

THE HISTORIC PROPERTIES COMMISSION

Amended Minutes: *The Historic Properties Commission Town of Hamden held a regular meeting on Wednesday, November 16, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. in the Parks and Recreation Dept., Hamden Government Center, 2750 Dixwell Avenue. The following issues were discussed:*

Attending: W. Doheny, A. Gorman, E. Highkin, D. Ioime T. Levine, K. Minkema

Absent: D. Baker

Guest: Walt Harris

CALL TO ORDER—Chairman Levine called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

Approval of Minutes – Chairman Levine entertained a motion to approve the minutes of the meeting of October 19, 2011. Mr. Ioime noted the following correction on page 2 under item c the sentence should read *Mr. Ioime reported he has not been able to continue research but will and bring his findings back to the Commission when completed.* Dr. Doheny motioned to approve the minutes with the correction, seconded by Ms. Highkin. ***The motion carried unanimously.*** Mr. Gorman motioned to approve the minutes of the meeting of September 21, 2011 with the removal of the words “Archeological Preserve” on page two under item f, seconded by Dr. Doheny. ***The motion carried unanimously.***

Public Hearing – Mr. Walt Harris came to address the Commission regarding Jeep Brook. A recently published brochure has brought a number of people to the area based on the brochure indicating this is Hamden Open Space. Part of the Brook is actually on his property and he is requesting that the sign posted at the site be corrected to reflect private property. He has had conversations with Mr. Minkema in which it was explained to him that the brochure was produced based on Town maps. The Commission understands his concerns regarding liability. New “No Trespassing” signs have been posted by the Town but Mr. Harris will be posting some of his own signs. He would also like to see the brochure corrected to indicate private land. Mr. Harris also noted that as much as he appreciates the Towns efforts to recognize the various historical locations in Hamden there is also a video out there produced by a Mr. Eric Lehman stating also that this is “Open Space” and would like to have the video taken down. Mr. Gorman advised Mr. Harris he will contact Mr. Lehman and explain the situation. A brief discussion ensued regarding the newly installed sign on the site and how it could be changed if possible since the sign was costly and cemented into the ground they would like to find the most cost effective way to accomplish this. Mr. Gorman will check with the company who produced the

sign. Chairman Levine will check into having a stamp made to stamp the brochures that they have on hand and those they can find in the various facilities they were left at for the public. The Commission will advise Mr. Harris of the status of the changes/corrections. Mr. Harris left stating he felt the Commission will do what needs to be done.

Public Session - Nothing at this time.

CHAIR REPORT/CORRESPONDENCE - Chairman Levine provided the Commission members with a copy of the recently published Connecticut Local Historic Districts and Property report. After a quick review of the brochure the members found some very interesting information but will review the report entirely and come back with any questions.

Unfinished Business

- a. Memorial Town Hall – Mr. Gorman presented information regarding the newly (5 month) installed doors for the Fire House. The doors are made of mahogany and there seems to be a problem. The door panels are cracking and there seems to be no explanation why. Dr. Doheny questioned if the doors are being closed too vigorously creating the wood to crack. One possible reason is the size of the doors, they're 11 feet high. Dr. Doheny feels this should not be the reason. Mr. Gorman provided the members with a sample of a metal door for possible replacement along with a photo of the two types of doors next to each other. Mr. Minkema motioned that contingent on the following three articles, the Hamden Historic Properties Commission would approve metal installation door.
 - 1) Contingent upon a satisfactory explanation of how and why the wood doors failed;
 - 2) Contingent upon examination of the installation of the wood doors to determine if racking is a problem, or any other installation issue lead to the failing of the wood door and can be corrected;
 - 3) Contingent on a determination that if the wood panels were thicker, would the failing still occur and if thicker wood eliminate the issue, install thicker wood.A full report of the three aforementioned articles to the chairman, with a history of previous installation by the installation contractor, will be required for the chairman to confirm installation of the metal installation doors. If the report is unclear and the chair is not satisfied, a special meeting of the Historic Properties Commission will need to be called to discuss the situation, seconded by Mr. Gorman. ***The motion carried unanimously.***
- b. Lock 14 –Mr. Gorman advised the members that he was able to secure six matching chairs for the table at the Lockkeepers House for future meetings.
- c. Hamden Cemeteries – Mr. Ioime reported that he has not been able to continue research but will.
- d. Ivesville District – Chairman Levine submitted a proposed report to the Mayor and is waiting for a response. When he does hear he will advise the Commission.
- e. Jepp Brook – This item was discussed under Public Hearing please see notes above.
- f. Other Business –Mr. Gorman advised the members he is waiting to hear about the CLG Grant.

Adjournment – At 8:08 p.m. Ms. Highkin motioned to adjourn, seconded by Dr. Doheny. *The motion carried unanimously.*

The next regular meeting will be Monday, December 19, 2011 Parks and Recreation Dept. Conference Room, Government Center 2nd floor 7:00 p.m.

Recorded by,

Catherine E. Gempka
Commission Clerk