

HISTORIC PRESERVATION REVIEW COMMITTEE
Regular Monthly Meeting No. 295
Wednesday, February 6, 2008

MINUTES

The regular meeting of the Historic Preservation Review Committee (HPRC) was convened at 7:30 PM in the Conference Room in Borough Hall. Jeanne Perantoni, Chairperson, opened the meeting in accordance with the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act, Section 5, Chapter 231, P.L. 275 by reading the following statement:

In conformance with the requirements of the Law, Notice was provided of the date, time and location of this regular meeting by posting a copy of the adopted Schedule of Regular Meetings in the Borough Hall, by mailing copies to the Trenton Times, Princeton Packet, and by filing a copy in the Office of the Clerk of Princeton Borough. Adequate notice was provided to the public and to all parties concerned.

PRESENT: William Howard, Nora Kerr, Jeanne Perantoni, Carolyn Robertson, Celia Tazelaar (7:50pm) and Kirsten Thoft.

ABSENT: James Constantine, Jane Faggen, Regan C. Tuder

ALSO PRESENT: Derek Bridger, Historic Preservation Review Officer; Danielle A. Britton Administrative Assistant.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

N. Kerr noted minor typographical errors. N. Kerr moved to approve revised minutes. K. Thoft seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

INTRODUCTION OF NEW MEMBER

The Historic Preservation Review Committee welcomed new member Carolyn Robertson back to the committee. C. Robertson was previously a member of the HPRC from December 2002 to May 2004.

ADMINISTRATIVE WAIVERS

26 ½ Witherspoon Street, Block 20.01, Lot 32
CB Zone/Central Business Historic Overlay District
Nancy Browder/Owner
Hui Xie (Natronica LLC)/Applicant
Main business sign
Approved, January 11, 2008-J. Perantoni

**18-40 Edwards Place, Block 41.01, Lots 32&33
R4 Zone/ Mercer Hill Historic Overlay District
Trustees of Princeton University/Owner & Applicant
Installation of a “Bilco” door
Approved, January 11, 2008-J. Perantoni**

DISCUSSION

D. Bridger noted that the Certified Local Government (CLG) grant applications for 2007/2008 are available. There is \$77,000 in funds available to the 44 CLG’s in New Jersey. The HPRC had previously applied in 2004 and in 2006 to obtain funds for the establishment of an “Andersontown” Buffer Zone. The 2004 application was approved but the cost estimates to conduct a survey of properties within the proposed zone and to develop design standards far exceeded the available grant funds. The 2006 grant application concentrated only on obtaining funds for the survey component of the creation of a Buffer District but was not selected.

J. Perantoni noted that the proposed “Andersontown” Buffer zone connected two prominent sections of Nassau Street, the Central Business Historic Overlay Zone with the Jugtown Historic Overlay Zone. There was general agreement that the committee should again request funds for a survey of the properties in the district and that perhaps some of the HPRC volunteers could augment the cost of the survey by assisting with photography, data collection and research. J. Perantoni noted that Jim Constantine, who has done similar work in other communities, could assist with the creation of design standards for the buffer zone.

D. Bridger was instructed to get quotes from the consultants who participated in the previous Request for Proposal with the previous submission as well as new estimates from Alison Zerbe. A subcommittee consisting of Jane Faggen, Nora Kerr and Celia Tazelaar was created to complete the grant application. D. Bridger noted that the completion of the 2007 CLG Annual Report is a prerequisite of the CLG Grant Application. The filing deadline for the CLG annual report is March 31, 2008. The deadline for the submission of the CLG grant application is April 25, 2008.

National Standards

There was general discussion about implementing part of the National Park Service’s Rehabilitation Standards into HPRC’s existing standards, most notably the use of natural materials. It was noted that when there were meetings concerning the proposed new Western District Historic Overlay Zone, there were complaints about the lack of standards from the objectors. The committee also discussed the difference between a committee and a commission. J. Perantoni noted that the goal of the HPRC should be to make the process as fair as possible and that perhaps the existing Standards could be augmented to create a unique set of Princeton Standards. C. Tazelaar noted that the current standards don’t speak to the historic fabric of the zones but strive for visually compatible designs. Carolyn Robertson and Kirsten Thoft volunteered to read and review the National Rehabilitation Standards and suggest a course of action at the next meeting.

There was no public comment.

At 9:00 p.m., N. Kerr motioned that the meeting be adjourned. K. Thoft seconded and the motion was approved unanimously. The next regular scheduled Historic Preservation Review Committee meeting will be held on March 5, 2008 in Princeton Borough Hall, East Conference Room.

Respectfully Submitted,

Danielle A. Britton
Acting Recording Secretary