



HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, September 14, 2023 - 7:30 PM

Virtual Webex Meeting

To access information on how to use WebEx to join the meeting, please click on the following link: <https://www.southorange.org/800/WebEx-FAQs>

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Chair Levine opened the meeting at approximately 7:30pm:

1. Roll Call

Class A Commissioners

Karen Marlowe, Vice Chair

Anina Rossen - Absent

Class B Commissioners

Jacob Levine, Chair

Amy Dahn

Gretchen Schumann - Absent

David Wright

Jason Martinek

Alternates

Vacant (Class A)

Julie McCourt(Class B) - Absent

Summer Jones, Trustee Liaison

William Sullivan, Commission Counsel

Ojetti Davis, Recording Secretary

Also present: Karen Hilton Trustee

2. Meeting Notice Statement

Chair Levine read the following statement:

Adequate notice of this meeting had been provided to the press in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A 10:4-6. In addition, notice of this meeting was posted in Village Hall and on the Village's website, and has been filed in the Office of the Village Clerk. Official action may be taken.

3. Approval of Minutes



- A. Regular meeting held on July 20, 2023:
Mr. Martinek moved to approve the minutes of the July 20th meeting, seconded by Chair Levine. All members were in favor and none opposed.

4. New Business

- A. Presentation from the South Orange Public Library:
Andrew Berman and Alex McLean of the firm Andrew Berman Architect presented the preliminary proposed plans for the renovation of the Library. Mr. Berman gave a brief background of his company, their project portfolio and discussed the following:
- Existing Site Plan of the Connett Building & Library
 - Proposed Site Plan of the Connett Building & Library
 - Proposed Front Entrance Rendering
 - Proposed first Floor Plan
 - Proposed Entrance Lobby Rendering
 - Proposed Second Floor Plan
 - Proposed Renovation of Second Floor Rendering
 - Proposed Mezzanine Floor Plan
 - Photo of Existing Connett Second Floor
 - Proposed second Floor Plan of Connett Building
 - Photo Rendering view from Scotland Road
 - 50% Design Development Construction Cost Estimate
 - 50% Design Development Construction & FFE Cost Estimate

In response to board questions, Mr. Berman discussed the building materials, increased stack shelves for books, view of the interior of the building from the outside, handicap accessibility, climate control for the historical archives area, design of the new entrance. Jill Faherty Director of the Library discussed relocating the teen collection, mobile shelves, view of the offices from the outside and signage for the new entrance.

In response to public comments, Mr. Berman discussed location of the teen room, extended hours for community room, loss of parking spaces, increasing the size of the children's room, storage, private bathrooms and secured outdoor space. Ms. Faherty discussed the proposed design of the children's program space.

The board commissioners were in full support of the proposed design. Ms. Dahn made a motion to submit a letter supporting the project as presented for the Library renovation, seconded by Ms. Marlowe.



Roll Call Vote:

Dahn Yes
Martinek Yes
Wright Yes
Marlowe Yes
Levine Yes
Motion carried.

5. Old Business

- A. Baird Update – Trustee Hilton discussed the ongoing construction but very close to completion. There were many change orders passed at the last BOT meeting. Trustee Hilton mentioned that when the Baird Center is open, the Library staff will move to 298 Walton Avenue and the children room will be located at the Baird until the Library construction is complete.
- B. Library Update – There was no additional report.

6. Discussion/Follow Up/Action Items

- A. Trustee Report – Trustee Jones discussed the adoption of the Village Charter at the last BOT meeting and will be sent to the Legislature for final approval.

7. Subcommittee Updates

- A. Master Plan Implementation – There was no report.
- B. Ordinance Revision Discussion – There was no report.
- C. Website Update – There was no report.

8. Public Comments

Alisa Aronson asked about the status of the time capsule. Ms. Dahn recalled the time capsule was given to the Village President Collum who will at some point give it to the library.

9. Next Meeting Date

- A. Thursday, October 19, 2023 at 7:30 pm

10. Adjournment

There being no further discussion, Ms. Marlowe moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Ms. Dahn. Chair Levine adjourned the meeting at approximately 9:30 pm.



Respectfully Submitted by,
Ojetti Davis
Recording Secretary