

ALLENTOWN HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
Reorganization Meeting
Minutes for December 15, 2022

The annual reorganizational meeting of the Allentown Historic Preservation Review Commission was called to order by Chairwoman Jan Meerwarth at 7:01 PM.

Salute to flag

Compliance Statement:

In compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, P. L. 1975, Section 5, adequate notice has been given of this meeting by posting a Notice in a public place and by transmitting a notice in two newspapers, The Trenton Times and the Asbury Park Press as required by law.

Roll Call:

	Present	Absent	Absence Excused
Allison Arnone	X		
Brian Mojta			X
Cindy Malsbury			X
David Bamford	X		
Enzo Nini			X
Frank Cincotta	X		
Jan Meerwarth	X		
Nancy Tindall	X		
Wil Borkowski	X		
Mayor Fritts	X		

Also attending: none

Public attendees: none

Applications: none

Minutes: September 15, 2022

Motion: Frank, 2nd: Will, Approved

Public Comment: none

Old Business:

1. Union AME Cemetery Marker: Marker is complete and received, it is in Allentown! Jan will send email to Laurie to not install the marker yet. Need to make sure placement, elevation, etc. is correct.

New Business:

- 115 S. Main: Addition didn't come before HPC prior to construction due to oversight. Plans ultimately received by HPC. Design appears to be in conformance.
- 2023 Meeting Schedule discussion: stick with 3rd Thursday. Motion to accept calendar Nancy, 2nd Frank, motion carries
- Fencing for Union AME cemetery: proposed to put split rail like in Ashby Park. Split rail not recommended, request DPW to not install. Wil: bring what Parks & Public spaces recommended to HPC, Mayor: explained discussion with AME on type of fencing and purpose of fencing. Will continue discussion and send email. Q: Had designers of park suggested a design of the fence? Allison to send Jan images of fence. Coordinate entrances to be in harmony with new marker
- Sterling Development proposal update: group did present to Planning Board for variances for several issues. There are issues with building height and emergency response, sewer capacity. They didn't finish the presentation; proper radius site plan wasn't included. They are coming back to the February meeting to finish the presentation. Traffic study concerns were raised, more information needed. Are there elevation or other design drawings available other than just the plot plan. Need elevation comparison vs residences next door and impact on sun. Jan will resend drawings that are available. Only part of project is in historic district, but still was referred to HPC. Could Planning Board ask for consultant review?

Mayor's Update:

- Parks & Pub spaces: ordinance rewritten, brought down size of the group but pulling from commissions.
- Speed limit on High Street: Multiple reasons why speed should be slower due to many school functions, after hours etc.
- Mercer corporate park: engineer hired; meetings being attended. Worked with Robbinsville & developer up to a point. Setting up a meeting with borough and DEP. Spent considerable funds to fight the development. Robbinsville restricted capacity at pumping station, they don't want Stein developed. Developer will install round-about as a step to getting a truck ban in Allentown.
- Streetscape project hasn't gone as planned. Considerable rework is required. Contractor said he would do what we need as he also wants to get out of town.

Committees: - Tabled further discussion

- Application for Certificate of Appropriateness (Brian, Will) – no update
- Property/Business Owner Letter; Realtor brochure (Allison, Frank, Cindy) – no update
- Union AME Cemetery Marker – see old business
- CLG = Certified Local Government (Jan, in collaboration with Borough Administrator) – no update

- Walking Tour (Nancy, Allison, David, in collaboration with PPS, NJ Historic By-ways, MCA) – no update
- Municipal Annex (Will, Allison, in collaboration Erica DeKranes and DPW Nick Pellichero) – no update

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm

Next meeting scheduled for January 19, 2022