



Westfield Historic Preservation Commission

Meeting Date: May 22, 2023

Meeting Type: Regular Meeting of the Commission

STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE WITH THE OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT In compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act, notice of this meeting was provided by noticing this meeting in the Westfield Leader, TAP and by posting it on the bulletin board in Town Hall.

Attendees: Maria Boyes (Chair), Jennifer Jaruzelski (Vice-chair), Carol Tener (Town Historian), Kelly Kessler, Ann Freedman (Planning Board), Greg Blasi, Barton Ross (HPO), Jacqueline Brevard, Kathryn Reed (Alt#1), Maryellen McVeigh, (Alt#2), Tom Jardim, (Town Attorney)

Absent: Mark LoGrippo (TC), Katie Spikes, MaryAnne Healy

Approval of Minutes: April 24, 2023. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Kelly Kessler and seconded by Jennifer Jaruzelski. The motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:

Expedited Review Update: Kelly Kessler updated the Commission on the status of the c.1880 barn on the Veal property at 256 Kimball Ave. Ms. Kessler advised the short form application for repair work has been approved and the former carriage house will be preserved. The structure is currently undergoing patch and repair work to ensure stabilization. Two dormers that were not original to the building and placing undue weight on the structure have been removed. Greg Blasi is the architect for the project and will provide updates to the commission as the project advances.

Historic Preservation Officer Presentation: Barton Ross (HPO) delivered a detailed presentation relating to the New Jersey Historic Trust Historic Sites Management Grant the town received to complete an intensive-level architectural survey of the historic downtown. Mr. Ross outlined the steps necessary to implement the project and the criteria required for listings on the State and National Historic Registers.

OLD BUSINESS:

Committee Updates:

Homeowners Relations Committee: The Commission will continue to take recommendations for historic designations of individual properties while continuing to pursue establishing historic districts. Jacqueline Brevard updated Commission members on the status of the Dudley Avenue historic district designation project and she will spearhead obtaining additional consents from homeowners.

Devlin Committee: Jennifer Jaruzelski updated the Commission on the status of the Devlin Award. Nominations will be accepted through July 15th. The Committee is targeting the presentation of awards

to coincide with an exhibition of artist Harry Devlin's work at the Center for Creativity at the Rialto in September.

Recap of National Preservation Month Bracket Challenge: Jennifer Jaruzelski reported on the success of the Historic Architecture of Westfield Bracket Challenge activity which featured 16 styles of architecture that are represented in Westfield. Votes continue to be tabulated and results will be announced in June.

Historic Streetlights: Kelly Kessler updated the Commission on efforts to preserve historic streetlights located throughout the town. The lights would need to be retrofitted to allow use of LED lightbulbs in place of the current incandescent bulbs the fixtures currently use. Jim Gildea will bring the issue to the Town Council. It was suggested that the town's Green Team be contacted to collaborate on the project. It was proposed the Commission identify examples of the fixtures in each of the wards and contact the Town Council representatives of the wards to apprise them of the need to preserve these fixtures.

Open meeting to members of the Public: No members of the public were in attendance.

Adjournment: A motion to adjourn was made by Jennifer Jaruzelski and seconded by Kelly Kessler. The motion carried unanimously.