

Colts Neck Historical Preservation Committee
Tuesday, May 10, 2016
6:00 PM, Colts Neck Town Hall

In Attendance:

Lillian G. Burry, Chairperson
JP Bartolomeo, Township Committee Liaison
Michele Battista, Secretary
Patricia Eastman
Cindy Feury
Mary Fournier
Antoinette Morello
Ann Rippa
Christopher Short
Frank Rizzuto

Absent:

Maggie Osmulski
Susan Baker (excused)
Jane Davis (resigned)
Patricia Mitchell
Janine Strafacci Pinguelo
Nicole Ten Hoeve (resigned)
Dr. Jennifer Engel (resigned)

1. Mrs. Burry called the meeting to order at 6:10 PM stating "The notice requirements of the New Jersey Open Public Meeting Law have been satisfied by forwarding a news release to the Asbury Park Press on December 17, 2015, stating that a meeting of the Colts Neck Historical Preservation Committee would be held on May 10, at 6:00 PM at the Colts Neck 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 Mr. Rizzuto, and seconded by Mrs. Eastman, the minutes of the April 12, 2016 meeting were accepted as submitted.
3. Mrs. Burry will ask Jim Schatzle to join the Historical Preservation Committee. Mrs. Burry and Mr. Rizzuto mentioned that Keith Otten who works for the DPW and is a volunteer fireman is interested in joining the committee.

4. Mrs. Burry stated that Mrs. Pinguelo will be sworn in at the next meeting she attends.
5. Mrs. Burry stated that Louise Whitney's Memorial Service was nicely done and that Louise would have been happy with it. Many committee members were present.
6. Mrs. Burry thanked all the members of the committee, and especially Mrs. Eastman & Mr. Rizzuto for our first time involved with Weekend in Old Monmouth which was very successful. Saturday was a great day weather-wise and the School looked great. Mrs. Burry contacted John Tobia of County Public Works in regards to the Montrose Road closure. Mr. Tobia had the road reopened for the tour, and placed two electronic message boards to note the event and hours. Mrs. Burry stated that at the end of the day on Saturday, Little Leaguers and fathers were visiting. It was noted that Gibson's father, who was born in 1892, attended the school when he was 8. They were farmers on Montrose. Mrs. Barth and MJ Garabay stopped by. The County Historic Association liked the Laird display. Mrs. Rippa made the wreath for the door. Mrs. Burry stated that people do not realize we were the crossroads of the Revolution.

Mr. Rizzuto returned all the artifacts back to Lairds and thanked Lisa Laird for offering the displays for the weekend.

Mrs. Eastman replied back to the County Historic group with answers to their survey and pulled attendance numbers from her head. On Saturday, people stopped because they saw the door was open. Mrs. Eastman requested 4 additional lawn signs for next year. It was noted that the digital sign had Sunday hours as 10-5 instead of Noon to 5. Some visitors had stopped by early but later returned. Next year we should have flyer in the Colts Neck schools' Virtual Backpack. Mrs. Eastman thanked everyone who donated their time.

7. Mr. Bartolomeo said there is favorable consensus on the horse from his age group in town. At a game this past weekend for his child, Mr. Bartolomeo went to both sides of the field to ask parents what they thought of the roundabout and horse. Everyone loves it. Mrs. Fournier likes the horse. Mrs. Burry said the cost to Colts Neck was negligible because spread across the County and that the County taxes were lowered this year. Mrs. Battista shared her photo of the horse with the committee. The County official ribbon cutting will likely be on May 23rd at 10am, and Mrs. Burry would like Michele Warendorf, Gisla Gray, and Eddy Brock present. Cathy Trost, who has since passed was a major proponent for the roundabout from the start 15 yrs ago. The shrubs are to be watered by the County. Eddy Brock sold the horse to the County at his cost.

8. Mrs. Morello took photos of the door at Montrose School to show the termite and/or water decay and provided a letter to Beth Kara, the Township Clerk. Mrs. Burry mentioned there is money in our account for the door to be repaired, so just need to submit a voucher for the cost. It was noted that John Sauter did trim work so could try to get him back. Mr. Rizzuto mentioned that Dave Paulson did the first renovation. The school house sits mostly on the ground and you can roll a marble from the right side to the left side. Mr. Burry fixed the latch on Sunday morning. Mr. Rizzuto and Mrs. Morello used WD40 on the lock. You need to lift the door up, if have an issue with locking. Mr. Bartolomeo and Mr. Rizzuto mentioned there is an oil tank in the ground as used to have an oil burning furnace in the attic that has not been turned on since the 70's. Mrs. Burry says we need permits to remove the tank and this should be on the town's list. Mrs. Burry thinks we had the oil tank inspected so potentially just need to clean and fill in with sand as too close to building to remove.
9. Mrs. Fournier is offering a 6 foot display case/table from her working at Reusille's for the schoolhouse.
10. Mrs. Kolnoski is working on the booklet of the bronze historic markers.
11. Mr. Bartolomeo stated that COAH is in a holding pattern. There have been a few hearings, but there is nothing happening within the next week. Mrs. Eastman mentioned that they are taking dirt from the property near her.
12. Mr. Bartolomeo mentioned that Jon Stewart sat with Mr. Anfuso in Planning to spitball things, but it never went past that. Mr. Stewart then went to County Agriculture Board for approval. The County Agriculture Board supersedes the town. Mr. Stewart should have worked with the town. But his high power attorneys went to county thereby circumventing the town. Mrs. Burry has no association with County Agriculture Board. Laurino Farms leased 11 acres, but never tilled any acres as a farm. Mrs. Burry said there are 45 acres, but it is not a farm as the sheep can't get sheared, and the cow can't be milked. Mr. Stewart is planning to have a 10-12 thousand square foot building and have 50 people visiting in a day. Our planning board is only being asked for site plan approval. The county says Colts Neck can't deny it. Mr. Stewart had a 12 acre farm in Middletown turned down where he had bought 2 houses on the Navesink to take down the houses and build a new one. It was to be an animal sanctuary. Committeeman Fitzgerald and Mr. Anfuso fought at the County Agriculture Board meeting. People will start using this scenario against us, so Colts Neck is looking at ways to protect us.
13. Mrs. Burry mentioned several resignations: Mrs. Ten Hoeve, Mrs. Davis and Mrs. Engel. Mrs. Davis and Mrs. Engel after serving many years with the committee will be sorely missed.

14. On a motion by Mr. Rizzuto, and seconded by Mr. Short, the meeting was adjourned at 7:00 PM. The next meeting will be on Tuesday, June 14, 2016, at 6:00 PM at Township Hall.

Respectfully submitted,
Michele Battista
Secretary