

**MINUTES OF THE
MENDHAM BOROUGH
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
September 16, 2013
Phoenix House, 2 West Main Street, Mendham, NJ**

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Historic Preservation Commission was called to order by Chair Zedalis, at 7:30 p.m. at the Phoenix House, 2 West Main Street, Mendham, NJ.

CHAIR'S OPENING STATEMENT

Notice of this meeting was published in the Observer Tribune and Daily Record on January 24, 2013 in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act and posted on the bulletin board of the Phoenix House on the same date.

ATTENDANCE

Ms. C. Jones-Curl – Absent
Mr. N. Cusano – Present
Mr. C. Nicholson – Present

Mr. M. Zedalis – Present
Mr. J. Dannebaum, Alternate I – Present
Ms. S. Carpenter, Alternate II- Present

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MINUTES

Mr. Cusano made a motion to approve the minutes of the regular meetings of July 15, 2013 and August 19, 2013. Mr. Nicholson seconded. All members being in favor, the minutes were approved.

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PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Zedalis opened the meeting to comments by the public on anything that was not on the agenda. There being none, the public session was closed.

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APPLICATIONS

HC 28-13: **Gloria Nilson & Co.** – Review of Sign
Block 1501, Lot 9, 21 East Main St.

Present: Heidi Dittloff, Director of Marketing
 Kevin Conheeneey, Co-Sign Company

The applicant had provided the Commission with the sign design, specifications and materials with their application dated August 20, 2013.

Mr. Conheeneey explained that the new sign would be basically the same as the one that is their today with a name change. They are not changing the poles, just adding new brackets. The new sign will provide a clean look. The logo will change. He provided samples of the sign material to the Commission.

Addressing Mr. Cusano on whether or not the sign would have a matt finish, Mr. Conheeneey stated that it is a vinyl application and will not be matt, but the only the lettering will be in white and that will appear gloss. He stated that it could be dulled with a matt finish. Mr. Cusano commented that most of the signs in the Historic District are wood with carved or painted letters. He requested that the applicant use the least amount of gloss possible. Mr. Conheeneey agreed that they could satin out the gloss.

Responding to Mr. Zedalis on whether there would be any new lighting, Ms. Dittloff stated that the lighting is pre-existing and is located on either side of the sign.

Mr. Cusano made a motion to approve the application as submitted with the stipulation that the gloss be toned down as much as possible. Ms. Carpenter seconded.

ROLL CALL: The result of the roll call was 5 to 0 as follows:

In Favor: Cusano, Nicholson, Dannenbaum, Carpenter, Zedalis
 Opposed: None
 Abstentions: None

The motion carried. Ms. Callahan will prepare a letter of approval with copies to the Construction and Zoning Officials.

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HC 29-13: St. Joseph School – Review of Sign (Recommendation to BOA)
 Block 1902, Lot 27, 8 West Main St.

Present: Helen Kelly, Principal

The applicant had provided the Commission with the sign design, specifications and materials with their application dated September 9, 2013.

Ms. Kelly explained to the Commission that a banner currently hangs on the front of the school, and that they want to replace it with a sign at the location in front of the school on the New Street side. The sign would be an engraved blue wooden sign etched in gold.

The Commission reviewed the location as identified in the application and noted that it was located very near the school at the end of the New Street driveway. It was not located on the street, but would be visible as one drove down the drive to the school.

The Commission did not have any problems with the sign or its location, and noted that it would look very good.

Mr. Cusano made a motion to recommend to the Board of Adjustment that the sign as proposed meets the historic district criteria and is acceptable to the Commission. Ms. Carpenter seconded.

ROLL CALL: The result of the roll call was 5 to 0 as follows:

In Favor: Cusano, Nicholson, Dannenbaum, Carpenter, Zedalis
 Opposed: None
 Abstentions: None

The motion carried. Ms. Callahan will prepare a letter of recommendation from the Commission to the Board of Adjustment.

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OTHER BUSINESS

The Commission had a brief discussion on whether or not they should require signs to come before the entire Commission, or whether they should be considered minor applications. It was the consensus of the Commission that while the applications are short, signage is an important element in aesthetics of the Historic District, and all applications should continue to come before the entire Commission. They also briefly discussed whether standards and an ordinance change should be considered. They determined that at this time, they would prefer that their requirements be discussed with the applicant at the meetings and through the application process.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no additional business to come before the Commission, on motion duly made, seconded and carried, the meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m. The next meeting of the Historic Preservation Commission will be held on Monday, October 21, 2013 at 7:30 p.m. at the Phoenix House, 2 West Main St., Mendham, NJ.

Respectfully Submitted,

Diana Callahan
 Commission Secretary