

FREEHOLD TOWNSHIP HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION MEETING
MINUTE-JUNE 19, 2023

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AT 7:01PM

ROLL CALL: PRESENT-CHERYL POLVERINO, STEPHEN DOWNEY, DAVE SIEME, NEIL GARGIULO,
KEVIN MARSHALL, MEG THOMANN, MAUREEN FASANO
ABSENT-MICHAEL BERMAN, TODD CAISSIE

REVIEW OF MINUTES—ACCEPTED BY NEIL G. AND 2ND BY STEPHEN DOWNEY

THE HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION RECEIVED THE 'HISTORIC PRESERVATION AWARD' JUNE 5, 2023 AT HALL OF RECORDS IN FREEHOLD, NJ. THIS AWARD IS PRESENTED EACH YEAR BY THE MONMOUTH COUNTY HISTORIC COMMISSION FOR STRUCTURES THAT HAVE BEEN PRESERVED BY INDIVIDUALS OR HISTORIC/HERITAGE SOCIETIES OR COMMISSIONS. WE RECEIVED THE AWARD FOR RESTORATION OF THE HENDERSON BARN WHICH IS LOCATED ON THE CINCINNATI HALL SITE AT THE NORTHERN EDGE OF FREEHOLD MARKETPLACE MALL ON RT. 537 IN FREEHOLD. STEPHEN DOWNEY WAS INTEGRAL IN WRITING THE NARRATIVE FOR THE AWARD AND WE GOT THIS BECAUSE OF THAT AND THE RECONSTRUCTION.

IT WAS DECIDED THAT THE AWARD SHOULD BE HOUSED AT TOWN HALL AND SINCE MATT BRYANT, TWP. ENGINEER WAS AN INTEGRAL PART OF GETTING THIS PROJECT DONE WE THOUGHT IT ONLY APPROPRIATE TO PRESENT TO HIM TO BE DISPLAYED OUTSIDE THE ENGINEERING OFFICE WITH PICTURE OF BEFORE AND AFTER OF THE BARN. THE BARN RESTORATION WAS COMPLETED IN FEBRUARY OF 2022. THANKS TO THE EFFORTS OF THE HPC AND ENGINEERING DEPT. AND ALSO THE TWP. COMMITTEE WHO HELPED WITH THE FUNDING FOR THE PROJECT WHICH COST APPROX. \$249K. WE HAD APPROXIMATELY \$100K SET ASIDE FOR THE PROJECT BUT NATURE DICTATED WE DO THE PROJECT NOW INSTEAD OF WAITING FOR MORE FUNDING. THANKS TO THE TWP. ADMINISTRATOR AND TWP. COMMITTEE EXTRA FUNDING WAS AVAILABLE TO HELP.

HERITAGE SOCIETY REPORT:

GARDEN PARTY TEA WAS HELD ON SUNDAY, MAY 16, 2023—IT WAS HUGE SUCCESS AS A FUNDRAISER GARNERING \$1,040.00 IN PROFIT. BASKETS AND GIFT CERTIFICATES WERE GREAT ADDITION FROM LOCAL VENDORS AND HERITAGE MEMBERS. FOOD WAS MADE BY HERITAGE MEMBER VOLUNTEERS. THE 4TH NJ CIVIL WAR REENACTORS WILL HOLD THEIR TEA IN SEPTEMBER AT THE OAKLEY FARM-PUBLIC IS INVITED AND IT IS A FUNDRAISER FOR THEIR ORGANIZATION.

A LOCAL RESIDENT, JENNIFER SWEETNAM IS DONATING ALUMINUM FENCING FOR THE COLONIAL HERB GARDEN. WE ARE WAITING FOR AN EAGLE SCOUT OR GIRL SCOUT GOLD AWARD PROSPECT TO INSTALL. HOPEFULLY FALL WILL WORK.

SEVERAL PROGRAMS BEING PLANNED FOR 2024-INCLUDING LEARNING COLONIAL BASKET WEAVING AND WEAVING AND BROOM MAKING.

ALSO LOOKING TO INTRODUCE MOVIE NIGHTS AT THE FARM AND POSSIBLY SQUARE DANCING IN THE BARN.

GEORGIA RD. SCHOOLHOUSE UPDATE—EXTERIOR PAINTING IS COMPLETED. THE MONEY FOR SHUTTERS WILL BE RELEASED IN JULY AND SHUTTERS SHOULD BE COMING IN EARLY FALL. THEY WILL BE INSTALLED WHEN THEY ARRIVE BY BRIAN LEFFERTS.

UPDATE ON WIKOFF HILL BURIAL GROUND BIOGRAPHIES – IT IS MOVING FORWARD NOW THAT MEG IS DONE WITH HER COURSES.

HISTORIC RESOURCES REPORT WILL BE GETTING UPDATED SOON—COOKIE WILL BE MEETING WITH PABLO PEREZ OF I.T.

ELECTRICAL AT GEORGIA RD. SCHOOLHOUSE IS INSTALLED AND THE SECURITY SYSTEM WILL BE INSTALLED SOON.

DAVE SIEME AND TODD CAISSIE WILL BE GOING THRU THE NEW ARTIFACTS REC'D FROM RICHARD GRUBB AND ASSOC. THESE ARE THE ARTIFACTS FROM RT. 537 ARCHAEOLOGICAL DIGS THAT WERE DONE IN 2022.

FREEHOLD TWP DAY IS SATURDAY, JULY 8, 2023. HOPING ALL COMMISSION MEMBERS WILL BE ABLE TO HELP—DAVE, MEG, NEIL, COOKIE AND KEVIN WILL HELP

WE ARE GOING TO NEED NEW VOLUNTEERS FOR FALL AND 2024 – THESE ARE THE KIDS WHO NEED COMMUNITY SERVICE HOURS FOR NHS OR CCD. HOUSE MONITORS AND HELP WITH SETTING UP PROGRAMS.

JOHN FABIANO WILL BE RETIRING FROM MCHC AT END OF JULY. NO NAME FOR REPLACEMENT. IT WAS DECIDED WE WOULD NOT APPLY FOR AN MCHC GRANT THIS YEAR. OUR BUILDINGS ARE REALLY UP TO DATE AS OF NOW SO WE WILL HOLD OF GRANT APPS TILL 2024.

DAVE SIEME ATTENDED THE BATTLE OF MONMOUTH RE ENACTMENT AT MONMOUTH BATTLEFIELD STATE PARK. HE SAID IT WAS WELL ATTENDED.

THE 3RD AND 4TH NJ CIVIL WAR RE ENACTORS WILL BE ATTENDING GETTYSBURG REENACTMENT. DAVE SIEME WITNESSED SOME VANDALISM AT THE FIELDS OFF RT 522 OF THE BATTLEFIELD. HE REPORTED IT TO PARK POLICE.

NEIL MADE MOTION TO ADJOURN WITH SECOND FROM DAVE S.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED BY

CHERYL POLVERINO