Colts Neck Historical Preservation Committee

Wednesday, January 15, 20245, 6:30 PM at the Colts Neck Library Lower Level

In Attendance: Mary Pahira – Chairperson, Patricia Mitchell, Michelle Warendorf, Maggie Osmulski, Patty Eastman, Jessica Tobia, Jeanette Moriarty, Nick Moretta, Tom Sullivan, Joanne Passalacqua, Jiya Verma, Mallory Reardon, & Jennifer Reinson

Absent: Frank Rizzuto - Township Liaison, Jim Schatzle, Janine Strafaci,– all excused

1. Mrs. Pahira called the meeting to order at 6:36 PM stating "The notice requirements of the New Jersey Open Public Meeting Law have been satisfied by forwarding a news release to the Asbury Park Press on January 172, 2025 stating that a meeting of the Colts Neck Historical Preservation Committee (HPC) would be held on January 15, 2025, at 6:30 PM. The notice requirements have been posted on the Township bulletin board and a copy is on file in the office of the Township Clerk." Mrs. Pahira led the Salute to the Flag.
2. The minutes of the November 20, 2024, meeting was accepted by Mrs. Moriarty & Mrs. Warendorf.
3. Mrs Pahira, Mrs. Reardon, Mrs. Tobia, Mr Sullivan, Mrs. Reinson said their Oath of Office
4. Old Business
   a. Historic Marker – Plantation at the Falls photo op in Nov, Lil' Orleans Farm photo op end of June. Mrs. Battista will write Press Release with Photo.
   b. Booklet update – Michele will work with editor and check if a digital version is possible.
   c. Schoolhouse – discovered joists rotted when lifted broken floorboard, so maybe need to address foundation repair at same time. DPW requested to put small pebble by road, and power wash building. Mrs. Pahira 4. Rotted inside by window 5. repair foundation. 6. Remove oil tank in ground by where pipes seen in ground at back of school. Mrs. Pahira said estimate from Paulson was $125,000 and Mrs. Pahira talked with Mr. Rizzuto about hiring Paulson like they did for the cupola. County regrant not for repair of building. Mr. Rizzuto needs to have a conversation with Mrs. Capristo about budget for repairs. Dave Paulson estimate for foundation is $125,000. Mrs. Pahira was saddened that Colts Neck did not alert us to apply for a grant from the county that could fund Historic buildings preservation.
   d. 2025 Halloween event October 25/26 – Voted to hold event same day as CN PTO Trunk or Treat at 4pm.
   e. 2025 Country Christmas – Dec 7th. Town Tree Lighting Dec 6th. Mrs. Mrs. Fournier was honored for her many years on HPC and active in town.
   f. Monmouth 250 – Mrs. Pahira went to Country 250 meeting and they are trying to promote tourism. WIOM revolutionary theme, May 17 2026 hunter pace at Tatum park, Parade at Middletown, Operation Sail on July 3-4. We should form a Monmouth 250 subcommittee. We should consider a horse and buggy ride or a Christmas lantern tour.
   g. General Store 175 years. At Dec 28th Celebration, Mrs. Pahira received proclamations from town and county.
   h. Mrs. Pahira engaged monthly magazine or TapInto to get resident stories published. Mrs. Pahira make up an ad. Jeanne Wall of TapInto said she would publish.
   i. Fundraiser – brick engraving, silver picnic bench, brick $150, $1,000 sponsor, plaque for flower garden, platinum. 5.9% if they collect money. Mrs. Pahira motioned to create a non-profit as a 501c3 to fundraise. There were nine Yes votes, and there were no No's. Mrs. Reinson suggested other events like Easter bunny though rec has event. Mrs. Warendorf provided sheet with events like historic tour, photo contest of historic site or talks on such.
   j. Get the word out about history in Colts Neck – Add "Things to do" on Township Community page (example https://www.explorehunterdonnj.com/city/oldwick)
   k. Committee members: New -> Jennifer Reinson, Mallory Reardon and Mike Pahira
   l. Discussed 501c3 so can fundraise. Mrs. Pahira said her husband could help with paperwork to form.
   m. HPC Vacancy – Last is Mrs. Passalacqua to be approved
   n. 2025 budget – did not receive quote for steaming the 6 ft banquet tablecloths.
   o. Next historic marker – Eastmont Orchards, or Mrs. Moriarty's house?
   p. Participate in 6 one room schoolhouse tour April 5, 2025 11am to 3pm – sign up sheet
5. New Business

a. Conover Rd Elementary 3rd grade visit Montrose Schoolhouse. Mrs Warendorf emailed Mr Osmond. Mr. Moretta offered to work with Mr. Osmond.
b. Cedar Dr School 60th Anniversary – need photos or info to Mrs. Garibay
c. Weekend in Old Monmouth May 3 (10am to 4pm) & 4 (Noon to 4pm) – sign up sheet
d. A discussion about getting Boy Scout Eagle project for Cemetery and marker maintenance – get map of all cemeteries in town from Richard Vit.
e. It was discussed to have a House tour in fall of 5-6 houses or a garden tour or barn tour.
f. Mrs. Pahira would like to form subcommittees. Sent sign up for weekend in old Monmouth if hours end at 4pm. Mrs. Pahira wants to submit ½ mil grant for historical. Mrs. Reardon has grant writing experience.
g. Student Liaison, Ms. Verma will look into help from Art Department at CNHS to replace the cement plaque for Ed Brock's grandson at the tree at Montrose Schoolhouse. Home Depot in Marlboro is helpful with supplying materials for organizations.

6. The meeting was adjourned at 7:29 PM motioned by Mrs. Reinson, 2nd by Mrs. Warendorf. The next meeting is February 19, 2025 at 6:30 PM at the Colts Neck Library Large Meeting Room.

Respectfully submitted, Michele Battista, Secretary