADJOURNMENT** There being no further business before the commission, a motion was made by Joshua Belverio, seconded by Verity Fox to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 pm.

Robin L. Keggan, Secretary