

Fair Lawn Historic Preservation Commission (FLHPC) Meeting Minutes for December 12, 2012

- 1) 7:50 PM Call to Order
- 2) Confirmation of Notice to Comply With Open Public Meeting Act
- 3) Roll Call
Felice Koplik – present
Amy Hummerstone – present
Ray Richter – present
Maureen Moriarty – absent
Rich Ball – present
Jayshree Patel – present
Jasvinder Arjani – present
Silvia Patel – absent
Michele Gehbauer – present
Michael Rosenberg – absent
Laura Lander - absent
- 4) Quorum Declared
- 5) The minutes of the November 14, 2012 Meeting were discussed. Jasvinder moved and Rich seconded a motion to approve the minutes. The motion passed.
- 6) Felice led a discussion on the FLHPC activities during 2012.

January started off by welcoming all returning members of the Fair Lawn Historic Preservation Commission. Felice, Amy and Ray were reelected to their respective offices. The three proposals for the Naugle House Preservation Plan were presented by Ray to the Borough Council and a recommendation was given to the Council regarding HMR Architects. Liaison Assignments to the various borough Boards were appointed and sub committees were appointed. FLHPC Meeting Cancellation Policy was set as in 2011 to rely on the school's closing policy or the closing of the Fair Lawn Community Center.

At the February meeting there was a review of the drawings of the Landmark at Radburn (Daly Field) Proposed Project. A letter to the Planning Board from FLHPC was written regarding the Landmark at Radburn Project. On February 14 the HMR Proposal for the Preservation Plan was on the Council Agenda.

At the March meeting Laura Lander was welcomed as the newest member of the FLHPC. The Commission discussed the upcoming and first of nine Planning Board Meetings in 2012 re: Landmark at Radburn.

In April summaries were given of the April 9th Planning Board Meeting concerning the Daly Field Development (Landmark at Radburn) and the March 19th Open Space meeting re: the white house next to the Naugle site. Henrietta H. Vander Plaats owner of the historic Jacob Vanderbeck house next to the Naugle House on the Saddle River passed away on April 12.

On May 21st a Commendation Award from the FLHPC was given to Troop 53 Eagle Scout Kevin Northrup for the restoration of the Radburn R-Park Gazebo. The FLHPC participated in the Green Fair with Silvia, Jayshree, Amy and Jasvinder manning the booth. Ray provided a summary of the Naugle House walk through on April 17, 2012. Initial impressions by HMR were positive about the overall condition of the house and amount of original material still visible.

In June a draft of The Fair Lawn History Teens brochure was presented to the Commission by Jayshree and discussed. Everyone on the Commission thanked her for the brochure and minor changes were suggested. Mike attended the New Jersey State History Fair on May 12, 2102 and reported that the event was an interesting presentation of many aspects of New Jersey's history.

In July Amy reported that the draft of The Fair Lawn History Teens brochure was approved by the BOE for distribution. The date for October Program Night was confirmed for October 3rd. Felice indicated the date of the next Planning Board meeting re: Landmark at Radburn. The PB meeting on July 9, 2012 saw the completion of the traffic studies and the presentation by the architect. Ray provided an update on the Naugle site informing everyone that the brown shingle house on the Naugle site was demolished.

At the meeting in August Ray indicated that the Fair Lawn History Teens brochure was ready to be distributed in the middle and high schools. Ray advised that the white house adjacent to the Naugle site is apparently no longer in discussion for acquisition by the Borough. Jane reminded the commission not to forget investigating an archeological dig on the Naugle Site. Ray indicated that the Naugle House cleanout is scheduled for August 13th to 15th. Jane invited everyone to a League of Women Voters sponsored discussion featuring Peter Kortright, Planning Board Chair on September 20th at the Library. The topic will be Fair Lawn's Master Plan.

At the September meeting preparations for the October 3, 2012 Program Night and the library display case were discussed. Ray summarized the Naugle House cleanout in August. Felice reported the PB Meeting on September 10th re: Landmark at Radburn included discussion of environmental concerns. Larry circulated a draft of a Naugle House and Site Concepts memo for review. The memo is to guide the discussion about the future use of the house and site and highlights areas of concern.

The October 3, 2012 Program Night featured John Cosgrove speaking about the 100 year history of the Fair Lawn Volunteer Fire Department. His talk was a combination of live discussion and video projections. The Fair Lawn Fire Department

and the FLHPC received numerous commendations from the County as the program began. It was the best attended Program Night.

At the regular October FLHPC meeting an HP Ordinance Draft was discussed to present to Council. There was a lengthy discussion on the future of the Vanderbeck House and Site. Suggestions included attendance at Open Space meetings to voice concern about saving the site as well as publicizing efforts to save the house and site to get more citizens involved. Eric Bal and Kevin Gunn from the S.A.R. suggested forming a 501(c)3 not for profit corporation as a fundraising vehicle for saving the house and site. It was suggested that letters seeking help be sent to the numerous legislators at the federal, state and county levels. Similarly, letters should be sent to the various state and county historic boards and organizations.

At the November meeting a draft of the HP Ordinance was presented to FLHPC by Eric Bal and Kevin Gunn and discussed at length as was a continuation of the previous months discussion re: Saving the Vanderbeck House and Site. Landmark at Radburn was to be on the Planning Board Agenda for Monday, November 19th and it was advised that it would be the last PB Meeting with open comments from the public. The Naugle Preservation Plan Status was discussed.

In December Felice presented from the Commission to the Council three framed awards and a framed puzzle for hanging in the Council Chambers. Anna and Harry Dinardo gave the puzzle to Mayor Baratta who then gave it to the Commission. The 1974 "Historic Points in Fair Lawn" puzzle copyrighted by Columbia Savings and Loan Association says on the bottom that this is "given for the benefit of the people it serves." The three awards were presented in 2011 to the Commission by the Bergen County Historic Preservation Advisory Board. The first award is the 2011 Historic Preservation Commendation Award in recognition of and appreciation for exemplary contribution to historic preservation in Bergen County in the category of Preservation Leadership. The next two awards are from the State of New Jersey called Senate and General Assembly Citations. The first Citation reads: Commendations and praise are extended to Fair Lawn, NJ. by the citizenry of the 37th New Jersey Legislative District, through their elected representatives Senator Loretta Weinberg, Assembly Members Gordon M. Johnson and Valerie Huttel, For outstanding achievements as a recipient of the 2011 Bergen County Historic Preservation Commendation. The second Citation reads: Commendations and praise are extended to Fair Lawn Historic Preservation Commission by the citizenry of the 38th New Jersey Legislative District, upon the occasion of receiving the 2011 Historic Preservation Commendation Award for their leadership in historic preservation through their efforts that have led towards the preservation of the historic Naugle House, Radburn Historic District and participating in the town's Planning, Zoning, Open Space, Environmental & Council meetings signed by Bob Gordon, Senator; Connie Wagner, Assemblywoman; and Joan Voss, Assemblywoman.

And now we're here in December of 2012 to reflect on the past year and look forward to the historic preservation work we need to do in 2013.

7) Felice discussed the status of the proposed Historic Preservation ordinance and indicated she will coordinate language in the draft with the details in the Naugle House Preservation Plan.

8) Felice indicated the November 9, 2012 invoice from HMR Architects stated the Preservation Plan was 25% complete.

9) A borough resident contacted Felice regarding an object found in her yard that may be a Revolutionary War era cannonball. Felice will work with Eric Bal in an attempt to authenticate the artifact.

10) Felice gave Rich a recording of the October 3, 2012 night on DVD. He will make copies for FLHPC members.

11) Jasvinder advised there were no current matters before the Zoning Board requiring FLHPC input.

There were no public comments offered.

Rich moved and Jasvinder seconded a motion to adjourn. The motion passed.

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ray Richter