

Franklin Township Historic Preservation Advisory Commission

Minutes of the Regular Monthly Meeting

May 6, 2014

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Andrew Burian at 7:31p.m., in accordance with the Open Public Meeting Law of 1975.

Attendance

Members—Jean Ambrose (7:42), Andrew Burian, Susan Goldey, Bob LaCorte, Anthony Ganim
Alternate—Nancy Hohnstine
Staff—Vince Dominach
Historian—Bob Mettler

Absent

Members—Tom Gale, Joanne Kaiser, Barbara Lawrence, Barbara ten Broeke
Council Member—Ted Chase

Guests

Steve Lewandowski (Rutgers Prep)
Steven Loy (Rutgers Prep)
Peter Richardson (Rutgers Prep)
Jeff Venezia (Rutgers Prep)

Review Actions

Formal

1. Review of the application for Certificate of Appropriateness of Phillip Kramer for installation of a standby generator and propane tank on the property at 429 Canal Road, East Millstone, NJ Block 73.01 Lot 1.06 and located within the Delaware and Raritan Canal Historic District. File # 14-00015

Vince Dominach presented the application for Mr. Kramer. The application included:

- A tax map on which was drawn the proposed location of the generator,

- Design criteria and description of the proposed propane tank and underground gas line that will connect them.
- Photographs of the generator and the tank.
- Photographs of the proposed sites of placement of the generator and the propane tank
- Narrative explaining the reasons for the choice and placement of the system.

The generator will be located next to the house which stands about 15' above road/canal level. The propane tank will be located on the side of the driveway, closer to the road but still above the flood line. This will allow safe access for fuel delivery. In the narrative, Mr. Kramer also explained why an underground tank was not a good option.

According to the plans, the tank will be obscured from view by constructing a small fence with vegetation around it. Commissioner Ganim informed the presenter that ivy will grow on concrete and wood, but does not twirl around metal as one might think.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the application as submitted with the condition that the detail of the proposed fence/vegetation be approved in executive review. (Goldey, Burian)

Commission Member Ambrose arrived at 7:42.

2 Review of the application of Rutgers Preparatory School, 1345 Easton Avenue, Somerset, NJ, 08873 Block 466 Lot 1.01 Zoned R-20 and located within the Delaware and Raritan Canal Historic District. File #14-00016

Mr. Jeff Venezia, Architect, Mr. Steve Lewandowski, Head Master, Mr. Steve Loy and Mr. Peter Richardson from Rutgers Prep presented site plans, floor plans and elevations of the school and also computer generated images of the proposed addition from two perspectives. The glass and steel entranceway will provide single point controlled access to the two existing entrance doors on the west and south elevations of the building. The addition measures 30'x34' and is designed to provide maximum visibility of the surrounding area and of anyone approaching, thus providing greater security for the community within. Entrance will be controlled by a kiosk card-reader.

The addition will be climate controlled; HVAC systems will be obscured by the existing parapet, according to the presenters.

A motion was made and seconded, and passed unanimously to accept the application as submitted. (LaCorte, Burian)

Chairman Burian stated that Construction and Zoning officials will monitor and verify that HVAC equipment will indeed be screened from view from the Canal.

Informal Reviews

None

A motion was unanimously passed to amend the agenda to consider Unfinished Business out of order.

Unfinished Business

4. Stoothoff Gunther—Vince Dominach said that this project was now in the hands of The Director of Special Projects, Tiffany Delaney. The Commission decided to invite Ms. Delaney to the June HPAC meeting so that she can update us on the use of the funding for Stoothoff Gunther, signage, and the investigation of grant opportunities.

1. Windshield Survey—Andrew Burian stated that he had worked out a form, but will wait until the forthcoming planning session of the sub-committee to reveal it.

2. Handbook—In Committee.

3. Windows Workshop--All who attended agreed that it was a success. There were nine attendees who all seemed very interested. The staff of the library were helpful and the site proved to be a good choice. All modes of advertising should be continued for future events. Commission members in attendance: Gale, Ganim, Hohnstine, ten Broeke, Ambrose, Kaiser, Goldey. Photos are available. Suggestion for future workshop: "The Permit Process"

5. NJ Historic Conference--Chairman Burian announced that five applicants were funded for the NJ History Conference on June 5, 2014: Goldey, Lawrence, Gale, Ambrose, ten Broeke.

6. There was a written update of the progress at Rutgers Prep.

Correspondence

None

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of April 1, 2014 were approved as corrected.

Reports

1. Open Space—Bob LaCorte reported that neither the Open Space Advisory Commission nor the Township Council had a favorable reaction to the historic village marker signs proposed by the Historic Preservation Advisory Commission. They (Commission and Council) did not like the design nor the cost. The Director of Special Projects, Tiffany Delaney, has been instructed to come up with an alternate design. Ms. Delaney will be invited to the June HPAC meeting, and the historic marker project will be on the agenda

New Business

None

Public Discussion

None

Upcoming Meetings

Next Meeting Announcement

June 10, 2014

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:31 p.m.

Ec. Robert Vornlocker, Township Manager
Ann Marie McCarthy, Township Clerk
Mark Healey, Director of Planning
Vincent Dominach, Senior Zoning Officer