

Morris Township Historic Preservation Commission

Minutes for February 16, 2016 at 7:30pm

Carol Barkin called the meeting to order at 7:30pm. In attendance was Carol Barkin, Judith Sacks Bliss, Craig Goss and Sue Young. The minutes from the December meeting were read, no changes were made and minutes were approved.

Old Business:

Carol distributed copies of "The Secretary of the Interior's Standards" and the Morris County Historic Sites Survey so that we all had copies for reference.

Progress with the application from the Unitarian Fellowship was discussed. Carol will be meeting with the TTC meeting to discuss the new proposed plans with the Township lawyer, Tim Quinn and Jim Slate. The new addition should complement the Mansion as well as continue to tell the story for the second chapter of its life. Discussion about what the alternatives would be if the Unitarian Fellowship sold the Mansion and property. The next scheduled Board of Adjustment meeting will be held on Monday, March 28th at 7:30pm.

Discussion about the cell tower NJ Transit applications for Convent Station to improve communications to the trains. There did not seem to be any issues for us to be concerned since there are so many other structures along the road bed. Hopefully the new communication towers will help reduce the number of times the trains have to whistle and that would be good for the neighbors.

Public Comment: Carol asked members of the public to speak about their concerns for the new addition to the Mansion at the Unitarian Fellowship. They are asking for restricted use of the new facility to be "for Church only" as well as parking only on Church property and not along the neighboring streets. Concern for the number of stately trees that are proposed to be taken out – not sure of the commitment to replace – is there not another way? Suggestions about placement of the new addition, sanctuary and expanded parking continued.

Puff's Tavern on West Hanover Avenue is still for sale.

New Business:

With no further comments, the meeting was adjourned at 8:30pm.

Respectfully submitted, Sue Young, Secretary