

Florence Township Heritage Commission
Tuesday, July 17, 2007 meeting minutes

Call to order: Chair B. Flies called the meeting to order at 7:10 P.M. with members: Bill Flies, Clay Ruggles, Char Henn, Joyce Engstrom, Andrea Hamilton, and Dan Staker present.

Secretary Report: The minutes of the June 19th meeting were approved as emailed.

Treasurer's Report: Bill reported that the HPC's checking account had a \$560.49 balance and the August 1st 2007 projected Park's balance was \$8,327.83 with an expected \$5,000 payment from the township forthcoming.

Town Board Meeting: Clay Ruggles, Township Supervisor, had nothing to report from the previous Town meeting.

Permits:

- Bill and Linda Flies presented "preliminary" plans for their Chateau Frontenac Site: *"The overall Chateau Frontenac site plan is to establish a Historic Home Community with 6 single family historic homes. The Gatehouse, Grapevine, and Fern properties are on the west side of Lake Avenue Way (south to north). The Pepin, Lakeside, and Chapelwood properties are on the east side of Lake Avenue Way (south to north). The 6 residents will own their own homes, the respective adjoining landscape (1/2 acre + for each property), and shares in the Chateau Frontenac Homeowner Association. The association manages the water and septic systems, a common day dock, and maintenance services. The home association covenants are straight forward and are attached to the property deeds."* In conjunction with the project the Flieses submitted a demolition permit to remove a dwelling, which they felt, had no historic significance and would only detract from their goal of creating a "historic home community."

The permit was approved by the HPC.

Three of the homes are completed and may soon be offered for sale and the Flieses told the HPC that they will keep the HPC apprised of three remaining sites as their plans are developed. A discussion about the "Grapevine" property arose as it includes a "studio/workshop" which could possibly be used as a guesthouse or a separate residence and create a non-conforming structure. The remedy might be to apply for variances in lot sizes for two separate residences, Schaller and Grapevine, within the "Grapevine" property. The tradeoff would be increased density within the Chateau Frontenac site. Fleiss assured the HPC that there would be a deed restriction that would preclude selling off Schaller by a future owner of "Grapevine." Generally, HPC approved the overall plan for the area and will await future permitting as the project proceeds.

Completed Projects: None

Active Projects:

- Clay - Filling open HPC board positions: none to report.
- Andrea - Book Distribution: none

- Andrea – Bench Sponsorship: Dan Staker will submit a bench sponsorship before next HPC meeting.
- Park management: A discussion of the benefits of hiring someone to provide maintenance for the parks was debated with no resolution other than that it seemed like the only viable way to continue to perform this function which all agreed was important to the community. Clay said the town board is not going to provide bleachers for the ball diamond and if the HPC feels them necessary we will have to provide them.
- Park shelter upgrade: It was generally agreed that the electrical service for the park should be included with the upgrade plans. Joyce will meet with someone and try to develop the interpretive center concept into the plans for an overall upgrade.
- Walking Tour Brochure: Currently on hold until winter.
- Heritage Assets Management: Currently on hold until winter.
- Communication: Dan will review the Florence township website with the goal of better understanding how to access the site in the reporting of HPC business. Lorry Wendland has an email address database that needs to be retrieved by Dan. Dan is in the process of setting up a PC for the purpose of handling the communication aspects and other HPC Secretary business.

New Business:

- Resident Cory Koplin presented a note of concern regarding the new home being constructed on Leroy Avenue as to fitting in with “historic guidelines.” HPC members in considering the existing neighborhood structures and how it fit with the overall character of neighborhood agreed that although the design of the new construction does not meet HPC’s encouraged architectural historic guidelines it did however fit as a contemporary design within the neighborhood. We will retrieve the original permit to see as to what window style and type of siding was listed.

Planned Absences: None mentioned.

Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned approximately 8:30 PM

Next HPC Meeting: August 21,2007

Please advise of any additions or corrections

Respectfully submitted, July 18, 2007

Secretary,

Dan Staker.