

Township of West Orange
Historic Preservation Commission

Meeting Minutes – May 12, 2021

- 1) Notice of the date, time, and location of this meeting was given to the Township Clerk, was advertised in the *West Orange Chronicle*, and has been posted on the Township Bulletin Board and the Township Website in accordance with the requirements of the New Jersey Open Public Records Meetings Act.
- 2) The meeting, held via Zoom, was called to order at 7:04 P.M. Commissioners Feeney, Feitlowitz, Ficarotta, McConnell, Irvis, and Wosh, were present. Commissioners Forseth and Drill were absent. Council liaison Tammy Williams attended, as did Kevin Malanga, a member of the public.
- 3) The next regular Commission meeting will be held via Zoom on June 9 at 7 P.M.
- 4) Minutes of the two April meetings were approved as amended.
- 5) Commissioner Feitlowitz reported on a meeting that he attended concerning the Llewellyn Park Gatehouse project. Attendees included the contractor, consultant, Park representatives, and a videographer. The mortar samples presented at the meeting appeared a bit too light and gray, and therefore will be revised. The roof has a considerable amount of moss and algae, which will be cleaned. Weekly meetings of this group will take place in the future. The project appears to be moving along nicely and the anticipated completion date is September 16.
- 6) Commissioner Feitlowitz reported that he received a letter from a citizen named Carol Chase concerning a possible Revolutionary War encampment that existed near the Saint Cloud School path. A walk through the area did not produce any evidence, and there appears to be no documentary record. The Commission concluded that there appeared to be nothing further to do at this point, unless Carol Chase can produce some additional information.
- 7) Chairperson Feeney noted that he will attempt to obtain updates concerning the new utility line that is being laid underneath St. Mark's Church. The work did not require a permit from the Building Department, but concerns remain about whether the work might damage the structure or any other site work. These concerns extend to the manner in which any repairs will be made.

- 8) Chairperson Feeney will continue to pursue updates concerning the proposed Pleasantdale Chateau garage complex project. No additional information has been received from the owners.
- 9) Chairperson Feeney reported that the contract to purchase the Hecker Carriage House at 56 Ridge Road remains alive, but there has not been any recent movement.
- 10) The Commission discussed potential dates for holding a public Zoom meeting to move forward with the five pending proposed property designations and settled on July 21 at 7:00 P.M. as a tentative date. Chairperson Feeney will check with Hunter Research to make sure representatives will be available.
- 11) Councilperson Williams asked if the Commission had pursued any communication with the Buddhist Temple concerning a possible designation. Chairperson Feeney agreed to follow through prior to the next meeting and Councilperson Williams will provide contact information for the appropriate person.
- 12) During the public portion of the meeting, Kevin Malanga expressed his concern that a hole existed in the roof of the Hecker Carriage House on the east side of the building. He requested that the Commission call the Zoning Office to determine the status of the damage.
- 13) The meeting adjourned at 7:50.