

Fair Lawn Historic Preservation Commission (FLHPC) Meeting Minutes for February 12, 2014

- 1) 7:30 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 – present
Rich Ball – absent
Jayshree Patel – present
Jasvinder Arjani – present
Silvia Patel – absent
Michael Rosenberg – present
- 4) Quorum Declared
- 5) The discussion of the January 2014 minutes was postponed until the March meeting.
- 6) Eric Bal of the Sons of The American Revolution and Larry Koplik, Fair Lawn resident, were recognized by the Chair as advisors to the meeting. Councilwoman Amy Lefkowitz and Councilman Kurt Peluso were welcomed to the meeting.
- 7) Felice discussed the FLHPC's mission statement to introduce the discussion of the Vanderbeck House and site.
- 8) Ray summarized the meeting with Barrister Construction, John Cosgrove, Mayor, and FLHPC members Felice, Ray, Rich and Amy on January 22, 2014. Felice distributed copies of the Barrister draft plans for the site.
- 9) Felice discussed the FLHPC's concerns that would be relevant to build a case to the Zoning Board to allow the proposed Barrister development only if the historic house is saved. Ray summarized the adverse historic preservation impacts of the proposed development to include loss of the Vanderbeck House, adverse visual impact on the Naugle House and site and high percentage of impervious coverage impacting the Naugle House and site (increased potential to flood the Naugle House and site).
- 10) Additional discussion on the Vanderbeck House and site included funding to possibly move the Vanderbeck House to the Naugle site and funding an archeological dig on the Vanderbeck and Naugle sites.

The meeting was opened to public Comments:

Simon Freidman, Fair Lawn resident, felt the Barrister renderings were not complete and ignore the surroundings and traffic. The Zoning Board is the place for this to be decided. The Naugle and Vanderbeck houses should be saved as they are an integral part of Fair Lawn.

Jay Morgenstern, Fair Lawn resident, stated his house is 10 feet to the Vanderbeck property line and expressed concerns for parking on local streets for staff and visitors at the proposed facility and dumpster and loading dock locations. He felt loss of trees is not an issue as the trees on the site are in poor shape and need to be replaced with better buffers.

Kevin Gunn, Oradell resident, felt losing the Vanderbeck House and site would be a tragic loss. Both the Vanderbeck and Naugle houses should be preserved in that enclave.

Pam Coles, Fair Lawn resident, stated the development is large and would have a big impact on the area with dumpsters, traffic and such. She questioned licensing and other medical requirements for the development. Pam also questioned if moving the Vanderbeck House would cause a loss of the house's historic value. She stated the Vander Plaat family and the developer put "us" in a predicament. The development also raises traffic concerns for access to/from the area roadways. Lastly, she supports saving the entire Vanderbeck site.

Marc Colyer, Fair Lawn resident, stated he has found Indian Arrowheads on the site in the past. He has been in both the Vanderbeck and Naugle houses and feels both houses and their histories need to be saved. Marc also questioned the impact of the proposed development on the Ambulance Corp., Police and Fire departments as well as Emergency Management for flood zone or other evacuations. He felt Fair Lawn demographics (i.e. the average Fair Lawn resident) would not be able to afford the proposed facility, so why support it. He stated the need to attend Zoning Board meetings and to publicize what is happening here.

Claude Bienstock, Fair Lawn resident, recalled the efforts to save Garretson Forge and supports saving the Vanderbeck House and the open space around it. He expressed concerns for traffic and the need for historic sites preservation.

Kurt Peluso, Fair Lawn Councilman, felt losing the Vanderbeck House and site to the proposed development would overwhelm the Naugle House and site. He expressed the need to go to the Zoning Board on all the issues raised when this development is before that board.

Felice thanked the public for their comments and reminded everyone the next FLHPC would be March 19, 2014.

Mike made and Amy seconded a motion to adjourn and the motion passed.

The meeting adjourned at 8: 50 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ray Richter