

COLTS NECK HISTORICAL PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

TUESDAY, APRIL 1, 2008
5:30 PM, TOWNSHIP HALL

In Attendance:

Lillian G. Burry, Chairperson
James Schatzle, Township Committee Liaison
Ellen Terry, Secretary
Vincent Cerullo
Jane Davis
Linda Dickinson-Pancila
David Engebretson
Jennifer Engel
Mary Fournier
Harold Kilbride
Lucy Knipfing
Toni Morello
Betty Reilly
Ann Rippa
Cathi Trost
Louise Whitney

Absent:

Patricia Mitchell (excused)

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 January 4, 2008, stating that a meeting of the Colts Neck Historical Preservation Committee would be held on April 1, 2008 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." Mrs. Burry then led the Salute to the Flag.
2. On a motion by Mrs. Trost and seconded by Mrs. Dickinson, the minutes of the March 4, 2008 meeting were accepted as submitted.
3. Mrs. Burry announced that the historic markers for the Colts Neck Inn and the Reformed Church have been installed. She suggested that some historic homes might be selected for historic markers, including Mrs. Dickinson's home and the Sgrois' home, which is the oldest in the Township. Mrs. Dickinson replied that she will consider this. Mr. Schatzle remarked that the Committee's 2008 budget allows for one marker at the cost of \$2,000.00. Mrs. Burry mentioned a problem with the Historic Trust Fund accounting. Mr. Schatzle explained that the problem will be reviewed and corrected. Mrs. Burry requested that she be present during the review.

Mrs. Burry announced that members of Girl Scout Troop 1128 and their leaders, Maggie Osmulski and Anita O'Malley, attended the opening celebration of the 325th anniversary of Monmouth County at the Freeholders' meeting on March 13. The Scouts led the Freeholders and attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. There will be further events throughout the year, including a car tour, "A Weekend in Old Monmouth," on May 3 and 4, and the official re-opening of the Eastern Branch of the County Library on July 21.

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Mrs. Burry told the story of an historic site, the Glimmer Glass Bridge, in Manasquan. The 20 foot wide bridge needed repairs, but the repairs would have altered the structure and detracted seriously from its historic nature. The residents of Manasquan were completely opposed to altering or replacing the bridge. The County Engineer with the support of Freeholder Burry offered a compromise of repairing and maintaining the bridge as it is at present, but making it one-way only, going west, with lighting that can change the direction of traffic in an emergency. This is an example of intelligent compromise saving an historic structure.

4. Mrs. Burry announced that the invitations to the Spring Reception have been sent out. So far, only regrets have been received. Eighteen Committee members and guests plan to attend. She urged that invitees be called the week before the event. Mrs. Dickinson sent around a sign-up for refreshments. She announced that a master list of invitees has been assembled, which indicates the owners of homes built prior to 1865.
5. Mrs. Burry reported that the historic interpreter who portrays General Von Steuben will appear at Cedar Drive School on May 6 at 1:00 p.m. Ms. Terry agreed to invite the Seniors Group and Girl Scout Troop 1128.
6. Mrs. Engel and Mrs. Morello are working on a time-line for the House Tour that will be held on Saturday, October 4. A discussion of possible houses ensued. Mrs. Burry will follow up on several possibilities.
7. Monmouth County Archives and History Day will be held on Saturday, October 11, at the Monmouth County Library Headquarters in Manalapan. Mrs. Burry urged everyone to make a trip to see the County Archives at the Library.
8. Mrs. Knipfing reported that Maggie Tripold confirmed that so far the Jubilation Choir and the Bell Choir are available on December 14. Mrs. Tripold will confirm with Kay Brown and give Mrs. Knipfing a positive answer tomorrow. Mrs. Burry reported that she has scheduled the Courthouse for the event.
9. Mrs. Burry questioned what contractor Frank Baron intends to do next at the Montrose School. Mrs. Dickinson replied that he needs a decision on how to handle the wainscoting and flooring, as both have areas that have been painted and areas that have been damaged and these areas may need to be treated differently from one another, depending on what kind of treatment is selected. He needs to meet with Mrs. Burry. Mr. Baron also has stated that it is senseless to refinish anything prior to installation of a dehumidifier, as the work would take an excessive length of time to dry. Mr. Schatzle remarked that because the Township owns the schoolhouse, it must take responsibility for maintenance, and the dehumidifier should come from the Township's Capital Expenses budget. Mrs. Burry asked that Mr. Baron call her. She remarked that once the interior restoration is complete the Committee should have a tour of the school. Mrs. Knipfing will arrange for cider and donuts for the tour. Mr. Schatzle suggested that all Committee members should be familiar with the history of the Township's involvement with the schoolhouse. Ms. Terry will research the minutes, and Mrs. Burry and Mr. Kilbride will write the text for a pamphlet about the schoolhouse. Mrs. Burry stated that Ed Brock will donate plants, as long as his nursery does the planting. Mrs. Dickinson displayed the planting layout she designed last year. No foundation plantings will be done until the exterior repairs have been completed. She asked where water for the plants would be obtained. Mrs. Burry replied that Mr. Brock lives across the street. Mr. Cerullo suggested using the Township's tanker.
10. Jim Meicke, Jr. appeared on his own behalf to request that the Committee write a letter supporting his efforts to restore a garage on his property at 264 Heyers Mill Road. Because he previously removed siding that was crumbling in order to alleviate a potentially hazardous situation, the Planning Office has ruled that his development application is new construction, and because the property has existing nonconformance, he must go to the Zoning Board of Adjustment for approval. Mr. Meicke intends to restore the garage to an attractive, functioning structure that will be in keeping with the historic nature of the house. Mrs. Burry announced that a letter would be sent to the Zoning Board.
11. On a motion by Mrs. Engel and seconded by Mrs. Morello, the meeting was adjourned at 6:54 PM. The next meeting will be on Tuesday, May 6, 2008, at 5:30 PM at Township Hall.

Respectfully submitted,
Ellen Terry
Secretary