

**HOPE TOWNSHIP
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
June 9, 2014**

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman, Robert May.

OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT:

The secretary read the "Open Public Meetings Act" Under the provisions of the "Open Public Meetings Act", adequate notice of this meeting has been provided by publishing notice in the "Star Gazette" and by posting notices in the Hope Post Office and on the Township Bulletin Board all on February 14, 2014.

Present at this meeting were: Chairman, Robert May, Vice Chairman, Gerry Manger and members: Mary Billow, Lacey DiTondo, Verity Fox, Jane Guthrie, Darren Koeppen, Julie Steven. Absent was Henry Morgan.

MINUTES The minutes of the meeting of April 14, 2014 have been distributed to the members prior to this meeting. A motion was made by Manger, seconded by Fox to approve the minutes as submitted. By voice vote, all were in favor with May and Steven abstaining.

APPLICATIONS 14-06 block 2400, Lot 500 323 High Street, Hope Historical Society. Since Nancy Treible was present for this meeting, this application was reviewed first. Treible noted that the banner would be hung for a period of 5 weeks on the side of the Historical Society museum. The commission members were agreeable with the sign appearance and placement. A motion was made by Koeppen, seconded by Guthrie to approve the application as submitted. Roll Call: Guthrie-yes, Koeppen-yes, Fox-yes, Steven-abstain, Billow-abstain, Manger-yes, May-yes. The approved application was signed and sealed by the chairman.

14-05 Block 2100, Lot 700, 339 High St. Woodrose Properties (The Nest). The secretary gave the commission the background regarding the identification marker ordinance. Since the Township Committee did not get any response from the 4 groups that were contacted to work on this ordinance with the exception of the Historic Preservation Commission, it decided to, instead, have the zoning officer enforce the sign ordinance that the township is currently using. Businesses with "illegal" or "non-compliant" signs were notified by mail. This application is for one such sign at "The Nest". This sign was placed, perpendicular to the building. The commission members reviewed the application and attached pictures and discussed the fact that the commission could only be responsible for approving the look of the sign, not the size or location, that would be up to the zoning officer to enforce the sign ordinance. With that in mind, a motion was made by DiTondo, seconded by Steven to approve the sign. Roll Call: DiTondo-yes, Guthrie-yes, Koeppen-yes, Fox-yes, Steven-yes, Billow-yes, Manger-yes, May-yes. The approved application was signed and sealed by the Chairman with the notation that approval must be received from the zoning officer.

APPLICATIONS AT DEADLINE There were no applications reviewed in June of 2012.

OLD BUSINESS The sign ordinance was discussed at length with remarks made about the gas station and all of their signs and banners, DiTondo noted that we need to be careful about offending the local businesses, she added that we all need to work together. Further discussion followed regarding the sandwich board signs in the village. It remarked that the Township owns one of those signs on the corner. DiTondo asked if the County has a setback requirement with regards to the sidewalk? The secretary was asked to contact the zoning officer to see if he could check with the county to see what their regulations are regarding signs and/or flowerpots on the sidewalk.

NEW BUSINESS Koeppen introduced the subject of the noise ordinance in town. He commented that the noise from the weddings taking place at the Inn on the weekends is terribly loud – even at his house he can hear everything that is being said as well as the music that’s being played. Koeppen also noted that there is new driveway behind “The Nest”. The secretary noted that the zoning officer was aware of that new driveway.

It was also noted that fencing went up at the house on New St. that used to serve as the rectory for St. Luke’s Church. Did they have to get zoning or building permits for those fences? Nothing was submitted to this commission with regards to that fencing. The secretary will send a letter along with an application to St. Luke’s.

ADJOURNMENT There being no further business before the commission, a motion was made by Fox, seconded by Koeppen to adjourn the meeting. By voice vote, all were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Gabel, secretary