



**TOWNSHIP OF WEST MILFORD  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION**



**MINUTES**

**APRIL 19, 2022**

**MAIN MEETING ROOM**

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Chair Josephine (Jo) Beck called the April 19, 2022 West Milford Historic Preservation Commission meeting to order at 7:06 pm with a reading of the Legal Notice.

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Josephine Beck (Chair), Kristen Koerner (Vice Chair),  
Kerry O'Brien, Brandon Romaine  
Absent: Steven Boshart  
Secretary: Tonya E. Cubby  
Guest: Michael Saluga

**MINUTES**

A **motion** was made by Kristen Koerner, with a **second** by Jo Beck, to approve the March 15, 2022 minutes. The minutes were **approved** by unanimous consent.

**HISTORIC SITES**

**Reid House - 1778 Macopin Road**

- The Commission's secretary obtained a copy of the zoning permit denial from 2015 for a proposed "old time country store" on the site of 1778 Macopin Road that the owners had requested approval for. The Commission advised that a letter must be sent to the current owners to inquire about the location of the historic designation plaque. They will be requested to return the plaque to its original location or return it to the Commission.

**Macopin Homestead - 1299 Macopin Road**

- The Commission's secretary provided the recently obtained a copy of the zoning permit for 1299 Macopin Road for interior renovations including plumbing, electric, insulation, drywall and windows. The new owners were advised by correspondence dated March 16, 2022 that the dwelling is an historic structure and they will need approval from the HPC if there is any work proposed for the exterior, as well as a Certificate of Appropriateness.

**Long Pond Ironworks**

- Kerry O'Brien reported that the historian at Ringwood Manor filed the documents with the NJ State Historic Preservation Office requesting the inclusion of the Hewitt Church into the Long Pond Ironworks Historic District. No update was available at this time. He noted that two grants have been obtained for work on the Hewitt Church, one for an

architectural/structural study on the building, and one for actual (bricks and mortar) work at the site. Mr. O'Brien advised that the church was constructed in 1898, but the era for historical significance of a structure ended in the 1870's.

- Mr. O'Brien reported that the FOLPI were working on obtaining furnace stabilization grants for the site. He noted that the North Jersey Highlands Historical Society were planning several programs at the Long Pond Ironworks and Ringwood Manor sites in the coming months, including a blacksmith demonstration in May 2022.

### **Wallisch Homestead**

- The Commission advised that a letter must be sent to the Friends of Wallisch Homestead regarding the stabilization of the barns on the site. On a motion by Kerry O'Brien, with a second by Brandon Romaine, the Commission approved correspondence to be drafted to the FOWH advising that no buildings on the site should be demolished. The letter should include comments made at the Commission's March meeting: *Steve Boshart advised that he and the Construction Official, Tim Ligus, recently conducted a site visit at the Wallisch Homestead. They inspected the barns and he recommended that the barns should be stabilized and the trees around the buildings should be cleaned up. He noted that the buildings can be raised up and foundations built under the structures. He maintained that the Friends of Wallisch should not raze the buildings on the site, and noted that they do not have the authority to do so.*

### **West Milford Museum**

- The exterior of the WM Museum will be painted this year, as well as repairs to some of the clapboard. It was reported that the Heritage Committee is having difficulty obtaining three quotes for work on the building due to the shortage of qualified contractors for the work that is required on an historic building, as well as the availability in their schedules.
- The Heritage Committee is seeking stone masons to repair and "shore up" the dry laid stone foundation. Steve Boshart had requested a reminder email since he may have information on some stone masons in one of his architectural directories.

### **MISCELLANEOUS / OTHER BUSINESS**

- The Commission discussed the historical accuracy of products and materials used for restoration and renovations on state and federally designated historic sites.
- The Heritage Committee will be requested to consider approval of an expenditure from their Trust Fund for the conversion of the HPC meeting tapes. The tapes would be housed at the Museum and would be available for research. Jo Beck will obtain a quote for the tape

conversions from Video Express. It had been suggested at a prior meeting that the Estate of George Eckhardt may be interested in contributing to this project. Bob Moshman, as attorney for the estate, will be contacted.

***The following correspondence was reviewed by the Commission:***

**CORRESPONDENCE**

- 2021 Lifetime Achievement Award – Kerry O’Brien - April 20, 2022 at 6:30 pm at the West Milford Town Hall
- NJ Historical Commission – April Programs
- Friends of Hathorn Historical Society Spring Newsletter

**ADJOURNMENT**

- The next regular meeting of the West Milford Historic Preservation Commission was scheduled for May 17, 2022.
- With no further business to discuss, Jo Beck **adjourned** the meeting at 7:55 pm on a **motion** by Kerry O’Brien with a **second** by Kristen Koerner.

Approved: May 17, 2022

Respectfully submitted by

Tonya E. Cubby, Secretary