

Fair Lawn Historic Preservation Commission (FLHPC) Meeting Minutes for March 19, 2008

- 1) 7:05 PM Call to Order
- 2) Confirmation of Notice to Comply With Open Public Meeting Act
- 3) Roll Call
Felice Koplik – present
Lou DiGeronimo - absent
Pam Coles - present
Maureen Moriarty - present
Ray Richter – present
Amy Hummerstone - present
- 4) Quorum Declared
- 5) Special Business – The FLHPC welcomed Councilwoman Jeanne Baratta to the meeting. She discussed Fair Lawn’s plans for the River Regatta on May 31, 2008, provided an update on the Fair Lawn Council’s May 18, 2008 work session regarding the Naugle House and talked about the new Tree Ordinance and historic trees.

Councilwoman Baratta explained the current plans for the River Regatta event would include a 1.7 mile canoe event on the Passaic River starting in Fair Lawn at the River Walk near Memorial Park. She asked the FLHPC to participate in the event by offering tours of the historic River Walk during the regatta event. The FLHPC members agreed to assist in helping make the event a success.

Councilwoman Baratta informed the FLHPC that at the March 18, 2008 work session, the Council unanimously voted to work with the current owner of the Naugle House to stop any work in bringing the house up to code as this would jeopardize the historic integrity of the property as well as the grant funding being sought.

Councilwoman Baratta was given a copy of a document prepared by the National Park Service titled “Mothballing Historic Buildings.” The document explains the best way to temporarily protect a historic building from deterioration while preservation plans are prepared and restoration funds are obtained.

The FLHPC thanked Councilwoman Baratta for her assistance with the Naugle House.

- 6) February Meeting Minutes – The minutes of the February 13, 2008 FLHPC meeting were previously circulated to the Commission members. The minutes were discussed and a motion to approve was made by Felice and seconded by Pam. The motion passed unanimously.

7) Old Business

Felice discussed the following letters sent by the Commission:

March 12, 2008 letter, signed by Felice as a follow up to the January 28, 2008 Open Space Meeting, to the Mayor and Council regarding reasons for historic designation and possible uses for the Naugle House and Vanderbeck House Historic Sites.

March 11, 2008 letter, signed by Maureen as a follow up to the March 10, 2008 Planning Board Meeting, to the Council regarding compromising either the possible grant funding or the condition of the Naugle House by having the current owner bring the property up to code.

March 12, 2008 letter, signed by Felice, to Robert A. Abbatomarco, Executive Director, Bergen County Open Space, Recreation, Farmland and Historic Preservation Trust Fund, to thank him for recommending to the Bergen County Board of Chosen Freeholders that a \$19,500 grant be earmarked for a Preservation Plan for the Naugle-Vanderbeck House.

The draft letter to the Mayor and Council regarding the condition of the Naugle House was discussed.

Ray summarized the March 1, 2008 Historic Preservation workshop at Drew University which was attended by Amy, Felice, Pam and Ray.

New Business

Felice was contacted by Carol Wagner to assist in preparation of the Borough Calendar. This year's calendar will feature historic sites in Fair Lawn and Ms. Wagner asked Felice to submit the FLHPC's recommendations for sites to be included in the calendar. There will be room for ten sites. After discussion, Maureen made a motion, seconded by Ray to include the following sites: 1) The Naugle House, 2) The Vanderbeck House, 3) The Dutch House, 4) Radburn, 5) The Cadmus House, 6) The Radburn Train Station, 7) The GVH Berdan House, 8) The Garretson Forge and Farm, 9) The Bergen (George Washington) School and 10) the Fair Lawn Avenue Bridge – noting that 1) Through 8) are on the National and New Jersey Registers of Historic Places. The motion passed unanimously. Felice will follow up with Ms. Wagner for additional instructions on how to proceed.

Amy indicated she will follow up with the Naugle Kids regarding a thank you letter to the Mayor and Council for the fence around the Naugle House.

Pam distributed a draft of a Business Plan for the FLHPC.

8) There were no formal public comments offered.

9) At 9:15 PM Maureen made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Pam seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ray Richter