

**TOWNSHIP OF WYCKOFF  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION  
DECEMBER 14, 2021 MEETING MINUTES**

The December 14, 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 7:05 p.m.

Ms. Mitchell read the Open Public Meeting Notice: The December 14, 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, Curtis Bajak, Steven Zmuda, Beth Van Emburgh, Joseph Cestaro, and Maureen Mitchell.

Absent: Richard Lynch and Joseph Haftek.

Old Business

The November 9, 2021 meeting minutes were approved by the Commission Members.

New Business

There was a discussion about the informational letter the Commission will be mailing to the owners of the fourteen (14) historic structures in Wyckoff. Mr. Swenson stated that this letter will be sent in advance of presenting the case to the Planning Board to incorporate the fourteen (14) homes into the historic element of the Master Plan. The 2/8/2022 meeting of the HPC will be referenced in the letter as the next open public meeting for the homeowners to attend if they wish to do so. The letters will be sent by certified, return receipt mail no later than mid-January.

Mr. Bajak advised, should the Post Office return any of the letters as undeliverable as addressed, the Commission would have to take action on that before it is presented to the Planning Board at the appropriate time.

Mr. Swenson agreed stating that in the case of the owner of the historic home on Crescent Avenue, we are hoping the Post Office has a forwarding address as he no longer lives in the home. If the letter is returned as undeliverable, we will have to make an effort to track the owner down.

Mr. Cestaro inquired about the Commission's inability to make recommendations regarding interior renovations on certain historic buildings for instance; The Barn Restaurant on Sicomac Avenue or the home with a historic connection to the underground railroad. He added that he thinks the Commission should be able to make recommendations in cases like those.

Mr. Swenson stated that the Commission can only advise or recommend preserving historic features however our advisory capacity extends to the Zoning Board of Adjustment and the Planning Board.

Mr. Zmuda pointed out the great renovations that were done to the Meer House. Mr. Boonstra agreed stating that the kitchen was entirely redone, and it is beautiful. Some of the fireplaces and woodwork inside the home were preserved.

Mr. Cestaro said that his point is that if the potential exists to keep a historic detail or a fireplace then it should be encouraged.

Mr. Swenson said it will be encouraged because once the homes are listed in the Master Plan, it will be all eyes on renovations and any potential buyer of one of the historic homes will know that these homes are included in the Master Plan for historic preservation.

There was a discussion about the renovations to the home on Wyckoff Avenue just down the street from the Meer house. The home was enlarged and renovated however the original external architectural details of the original home were maintained.

Mr. Swenson reiterated that we would make every effort to track down the addresses or contact information of any historic homeowners whose certified letters are returned as undeliverable with no forwarding address.

Mr. Bajak expressed concern with making sure the letter reaches the owner of 310 Crescent Avenue since we are aware that he is no longer living in the home. He suggested giving the letter to the homeowners listing agent.

Mr. Boonstra said he will contact the listing agent in an attempt to obtain the new address of the owners of 310 Crescent Avenue.

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

Ms. Constance mentioned that photos of two (2) of Wyckoff's historic homes were featured in the December issue of Wyckoff Living Magazine.

Mr. Boonstra announced that Mr. Swenson's and Ms. Constance's terms are expiring on December 31, 2021 and he would like to reappoint the both of them for a new term. They both accepted.

Mr. Zmuda inquired if the Stone House Nursey structure is considered historic adding that if so, it should be added to the Commission's list of historic structures.

Mr. Boonstra said that the old cobblestone dairy barn on Sicomac Avenue should also be added to the Commission's next list of historic structures for preservation.

Mr. Swenson stated that we will work on the next group of homes and structures once we get the original fourteen (14) homes into the Master Plan.

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn the meeting was made, seconded, and passed unanimously. The meeting concluded at 7:39 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Maureen Mitchell