



**TOWNSHIP OF WEST MILFORD
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION**



MINUTES

JULY 21, 2020

MAIN MEETING ROOM

In the absence of the Commission Chair Steve Boshart, Vice Chair Josephine Beck presided, and called the July 21, 2020 Historic Preservation Commission meeting to order at 7:06 PM in the Main Meeting Room of the West Milford Town Hall with the reading of the Legal Notice.

ROLL CALL

Present: Josephine Beck (Vice-Chair)
Loretta Heusser
Kristen Koerner
Kerry O'Brien
Absent: Steven Boshart (Chair)
Harry Rescigno
Brandon Romaine
Secretary: Tonya E. Cubby

MINUTES

Jo Beck requested that, going forward, the minutes should refer to the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Commission as Chair and Vice Chair. A **motion** was made by Kerry O'Brien to **approve** the February 18, 2020 minutes with a **second** by Loretta Heusser. The Minutes were **approved** by unanimous consent.

SITES

Macopin Homestead – 1299 Macopin Road

Reid House - 1778 Macopin Road

- Loretta Heusser reported that the historic designation plaques were missing on both the Macopin Homestead and the Reid House. She spoke to Fran Lanza at the Vreeland Store, and she indicated that she did not have the plaque for the Macopin Homestead. Kerry O'Brien reported that he was recently dining outdoors at the Vreeland Store and he observed Linda Bayer inside the building helping to operate the antique shop. Mr. O'Brien commented that there was supposed to be a Sheriff's Sale at the Macopin Homestead.
- No update on 1778 Macopin Road at this time. The Commission concurred at a prior meeting that the new owner should be apprised of the reason for the designation and be given an opportunity for re-installation of the plaque.

Long Pond Ironworks

- Kerry O'Brien advised that the contractor, Coulsen, was almost done with the work on the steeple of the church. A grant will be submitted for funds for the historic structural report that must be prepared prior to work commencing.
- Mr. O'Brien noted that the State Museums are not permitted to open to the public yet, which would include Long Pond Ironworks. He noted that the Friends of Long Pond Ironworks plan to hold a meeting in August.

Wallisch Homestead

- Kerry O'Brien reported that the Friends of Wallisch Homestead were working on the barn. They contracted with a professional to repair the floor and support columns. They are still waiting for building permits, which were submitted several weeks ago. Jo Beck inquired if there are lights at the site, and Mr. O'Brien responded that the security lights that are there are on motion sensors.
- Mr. O'Brien reported that, at this time, most of the large events were on hold at the Wallisch Homestead since they cannot be held with the social distancing requirements as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic.

West Milford Museum

- Kerry O'Brien and Kristen Koerner reported on the re-opening protocols that the Heritage Committee has established in preparation for re-opening the Museum to the public on August 1, 2020.

CORRESPONDENCE

- Acer Associates – NEPA Survey-Cellular Antenna Facility - 325 Lakeside Rd., Hewitt, NJ, Block 3101 Lot 8: Seeking comments related to proposed projects potential effects on historic properties as part of Section 106 of the NHPA. Proposal includes a 155 ft. monopine with 16 antennas and 20 remote radio heads (RRH), for total height of 160 ft., with a 20 x 50 ft. lease area/fenced compound area.

The Commission discussed the proposed cell tower for a location on Lakeside Road. Kerry O'Brien commented that he read an article in the newspaper about the cell towers that are being proposed. The Commission noted that there are several "dead" locations for cell service in the Township, including near Burnt Meadow, Snake Den, and Westbrook Roads. It is assumed that new cell towers would be subject to approvals before one of the local land use boards, either Planning board or Board of Adjustment.

- 1383 Macopin Road, Block 9501; Lot 12 – Vreeland Store – Proposal for expansion of premises to rear fenced in outdoor seating area with two exterior entry points – Review for possible Certificate of Appropriateness.

The Commission concurred that this proposal was for the rear of the building, and was not affecting the permanent structure, and therefore, was not within their purview.

- Federal Historic Preservation Laws 2018 Edition – Two editions were received, one for the Chair and one for the HPC file.
- NJDEP HPC Office- Jonathan Kinney CLG Coordinator Resignation – the Commission commented that Mr. Kinney had been in his position with the State HPC office for some time.
- Covid-19 Disinfecting Cultural Resources – received via email.

ADJOURNMENT

Prior to adjourning, Vice Chair Jo Beck advised that the next regular meeting of the Historic Preservation Commission was scheduled for August 18, 2020. The meeting **adjourned** at 7:50 pm on a **motion** by Kerry O'Brien with a **second** by Jo Beck.

Approved: September 15, 2020

Respectfully submitted by

Tonya E. Cubby, Secretary