



## Westfield Historic Preservation Commission

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**Meeting Date:** July 24, 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 Tenner (Town Historian), Kelly Kessler, Ann Freedman (Planning Board), Greg Blasi, Maryellen McVeigh, (Alt#2), Tom Jardim, (Town Attorney)

**Absent:** Mark LoGrippo (TC), Katie Spikes, MaryAnne Healy, Barton Ross (HPO), Jacqueline Brevard, Kathryn Reed

**Approval of Minutes:** May 22, 2023. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Kelly Kessler and seconded by Ann Freedman. The motion carried unanimously.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

**Presentation by Logan Gibbs (HPO Intern):** Logan Gibbs, an intern working with Barton Ross Historic Architects and Westfield resident, delivered an informative presentation of the master list of historic properties throughout Westfield. As a summer intern in 2021, Logan assisted Connolly and Hickey Historic Architects in Cranford with the documentation and surveying of the Downtown Historic District. Logan's presentation included illustrations depicting before and after photos of a few properties that had undergone restoration.

**Highlights of New Jersey History and Historic Preservation Conference:** Maria Boyes and Jennifer Jaruzelski attended the conference in June and provided a report to the Commission members. The conference theme, *Fun and Fury*, focused on the consequences of climate change on preservation efforts throughout the state. Information sessions included discussions of making history more accessible and the National Registry of Historic Places criteria. Commission members viewed a short film produced by a Rutgers University student.

**Update on RFP for downtown historic survey:** An RFP related to the grant received from the New Jersey Historic Trust was issued on July 14, 2023 to obtain proposals to prepare a historic preservation master plan, an architectural survey of downtown Westfield, and the preparation of National Register of Historic Places nomination forms. It was noted that the RFP indicated a grant amount of \$45,000 but did not include the town's match of \$15,000. Jim Gildea will be advised to issue an addendum to the RFP indicating the total funds allocated for the project amount to \$60,000. Tom Jardim informed the Commission the bid packages would be opened on August 24<sup>th</sup>. Chairman Boyes stated it would be important to have someone from the Historic Preservation Commission present to review the proposals and requested Commission Members Greg Blasi and Ann Freedman represent the Commission. Mr. Blasi provided the Commission Members with a general overview of RFPs and the types of information that would be contained in the submitted proposals.

**Section 106 Review for 361 South Avenue East:** The Commission has no comment relating to the installation of a cell tower/antenna at the stated address as it does not affect the viewshed of any historic properties.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**Committee Updates:**

**Devlin Awards Committee:** Jennifer Jaruzelski reported that several nominations have been received. As the exhibit of Harry Devlin paintings at the Center for Creativity at the Rialto has been put on hold, there was discussion of other possible venues and potential dates. No decision was made.

**Communications/Education Committee:** Jennifer Jaruzelski reported the Build Westfield in Lego 2024 event has been scheduled for January 20, 2024. The program will be produced in collaboration with the Recreation Department. The preferred venue will be the Westfield High School Cafeteria.

Ann Freedman advised that during the Roosevelt School renovation, finials were removed from the façade with a plan to create a mold and replicate them in a modern composite so they can be reinstalled.

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

**Adjournment:** A motion to adjourn was made by Kelly Kessler and seconded by Ann Freedman. The motion carried unanimously.