Historic District Commission
Regular Meeting Minutes
02/18/2020
Clinton Police Department
Community Room

Attendees: Larry Ouellette, Chairman; Peggy Adler, Vice Chairman; Andrew Marzano, HDC Member; Tom Shultz, HDC Member; Gloria McQueeney, Clerk
Absent: Maureen Wellman, HDC Member;

1. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by L. Ouellette, Chairman at 7:00 p.m.

2. **Visitors:** No visitors

3. **Approval of Minutes:** 1/21/2020
   Motion to approve, Larry Ouellette, Peggy Adler seconded, Tom Shultz abstained. Motion carried.

4. **Correspondence:** None

5. **Proposed High/John Street Village District**
   a. **Result of Planning and Zoning hearing** – Denied
      L. Ouellette and the HDC members reviewed what caused this application to be denied and what can be done in the future to help insure positive outcomes.
      - What went wrong?
        o John Street was not included on the map of the proposed Village District.
        o Misunderstanding by property owners, which grew out of proportion, as to what was involved in a Village District compared to a Historic District.
        o Vote was based on public sentiment, speculation, rumors and innuendos, and not facts.
        o P&Z has no full time Planner to advise on these matters.
      - What can HDC do going forward? (Lessons learned)
        o Property owners/people from the neighborhood should be the advocates and applicants in the future.
        o Future proposals should gain support from groups who are in favor of preserving historic places in Clinton.
        o Develop support through public information sessions.
        o Do not assume there is support for projects.
        o Be prepared to present positive opinions and views to the P&Z.
        o Assure that originators of project are involved in all Town hearings regarding their project.
b. National Register Update
   Historic buildings only in the John Street/High Street area should be added to the National Registry. Applications need to be completed.

6. Recommendations for National Register of Historic Places Not in any National Registered District:
   - Mill District School
     Notify owners that HDC is pursuing National Register designation.
   - Cow Hill School
     Town owned
   - Chesebrough-Pond’s Building
     In the process of getting designation by new owners.
   - Pallenberg Home
     Notify owners that HDC is pursuing National Register designation.

   Anyone can ask for National Register designation. P. Adler will notify affected property owners of HDC intentions to get their approval.

7. Revised Liberty Green Historic District Ordinance
   Because of the change in Clinton Town Government, the Revised Liberty Green Historic Expanded District Ordinance has still not been approved.
   - The Commission agreed that L. Ouellette, Chairman, write a letter to the Town Counsel, John Bennett, to request status of the LGHD expanded ordinance.

8. Certified Local Government (CLG) Reporting
   A yearly report must be submitted to Mary Dunn, Deputy Director of Historic Preservation State of Connecticut, which she then forwards to the Federal Government.
   - L. Ouellette will print and bring copies to the next HDC meeting on March 17, 2020.
   - Gloria McQueeney, Clerk, will contact Mary Dunn to obtain a blank copy of the new form for the submission for next meeting.

9. Update of Historic Buildings
   a. Stanton House – Will have another fundraiser (Antique Appraisal) on February 29, 2020, toward the replacement of the roof.
   b. Academy Building - $15,000 has been raised to date for restoration of the interior.
   c. Munger House – No update
   d. Kelsey House – Restoration is ongoing
   e. 1720 House – No change – still in decline
   f. Dowd House – Currently up for sale
   g. Tri-colored House – No update

10. State Circuit Rider Communications regarding potential sources of preservation funding. – Tabled
    a. Applications Availability
b. Subcommittees
   c. Funding to purchase historical homes
   d. 501(c) 3 for funding as non-profit

11. Proposed Founders Day – Potential for Coordination with other Town events – Tabled
   a. Coordinate with Summerfest 2020
   b. Clinton Chamber of Commerce
   c. Stanton House
   d. Historical Society

Focus will be on historic preservation, parade, walking tours.

12. Certificate of Recognition Program
   This will be the focus of our May 19, 2020, meeting.
   a. Criteria
   b. Candidates
   c. Award Presentation

13. Needed Restoration and Improvements to Liberty Green Historic District
   Several improvements must be addressed. This will be the focus of our June 16, 2020, meeting.
   - Electrical Closet Blind on the Green/Utility Blinds
   - Signage
   - Historic Street Signs

14. New Business
   a. Historic District Commission Website
      This will be the focus of our April 21, 2020, meeting.
      - Should the HDC website be part of the Clinton Town website?
      - What will be on the HDC website?
        o Members Names
        o Meeting Agendas and Minutes
        o Documents/Reports
        o Public Outreach

15. Adjournment
   a. Motion to adjourn L. Ouellette, 2nd Andy Marzano. Approved.
   b. Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gloria McQueeney
Clerk, Historic District Commission