

**HOPE TOWNSHIP
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
June 10, 2013**

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 1, 2013.

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

MINUTES The minutes of the meeting of May 13, 2013 have been distributed to the members prior to this meeting. A motion was made by Fox, seconded by Koeppen. All were in favor with May, Manger, McDonough, Guthrie and Morgan abstaining.

APPLICATIONS 13-07 Block 1700, Lot 500 – 435 Hope-Blairstown Rd., Country Liquors and Hope Pizza. This application is for approval for placement of above ground propane tanks. Present for the applicant was a representative from the propane company. He explained that the tanks were to be placed where they currently stand, the crash ballards have been moved farther back (about 7 feet) and shrubbery will be placed around the tanks to camouflage them. He added that to bury the tanks would be compromising the two old oak trees in that area.

A brief discussion was held in which the Propane Rep noted that the tanks are 36" high and the shrubbery will be slightly higher but the tanks cannot be covered completely. Police and emergency vehicles need to be able to read the numbers on the tanks. Further discussion was held regarding the color of the tanks. It was decided that a sand color would be less noticeable.

A motion was made by Manger, seconded by Koeppen to approve this application with the tanks painted a sand color. Roll Call: McDonough –abstain, Guthrie-yes, Morgan-abstain, Koeppen-yes, Billow-abstain, Fox-yes, Manger-yes, May-yes. The approved application was signed and sealed by the Chairman.

13-08 Block 2400, Lot 400 - 2 Walnut St., H.O.P.E. This application is for approval for the placement of tenant signs in front of the Long House. Connie Locklin was present for this application. A discussion was held about the progress of the restoration of the building and the eventual signs for tenants. The question was raised about placing the signs right in front of the windows in two locations. Locklin noted that with regards to centering the sign on each portion of the building

that was the location that was chosen. He also noted that the signs were not right up against the wall of the building but would be freestanding in front of the building. He added that all of the tenants would have a predetermined size for their sign that would fit on/within these freestanding frames. He indicated that the tenants will have to have H.O.P.E. approval for the signs and then get HPC approval. A motion was made to approve these sign locations as submitted by McDonough, seconded by Billow. Roll Call: McDonough-yes, Guthrie-abstain, Morgan-yes, Koeppen-yes, Billow-yes, Fox-yes, Manger-yes, May-yes. The approved application was signed and sealed by the Chairman.

13-09 – Block 1800, Lot 500 – 351 High St., Fred Werdann. This application was for approval for railing to be placed on the front porch and an extension of an already existing fence in the back of the house. The owner, Mr. Werdann, was present at this meeting. He explained that his insurance company required a railing on the front porch. He added that they only required the railing on one side of the steps but he felt that it would look odd so he's doing both sides. The railing will be all cedar wood painted white. With regards to the fence in the back, Mr. Werdann explained that he wanted to extend the fence to include all of the back yard for his dogs. There would also be a gate installed in the fence. A motion was made by Manger, seconded by McDonough to approve this application as submitted. Roll Call: McDonough-yes, Guthrie-yes, Morgan-yes, Koeppen-yes, Billow-yes, Fox-yes, Manger-yes, May-yes. The approved, application was signed and sealed by the Chairman.

Amendment to #13-02 345 High St. Nancy Treible This application was for approval for the new front door color – Benjamin Moore Caponata. A sample of the color was available for the commission members to view. A motion was made to approve this amendment by Morgan, seconded by Koeppen. Roll Call: McDonough-yes, Guthrie-yes, Morgan-yes, Koeppen-yes, Billow-yes, Fox-yes, Manger-yes, May-yes. The application was amended and signed by the Chairman.

OLD BUSINESS A discussion was held about the signage in the village. It was noted that the sandwich board sign at the intersection (the Nest and Hope Junction Antique Stores) are getting in the way of the sidewalk. The one sign is tethered by a "leash" to the sign poles. It makes it difficult for people to walk around. It was also noted that the sign that was put up for Hope Haircutters is really attractive and has helped the business to grow. Everyone agreed that it would be nice if the other businesses would consider signs of that kind instead of the sandwich board signs that are there now. The Commission members asked the secretary to speak with the zoning officer about the signs and what, exactly is allowed and what can be done about the signs that are out there now.

NEW BUSINESS Two additional items were mentioned just prior to the end of the meeting. Guthrie noted that the storm drain on Cedar St. near the Mount's house was sunken in and in need of repair.

In addition, the red house on Johnsonburg Rd. (Tarrant's old house) has had garbage piled up along the street for quite some time. The secretary noted that she will speak with the zoning officer about this house.

The Financial Disclosure form was mentioned briefly. The secretary noted that there were many problems with the filing of the forms online this year. She offered that anyone who was having problems could come into the Municipal Building and we would help them file online from our computers.

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda Gabel, secretary