

Pompton Lakes Historic Preservation Commission Minutes of April 23, 2019

Laura Jennings, in accordance with the New Jersey Open Public Meeting Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-7, opened the meeting of the Pompton Lakes Historic Preservation Commission at 7:06 pm. This meeting has been advertised in the *Suburban Trends* and posted in the Municipal Building.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Paul Bowlby, Al Evangelista, Laura Jennings, David Rowan, Councilman Ek Venin

Absent: Erika Herz, Andrew Krinsley, Keith Lockwood

Visitors: Jeff Cyr, Mered Frankel, Peter Puleio

A motion was made by Paul Bowlby to approve and accept the March 26, 2019 meeting minutes with correction of members absent, seconded by Dave Rowan. The motion passed.

CORRESPONDENCE and PHONE CALLS:

1. **Realtor Call** – Laura Jennings received phone call from realtor seeking advice for a historic commercial building and if they would need historic commission's approval for renovations. Laura directed the realtor to town building inspector instead. As a historic commission we are only able to make recommendations, but cannot enforce them. However, we appreciate modern upgrades that look like they kept their historic integrity.
2. **Joe Grill Cottages** – Mered Frankel received email inquiry from Andrew Krinsley about what used to be at Joe Grill field. Al Evangelista explained that summer cottages on stilts were once at Joe Grill field. In addition, Al mentioned that streets were mapped out on paper, but were never built. Mered forwarded the email to Laura for review and she will follow up with Andrew.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. **Town Calendar Page** – Laura Jennings submitted bullet points for Liz Brandness to use for the Historic Commission calendar page write up and Al Evangelista provided her with some photos. We will be focusing on the 125 Year Anniversary of Pompton Lakes.
2. **Sign locations – Artistic Weaving** Al Evangelista still has not been able to get in touch with original contact. He fears that she may no longer be with the company and will try to get in touch with someone else. The sign would be placed between Starbucks and the river. A small ceremony will be planned.
3. **Historical Society**– Andrew Krinsley forwarded some information on how to go about becoming a 501c3 non-profit organization, including a possible mission statement. Laura reviewed it and gave Andrew some local resources to help him move forward. An interest meeting is planned within the next couple of months where we hope to attract more people to help us achieve a non-profit status and build a committee to help acquire the Schuyler House as well.
4. **Schuyler Colfax House/Passaic County Boxing Museum** – Al Evangelista attended BID meeting to discuss our options in the purchase of the Schuyler House. Asking price of the house has gone down to \$160,000. BID was very receptive to the idea of the Historic Commission running the museum if we can acquire the property. An interest meeting will be held within the next couple of months. Laura will reach out to Liz Brandness for council chamber availability and schedule it. We aim to attract many local residents to the meeting in the hopes of

getting several of them to take lead roles in achieving our 501c3 status and set up a committee to help acquire the Schuyler house. The physical structure of the building seems ok, but it will need extensive interior renovations. Paul Bowlby is passionate about the history of NJ boxing and did a lot of research to help us find a way to acquire the Schuyler House. He talked to president of the NJ Boxing Hall of Fame and sent letters out to our government representatives, including Governor Phil Murphy, Congresswoman Mikie Sherrill, Senators Kristin Corrado, Cory Booker and Bob Menendez. A copy of the letter was distributed.

5. **2020 – 125 Year Anniversary of Pompton Lakes and 1956 Video –** Al Evangelista attended recent BID meeting in the hopes to get some help with our 125 Year Anniversary celebration. They were very receptive to our request for help and will purchase light pole banners for Wanaque Ave from Hamburg Tpk. to Ringwood Ave. Valerie Coll will design the banners with town logo and probably a “then and now” theme will be used for window signs. In addition, BID mentioned a town picnic to be held at either Hershfield Park or Elks. Al advised that having it at the Elks would be a great way to tie in with the Schuyler House and our fundraising goals. Peter Puleio was informed of what is expected in his video production. It was discussed that we will want to keep the presentation video short to keep people interested, but that a longer version will be made available to anyone who chooses to watch it in its entirety. Noteworthy businesses should be featured, including, but not limited to Cardinal Café, TV Land Café, Rhino Theater, Ice Cream Station, High School, Fire Department, First Aid, Police, Chamber of Commerce, churches, etc. Mered suggested that we look at the 100 Year Anniversary write up and expand on that as well. Cristiane Jennings mentioned that a very enthusiastic and informative couple attended the recent showing of the 1956 video who are willing to be interviewed for the 125 year celebration video. Cristiane will get contact information and forward to Peter. It is to be noted that the 1956 video is public and can be used for our purposes, but Bill Houston has asked that he is credited for anything that uses his video. Video completion should be done by January or February of next year.
6. **Storage Facility** – Laura Jennings wants to organize the storage facility to help facilitate finding historical memorabilia. We will bring tents, tables and chairs on Saturday, June 15th at 9am. Laura will reach out to Kevin Boyle to inquire about purchasing clear storage containers.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **New Members**- Andrew Krinsley has been sworn in as a new member of the Historic Commission. We are still in need of two more members.
2. **Pompton Day Booth Sign Up** – Vendor sign-up sheet has been completed. Cristiane Jennings will submit to Recreation Department, attention Pompton Day.
3. **Tour of Butler Museum** – After a short meeting next month we will head over to the Butler Museum for a private tour.

Our next meeting is May 28, 2019 – at the Pompton Lakes Civic Center, 25 Lenox Avenue, Pompton Lakes, NJ. Please call Laura Jennings at 201-953-9327 or email jennings.lauraf@gmail.com if you cannot attend a meeting.

Having no further business to discuss a motion was made at 8:18 PM to adjourn by Al Evangelista and seconded by Paul Bowlby.

Respectfully submitted, Cristiane Jennings