

# COLTS NECK HISTORICAL PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

APRIL 6, 2004  
5:30 PM, TOWNSHIP HALL

**In Attendance:**

Lillian G. Burry, Chairperson/Township Committee Liaison  
Ellen Terry, Secretary  
Nancy L. Boylan  
Vincent Cerullo  
David Engebretson  
Harold Kilbride  
Meredith Janssen  
Peggy Joline  
Carol McCoy  
Julie McGowan  
Cathi Trost  
Louise Whitney

**Absent:**

Jane Davis (excused)  
Patricia Mitchell  
Betty Reilly (excused)  
Ann Rippa

1. Chairperson Burry called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM, stating "The notice requirements of the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Law have been satisfied by forwarding a news release to the Asbury Park Press on February 3, 2003, stating that a meeting of the Colts Neck Historical Preservation Committee would be held on April 6, 2004 at 5:30 PM, at Town Hall. The notice requirements have been posted on the Township bulletin board and a copy is on file in the Office of the Township Clerk."
2. The minutes of March 2 contained four errors. Mr. Burry accompanied Mr. Cerullo and Mr. Kilbride on the trip to York PA to pick up the historic road markers. Mrs. Joline, not Mrs. Janssen, suggested sending post cards announcing the Annual House Tour. Mrs. Boylan purchased the flowers for the reception from the A&P, not Greenhouse Gallery. The words "corps" and "in" require a space between them in item #7. On a motion by Mrs. Joline and seconded by Mrs. McGowan, the minutes of the March 2, 2004 meeting were accepted as amended.
3. Mrs. Burry applauded the success of the reception at Mr. Kilbride's home. People who have shown their homes on previous Annual House Tours had a positive effect on others who may show their homes this year and in the future.

Mrs. Burry announced that J.P. Walsh won an essay contest, sponsored by the League of Municipalities, with the theme "What Our Township Mayor and Committee Do Best." Several senior students entered the contest, and the Township Committee chose the winning essay, which focused on the Township's achievements in historic preservation. A thank you note will be sent to Mr. Walsh.

Mrs. Burry reported that work is progressing on restoration of the Montrose School. The exterior has been painted. A new flagpole is in place, a light has been installed, and the flag is flying. Diseased and dying trees have been removed. The fencing installation began today and will be finished tomorrow. Mrs. Burry, Mr. Kilbride and Mrs. McGowan met at the school today to discuss future projects, and how the grant money received from the county will be used. First, necessary repairs on the foundation must be completed.

Mrs. Burry suggested that the shutters then be replaced with shutters authentic to that period. Mr. Kilbride stated that he has a shutter that is the appropriate style and could be used as a guide. Mr. Cerullo knows of two companies that supply period-style shutters. Mrs. McGowan stated that the windows need repairing. Mr. Kilbride stated that the windows don't fit correctly. Mrs. Whitney stated that John Niemala replaced the windows in the 1960s. She believes the schoolhouse was built about 1812, and Mr. Kilbride stated that the last class held there was in 1927. Mrs. Whitney stated that a lot of the existing structure is not original. The flooring and windows came from a school in Princeton. The benches were made in the mid 20<sup>th</sup> century, and the stove is not original to the building.

Mr. Engebretson reported that he spoke with Mr. Bowden regarding installation of the alarm system and they decided to wait until more work is done on the outside. The siren will be directed toward Boundary Road, rather than at surrounding homes, in order to avoid annoying the neighbors.

Mrs. Burry announced that the date for the house tour has been set for Saturday, October 2, and the date for the Williamsburg Christmas event for Sunday, December 5. A memorandum will be sent to Harold Nolan requesting these dates be included in the Township Recreation schedule.

4. Mrs. Burry thanked Mrs. Trost for a job well done on the historic markers, which were picked up by Mr. Burry, Mr. Cerullo and Mr. Kilbride, and were offered for display at this meeting. The price for the three signs was \$2,946.00. The Montrose School sign will be placed in front of the school to the left of the door. It was decided that the Huddy Homestead sign might look best near the stop sign on Heyers Mill Road. Mr. Kilbride suggested the Phalanx sign be placed to the east of Lovett Road. A site inspection will be made to determine exact placement of signs.
5. Mrs. Joline reported that she will work with Mrs. McGowan to create a post card announcement for the Annual House Tour to send to local historic committees. Mrs. McGowan reported that cards have cost about 50 cents each in the past. Mrs. Burry requested 80 cards be printed. She requested that Mrs. Trost write a press release to be sent to local newspapers. Mrs. Burry will arrange for an article in the Asbury Park Press. Mrs. Joline asked that posters be printed in July to put in store windows by August 1.
6. Mr. Cerullo reported that efforts to create a fife and drums corps are slow but steady. He has noted little interest among the high school students. It was mentioned that the Community Band will perform on May 7 and that might present a recruiting opportunity.

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7. Mrs. Boylan reported that the Reformed Church Bell Ringers and Jubilation Choir will definitely perform at the Williamsburg Christmas Celebration. The date is the same as the tree lighting ceremony, and also the planned date for the Friends of the Library event, which also has a snow date of the following weekend.
8. Mrs. Burry reported that she spoke with the Blackburn family about Sugarbush. Mr. Blackburn owned The Phalanx at one time. They have many old photos, and his daughter-in-law is a very literary writer. She remarked that Trudy Dittmar is also looking for old photos, and writing the history of Duck Hollow. Mr. Kilbride reported that he has done some writing about Laird's, but has not yet spoken with the family. Mr. Cerullo reported that he has not yet spoken with Duncan Thecker, and Mrs. Trost asked if she could visit the Theckers with him, and write a report. Mrs. Burry said that she, Mrs. Joline, Mr. Kilbride and Mrs. McGowan will meet soon to do further work on the Colts Neck history book.
9. Mrs. Burry reminded the Committee members that the "Meet the Mayor" program will be held at 1:00 PM on Sunday, April 18, at the Library. This Committee had a display last year, and there are a lot of materials that can be shown to the public. Mrs. McGowan, Mrs. Trost and Mrs. Whitney agreed to design and set up a display.
10. On a motion by Mrs. Joline and seconded by Mrs. Trost, the meeting was adjourned at 6:45 PM. The next meeting will be TUESDAY, MAY 4, 2004, at 5:30 PM at Township Hall.

Respectfully submitted,

Ellen Terry  
Secretary

REVISED