

Historic Preservation Meeting Minutes
June 5, 2019 6:45 pm
Town Hall

Members in attendance: Vanessa Brown (Chairperson,) Cole Kiefer, Madelynn McIlhane, Matthew Messina, Melissa Saharko, Bob Scialla, Pat Zimmerman
Additional Attendees: Amalia Duarte

Pat located the postcard that is needed to complete the sign for Union School Road Bridge. The state Department of Transportation had been waiting for the postcard. Now that they have it, they will create three samples for the sign.

Regarding our ordinance, members of the Township Committee reviewed the video recording of the meeting on February 27, 2018 in which Pat and Vanessa indicated that all applications, including demolition, should be submitted to the HPC for our review. The video makes the intent clear. We do not yet know if the Township Committee will rewrite the ordinance to include applications for demolition, or if they will send a letter to the zoning officer, ensuring we receive them in the future.

We discussed the Oak Knoll cemetery. It is approximately 50' x 50', contains a few graves, and is overgrown. Some areas of the exterior wall are falling down. An informational sign has also collapsed. The property is owned by the Township and is one of the contributing features of the Ralston Historic District. The Oak Knoll Homeowners Association is cleaning it up. We discussed partnering with them in the future.

We would still like to visit the Seed House at Pitney to evaluate the structure and discuss what might be done with it. We wanted to visit in May, but would have had to sign a waiver of liability due to the ongoing work. Melissa will check with the Town Administrator to see if it is now safe to visit without signing the waiver.

Melissa requested that the Committee purchase an external hard drive to begin saving digital copies of our archives. A budget of \$50 for the expenditure was approved unanimously.