Historic Preservation Committee Meeting Minutes – April 20, 2021

A meeting of the Mountain Lakes Historic Preservation Committee ("HPC" or the "Committee") was held on Tuesday, April 20, via Zoom. In attendance were Alex Gotthelf, Allison Nacim, Rob Infante, Sueanne Sylvester, Mark Hoffman, Ranjan Bose, Borough Council Liaison Cynthia Korman, Gillian Strauss and Frances LaMuraglia. Absent were Tom Dagger, Margaret DeWitt, Andrew Scott and Justin Savage.

Approval of Prior Meeting's Minutes

The minutes of the March 16 meeting were unanimously approved.

Chair's Report

See sub-committee reports.

Borough Liaison Report

See Old Business.

Treasurer's Report

Andy provided the following report after the meeting.

YTD 03-31-2021			
	2021	2020	2019
Cash Balance	27,683	28,540	27,440
Income	675		
Expenses	2,238	271	1,200_
Net income (loss)	(1,563)	(271)	(1,200)

Archive

Rob picked up some materials from Town Hall for the archive, including a copy of the Centennial Book.

Rob agrees we need to think about getting cloud space from the borough. The ongoing cost would be approximately \$350 to pay for 3 years of cloud space according to Mitchell Stern. Alex would like this to be a Borough expense and not be paid for out of the HPC cash reserves. Cynthia said that Borough Council members may ask why we need money if we have our own fund—Alex explained that we are very reluctant to sign up for any overhead—she will relay that to them.

Social Media / Outreach

RJ's post about the public beaches got a lot of attention and engagement on Facebook.

Bulk Incentives Ordinance

No updates.

Salvage

No updates.

Oral Histories

No updates.

Fundraising / Grants

Allison presented some frame, map and size options and will circle back with more specific information and prices after everyone's input.

Upcoming Events

No community events are scheduled at this time due to COVID 19.

Old Business / Action Items

EDAC request for membership:

Cynthia raised the issue a few times for us to be involved in EDAC, Planning Board and Zoning Board, to which they reply that we should just attend the meetings ourselves. Alex said that we should be able to vote and wants her to keep raising an issue with EDAC, specifically in reference to the Midvale stores.

Bulk Incentives Ordinance Checklist Update: No updates.

Morris County Heritage Commission Re-Grant 2021:

The grant was submitted, we made the deadline and we are waiting to hear back.

Needs Assessment—Mountain Lakes Station

The owner of The Station at Mountain Lakes has reached out to Borough Council for help with masonry and other maintenance issues. Cynthia Korman brought the matter to HPC to seek assistance. Alex and Cynthia met at the Station to get acquainted with the request. Alex and Cynthia began investigating the process for applying for Morris County grant funding. Alex solicited proposals and received proposals from two architectural consultants for a needs assessment. The application process required more work than anticipated and the effort was suspended. Alex advised that it costs approximately \$750 to hire a grant writing person.

This item is completed from HPC's perspective until Borough Council requests our assistance again. Sueanne suggested that HPC might want consider ideas for helping to fund-raise for the project.

Annual Goals and Long-Range Strategic Plan:

We are going to adopt the goals and plan we came up with at the last meeting.

New Business

Interactive Map:

We would like to be able to use Grace Gower's map so Mark and Alex will call her to see how we can promote and give her credit for it.

Student Project:

Gillian is basically done with her documentary, doing final edits and adding music. She wants to show it in the middle school as her goal, present with Frances and do some HPC promotion.

Boston College Project:

RJ shared his wealth of knowledge about Herbert Hapgood with a Boston College student for his journalism project.

Student Membership:

Cynthia advised that the Borough will be sending out a request for new members through the standard channels of borough communications.

In-Person Meetings:

Everyone is now vaccinated so Alex is going to check with the library to see if we can use the room yet for in-person meetings.

Public Comments

There were no public comments.

Date for Next Meeting

Next meeting date – Tuesday, May 18 at 7:30 at Island Beach.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Minutes prepared by Allison Nacim and Alex Gotthelf