

**TOWNSHIP OF WYCKOFF
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
SEPTEMBER 13, 2021 MEETING MINUTES**

The September 13, 2021 Historic Preservation Commission meeting was held in the West Wing Conference Room in Memorial Town Hall.

Chairman Doug Swenson called the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m.

Ms. Mitchell read the Open Public Meeting Notice: The September 13, 2021 Open Public Meeting of the Wyckoff Historic Preservation Commission is now in session. A 48 hour notice of this meeting was sent to the Record, The Ridgewood News, and the North Jersey Herald and News – all newspapers having general circulation throughout the Township of Wyckoff and was posted on the Wyckoff website where agendas are posted.

Roll Call

Commission Members Present: Rudy Boonstra, Township Committeeman; Doug Swenson, Chairman; Patricia Constance, Joseph Cestaro, Richard Lynch, Curtis Bajak, Steven Zmuda, Joseph Haftek, and Maureen Mitchell.

Absent: Beth Van Emburgh.

Old Business

The June 12, 2021 meeting minutes were approved by the Commission Members.

New Business

Mr. Swenson said that he received from the Commission members, all of the completed base forms for the fourteen (14) historic homes we wish to present to the Planning Board and the Township Committee for inclusion in the Historic Element of the Master Plan.

Mr. Bajak inquired if the Township has records of home ownership archived because learning of the chain of ownership of a home can provide colorful information about the history of home. He added that wills and testaments can also provide historical information about a home such as contents of the home at the time. Mr. Swenson stated that there was a fire in Town Hall in the 1950's and he believes early records were destroyed in the fire. Mr. Haftek said deeds and wills may be kept at the County Clerk's office.

Mr. Swenson stated that now that we have completed the base forms, we will plan to present the forms to the Planning Board for the inclusion of the historic homes in the Master Plan. He pointed out, that as per Ordinance #1876, the owners of the subject homes must be notified of the meeting via certified mail. The home owners will be notified to provide the opportunity to attend any Historic Preservation Commission and Planning Board meeting where the inclusion of the homes in the Master Plan is publicly discussed.

Mr. Boonstra stated that the owners of the fourteen (14) homes were notified of the eventual process when the Historic Preservation Commission was first formed, adding that they are all aware that their homes are currently listed on the State and National Registers of Historic Structures.

Mr. Haftek and Mr. Bajak will collaborate on drafting the notice to be sent to the fourteen (14) property owners.

Mr. Swenson said our aim is to send out the letters to the homeowners in October to notify them that at the November meeting, the HPC will discuss our plan to present the base forms to the Planning Board Members at their December 8 Planning Board meeting. The purpose is to include the fourteen (14) historic homes in the Historic Element of the Master Plan.

Ms. Constance inquired if the HPC can do anything to protect older commercial structures in the Township with regard to exterior renovations. Mr. Boonstra stated that commercial businesses must submit applications to the Planning Board and must first be reviewed by the Design Review Advisory Committee for recommendations. He suggested that perhaps the HPC could work with the Design Review Advisory Committee on these applications. Ms. Mitchell said that she will notify the HPC members of pending reviews by the DRAC.

Mr. Swenson pointed out that Mr. Zmuda had previously spoken about the original architecture of the Bergen Brick building and the old red building across the street next door to Miller's Pharmacy. Mr. Zmuda had suggested possibly designating the area along Wyckoff Avenue from the Bergen Brick building down to the Brownstone as a Historic District. Mr. Swenson said the HPC may consider this project in the future once we finalize incorporating the fourteen (14) original designated historic homes into the Master Plan.

Mr. Boonstra mentioned that there is a nice article about the HPC in the Township's fall newsletter.

Mr. Cestaro stated that he has been in contact with the owner of the Van Blarcom House, located at 131 Godwin Avenue, and is going to schedule a visit to the home with photographer Daneen Augello. He said he will notify the Commission members of the date in case anyone else would like to join the tour.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
NO ONE FROM THE PUBLIC COMMENTED
CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn the meeting was made, seconded, and passed unanimously. The meeting concluded at 8:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Maureen Mitchell
Commission Member and Secretary