

MINUTES

Mendham Township Historic Preservation Committee
Wednesday, May 4, 2022

In attendance:

Jo Ann Alston, Melissa Saharko, Robert Scialla, Mary Shay-Millea, Sam Tolley, Helen Wall, James Zemaitis (hybrid Town Hall and Zoom), Guests: Kris West, Al Sferra, Graciela Heymann

Old Business

Final list of requested Mosle Mansion items will be forwarded by Jason to developer.

Walled Garden battery powered lawnmower and shed with concrete pad have been purchased. Concrete pads are also recommended for the Aurelius statue and sundial. Gardeners Al Sferra and Kris West spoke of landscaping progress and plants and trees being considered for new planting.

Seed House wiring and heating estimates have been approved and work is scheduled to start. Plans for chimney work are still in progress.

Website - The site will be standalone and linked from the Township website. Melissa will look into estimates for web hosting, design, security and other issues.

New Business

A weekend workshop/retreat will be planned for HPC to discuss goals for the Committee projects and website content.

The issue of building permits and renovation of historic structures was raised, especially as homes enter the market (eg Ralston Manor) or potentially will be (Leddell Homestead). Tours of these and the Lebbeus Dod house will be considered for HPC members.

Graciela Heymann, grant writer for the Township, provided a list of New Jersey grant opportunities for HPC, with applications due April 2023. The Township can become a certified local government program. Proposed projects could include surveys and protection of historic structures and historian assistance. Idea of funding or a capital grant for preserving the Municipal Building windows was raised. HPC will look into *CAPES*, a free assessment of archival collections by the New Jersey Caucus of the Mid-Atlantic Regional Archives Conference.

The Township Committee is considering who will fill the HPC vacancy.

Subcommittee reports:

Seed House electrical work to be done May or June.

CMSP will look into Library's collection of artifacts and archival materials.

Fundraising event is proposed for the Fall. This will provide time to develop the HPC message and raise awareness of our work, including potential plans for greenhouse structure.