



**TOWNSHIP OF WEST MILFORD
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION**



MINUTES

MARCH 15, 2022

MAIN MEETING ROOM

Chair Josephine (Jo) Beck called the March 15, 2022 West Milford Historic Preservation Commission meeting to order at 7:05 pm with a reading of the Legal Notice.

ROLL CALL

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

MINUTES

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

HISTORIC SITES

Reid House - 1778 Macopin Road

- The Commission's secretary reported that she had spoken to the former owner of 1778 Macopin Road, Pete Wosyluk, regarding the removal of the bronze plaque denoting the house's historic status. Mr. Wosyluk suggested that the current owner may have been reluctant to abide by the regulations associated with an historically designated site, and may have removed the plaque. He also noted that the former outhouse on the site had been moved. The Commission had recommended previously that a letter be sent to the current owners to inquire about the location of the 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 survey and information on the house at 1299 Macopin Road. Kristen Koerner checked the real estate listing for the house and advised that it did not state that the house was historically designated. The Commission's secretary will check with the Building Dept. to inquire whether the new owners applied for building permits. They will be advised that it is an historic structure and they will need approval from the HPC if there is any work proposed for the exterior. A zoning permit was approved for an interior remodel including plumbing, electric, insulation, drywall and windows, and it noted that the structure is a local historic landmark and alterations to the exterior require a certificate of appropriateness.

Long Pond Ironworks

- Kerry O'Brien was not present at the meeting to provide an update on Long Pond Ironworks or the Hewitt Church sites.

Wallisch Homestead

- 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.

Cahill House

- Jo Beck reported that she drove near the site of the Cahill House on Macopin Road to determine if the new black chain link fence that was installed at the rear of the property would be an issue with regard to historic designation regulations. She reported that on one side of the house it is noticeable, but when the leaves are out on the trees it may not be very visible. Steve Boshart felt that the fence was not very visible from the road. He suggested that the ordinance be reviewed for any restrictions on fencing, adding that if the fence is in the back yard, the Commission may not have any recourse.

West Milford Museum

- The exterior of the WM Museum will be painted this year, as well as some clapboard repair. The Heritage Committee must obtain three quotes to be submitted for approval by the Township; one quote was received by Romeo Painting Contractors.
- 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. The Commission noted that there is a program on television (Stone House Revival) and the Heritage Committee may try to reach out to the host, Jeff Devlin for resources.

MISCELLANEOUS / OTHER BUSINESS

- The Heritage Committee will be polled at the next meeting to see if they will use their trust funds to pay for the tape conversion. The digital copies will be stored at the Museum. It was also suggested that the Estate of George Eckhardt may be interested in contributing to this project – Bob Moshman should be contacted.

The following correspondence was reviewed by the Commission:

CORRESPONDENCE

- Volunteer Of The Year Program – April 20, 2022 – Request for Nominations – The Commission recommended that Kerry O’Brien be nominated for his commitment to local history and efforts in acquiring and managing numerous grants for local historic landmarks.
- 2021 CLG Annual Report Due March 31, 2022
- Virtual Public Hearing – Historic Preservation Element to the County of Passaic’s Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan – April 7, 2022, 5 pm. Document available at:
<https://www.passaiccountynj.org/departments/cultural-and-historic-affairs>

ADJOURNMENT

- The next regular meeting of the West Milford Historic Preservation Commission was scheduled for April 19, 2022.
- With no further business to discuss, the meeting **adjourned** at 8:00 pm on a **motion** by Steve Boshart with a **second** by Kristen Koerner.

Approved: April 19, 2022

Respectfully submitted by

Tonya E. Cubby, Secretary