

**MINUTES  
OF THE  
CRANBURY TOWNSHIP  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION  
CRANBURY, NEW JERSEY  
DECEMBER 7, 2021**

**TIME AND PLACE OF MEETING**

The regular meeting of the Cranbury Township Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) was held on December 7, 2021 at 7:00 pm by remote access videoconferencing in response to COVID-19 and the updated Open Public Meeting Act guidelines.

**CALL TO ORDER**

With a quorum present, Chair Golisano called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**STATEMENT OF ADEQUATE NOTICE**

Pursuant to the Sunshine Law, adequate notice in accordance with the Senator Byron M. Baer Open Public Meetings Act (N.J.S.A. 10:4-6) was provided on January 8, 2021, of this meeting's date, time, and place, and the agenda was mailed to the news media, posted on the Township bulletin board, mailed to those requesting personal notice, and filed with the Municipal Clerk. Notification of remote access meetings going forward, until further notice, was posted on the Township website on July 3, 2020 and sent to the Trenton Times, Home News, and Cranbury Press on July 3, 2020.

**ROLL CALL:**

Members Present: Mr. Golisano, Chair, Mr. Walsh, Vice Chair, Ms. Marlowe, Ms. Ryan, Ms. Suttmeier, and Mr. Geier, Alt II

Members Absent: Mr. Szabo, Alt I

Professionals and Staff Present: Robin Tillou, Historic Preservation Commission Secretary

**APPLICATIONS**

**HPC132-21, #16 Wynnewood Drive, Block 23, Lot 130, Deck in Rear Yard**

Mr. John Hughes was present and is the Owner and Applicant for 16 Wynnewood Drive Certificate of Approval (CoA) application.

Mr. Hughes explained there is a glass room that is attached to the kitchen and there is a small deck from the glass room. We are going to extend that deck and wrap it around the house. This will connect with the dining room where there is another exit. The proposal is to build a low deck and the step will not be more than a step. It will be out of a composite material, in a brown color. We will have Ralph Moore build the deck. There will be railings on the opposite side from where the cemetery is. We are considering putting a small pergola in there to cover the sunlight on a portion of the deck. Included in the application is the exact location of the deck.

Chair Golisano stated nothing has been approved as of yet to eliminate the buffer zone, so this property still has to come before the Commission.

Mr. Geier asked if the pergola will match the decking color.

Mr. Hughes stated they will match it as close as they can. It will be a brownish wooden color.

Chair Golisano stated there are no issues as far as visibility from the back rear side of the graveyard view.

Chair Golisano opened the meeting to the public. With no public comment the public forum was closed.

Chair Golisano made a motion to approve 16 Wynnewood Drive rear yard deck. Mr. Walsh offered a second.

**ROLL CALL:**

AYES: Mr. Golisano, Ms. Marlowe, Ms. Ryan, Ms. Suttmeier and Mr. Walsh

NAYS: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Cranbury Station Hamlet Designation and Proposed Changes to Historic District and Buffer Areas**

Ms. Tillou announced the Planning Board did not find any inconsistencies with the Cranbury Township Master Plan regarding Ordinance no. 11-21-14 for the designation of Cranbury Station Hamlet historic district and the amendment to the Cranbury Village Historic District. This ordinance will then go to the Township Committee (TC) on December 13, 2021 where the ordinance will be adopted if approved. That will be the last step for the Township in the designation process.

Chair Golisano mentioned that he had sat in on that meeting and it was well received and endorsed by the Planning Board.

**Certified Local Government (CLG) Grant-In-Aid 2023 (FFY 2022)**

Chair Golisano advised Mr. Szabo will be attending the next HPC meeting on December 21, 2021 to address the status of the CLG Grant.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Mr. Jonathan Bichsel of 18 Station Road is the Owner of said property and was present to propose the concept of work to potentially be done at his residence and get feedback from the HPC.

Mr. Bichsel explained the white aluminum siding has faded and would like to paint white due to the paint being worn off.

Mr. Geier asked if he would be painting the entire house or just the one façade.

Mr. Bichsel stated it would be all the aluminum siding which is three sides and above the back addition (vinyl) would be painted as well.

Mr. Bichsel stated the front porch is rotten and would like to fix that. Underneath is rotted and he would like to replace that with like wood. The ceiling on the porch would be replaced with like and the flooring is rotten in some areas and would be replaced with like for like. The vestibule will be removed that is not original to the house. It creates a narrow gap to get to the rest of the porch. We would like to return it to the original. The current front door is made of plexiglass inside a wooden casing and would like to replace it with an energy efficient door. The railings on the front of the house are low and sit on the wood floor which creates rot. He would like to raise the railings a couple inches to let water run

beneath it and to be safer. The roof is leaking and would like to replace the roof with same asphalt shingles.

Chair Golisano feels painting the aluminum siding will be beneficial. Sometimes removal and replacement of the siding helps, but it is not required and may create other issues. The rotten wood on the front porch would be ordinary maintenance and repair with like-on-like in kind repairs and replacement. The removal of the vestibule, the railings and the door would need to be presented to HPC. For the door replacement, the suggestion would be to visit a local building supplier and ask for something that would be appropriate for the historic district. If there will be a window within the door keep in mind the glass can sometimes look fake. If there will be lites within the breakup of the window the simulated divided lites will look the most realistic.

Ms. Marlowe stated that reason the porch railing is low is because historically they were not supposed to be above the bottom of the windows. Ms. Marlowe suggested instead of raising them up, to possibly shorten the bottom and raise the bottom and not the top.

Mr. Bichsel stated to possibly drill holes so water can drain through.

Ms. Marlowe suggested to just raise the bottom.

Chair Golisano stated other issues may come about with holes going through the deck where you may have water traveling around underneath which could lead to warping or cupping. The freezing of the water can lead to a lift of the porch. You would want the water shedding off the outer edge of the porch.

Ms. Marlowe stated the railings may be able to be raised a couple of inches and still not be higher than the windowsill.

Chair Golisano suggested to put a measurement to the railing and describe the current size of the spindle spacing and the height in the official application. Including the sill height on the front elevation would also be helpful. The roof repair would be a minor application.

Ms. Ryan asked if it is asphalt shingles on the porch roof.

Mr. Bichsel stated it is not asphalt shingles and it does not need to be replaced.

## **DISCUSSION**

Mr. Geier asked if anything can be done to enforce maintenance of signs in Village Commercial.

There will be a follow up on this discussion.

## **MINUTES November 16, 2021**

Chair Golisano made the motion to approve the minutes with revisions mentioned. Ms. Marlowe offered a second.

### **ROLL CALL:**

AYES: Mr. Golisano, Ms. Marlowe, Ms. Ryan and Ms. Suttmeier

NAYS: None.

ABSTAIN: None

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**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Chairperson Golisano opened the public forum.

With no further public comment Chairperson Golisano closed the public forum.

**ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING**

There being no further business, a motion was made by Chairperson Golisano to adjourn the meeting and Ms. Marlowe offered a second. By unanimous vote, the meeting was thereupon adjourned at 7:45 pm.

**CERTIFICATE OF SECRETARY**

I, the undersigned, do hereby certify that I am the duly appointed secretary of the Cranbury Township Historic Preservation Commission, and that this document, consisting of six pages, constitutes a true and correct copy of the minutes of the regular meeting held on December 7, 2021.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto subscribed my name on this day of December , 2021.

*Robin Tillou*

Robin Tillou  
Recording Secretary  
Historic Preservation Commission