



**TOWNSHIP OF WEST MILFORD
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION**



MINUTES
MAY 18, 2021

MAIN MEETING ROOM

Chair Steven Boshart called the May 18, 2021 West Milford Historic Preservation Commission meeting to order at 7:00 pm with a reading of the Legal Notice.

ROLL CALL

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

MINUTES

A **motion** was made by Kerry O'Brien to approve the April 20, 2021, with a **second** by Jo Beck. The Minutes were **approved** by unanimous consent.

SITES

Vreeland Store

- Jo Beck reported that there was white fencing around the rear of the Vreeland Store and attached to the front of the building. Chair Steve Boshart advised that the fencing is to keep the customers contained while they are serving alcohol at the site.

Macopin Homestead – 1299 Macopin Road

- Jo Beck has reported at a prior meeting that she witnessed several antique red sleds in a container at the 1299 Macopin Road site. Kerry O'Brien advised that he had spoken to Linda Bayer and she said that the sleds were in the front of the building waiting for someone to pick them. She is currently working at the Vreeland Store. He also reported that the Women's Club was donating an outdoor bench to the West Milford Museum that they received as part of a project they were involved in.

Reid House - 1778 Macopin Road

- There was no update on the plaque for this site.

Long Pond Ironworks

- Hewitt Church at Long Pond – Kerry O'Brien reported that the structural report had been forwarded to the Commission for review.
- The Long Pond Ironworks Museum is still waiting for the State to grant permission to open the building to the public. The Friend of Long Pond Ironworks are required to prepare a re-opening plan for the State's approval.

- Mr. O'Brien advised that a photo album had been donated to the WM Museum that contained photos of Long Pond Ironworks. It also contained photos of the Hewitt Church and details of the slate roof, which he needed for the grant. He will make copies of the photos for the Friends of Long Pond Ironworks.

Wallisch Homestead

- Kerry O'Brien reported that he observed paint being scrapped off of the barn. Chair Steve Boshart advised that he and Construction Official, Tim Ligus, are trying to schedule a date to conduct a site visit to examine the barn.
- Mr. O'Brien advised that, several years ago, Preservation NJ had included the Wallisch Homestead on its list of NJ's ten most endangered historical sites. He was in contact with them recently to provide an update on the grants, projects completed and in-progress, and ongoing events for the site, and they were pleased to receive a follow-up report. Preservation NJ plans to include the update on this site in their conference to be held during the summer.

West Milford Museum

- The WM Museum received a grant for historically themed music events to be held in the late summer and early fall.

MISCELLANEOUS / OTHER BUSINESS

- HPC Meeting Cassette Tapes – Discuss conversion to digital media, costs and possible funding. Chair Steve Boshart suggested that an inexpensive way to complete the conversion of the audio tapes is to find an intern, or Museum volunteer, to do the work. He discussed this with an acquaintance who sells the equipment, but someone would have to complete the conversion process. There are services for archiving available but we would need indexing. The tapes could be converted to a flashdrive, then transferred on to the hard drive. An intern project could include listening to the tapes and indexing the topics. He noted that determining the value of the information for transcription of the tapes, as well as the cost and time involved, was a consideration.

The following correspondence was reviewed by the Commission:

CORRESPONDENCE

- Preservation New Jersey – Preservation Perspective Newsletter Spring 2021
- South Brunswick HPC – Inquiry to NJ HPC regarding grave markers located or discovered on commercially developed properties.
- Affordable Housing projects and designated historic districts - requirements related to historic preservation ordinances.

- May is Historic Preservation Month - NPS Natl Register and Natl Historic Landmarks webinar to discuss preservation issues, 05-19-21 at 3:00 pm. Registration required.
- NJ State Council on the Arts Grants \$3 million for NJ Non-Profits for Covid Recovery and Relief.

ADJOURNMENT

- Chair Steven Boshart advised that the next regular meeting of the West Milford Historic Preservation Commission is scheduled for June 15, 2021. With no further business to discuss, the meeting **adjourned** at 7:45 pm on a **motion** by Kristen Koerner with a **second** by Kerry O'Brien.

Approved:

Respectfully submitted by

Tonya E. Cubby, Secretary