

**Historic District Commission**  
**Regular Meeting Minutes**  
**01/21/2020**  
Clinton Police Department  
Community Room

Attendees: Larry Ouellette, Chairman; Peggy Adler, Vice Chairman; Maureen Wellman, HDC Member; Andrew Marzano, HDC Member; Gloria McQueeney, Clerk

1. **Call to Order** - The meeting was called to order by L. Ouellette, Chairman at 7:00 p.m.
2. **Visitors** – Heidi Hayes, John Street Resident; Nate Clark, John Street Resident; David Traskos, John Street Resident; Eric O’Connell, Harbor News

Larry Ouellette proposed a motion to move “Proposed High/John Street Village District Update” from #5 to #3 on the agenda.

- a. Peggy Adler seconded
- b. Motion approved

**3. Proposed High/John Street Village District Update**

L. Ouellette greeted the visitors and noted that both Mary Dunn of the State of Connecticut and John Guskowski, Clinton Town Planner were invited to the meeting, but neither could make it. He began the meeting with an overview of the original idea for a Village District in the John Street/High Street area and distributed a large map of the proposed district and a copy of the Village District regulations to the John Street property owners. L. Ouellette continued to explain that in 2014 the Town of Clinton initiated an historic survey of the Unilever property and surrounding areas including John Street and High Street as a means to determine a way for the Town to best develop and preserve the area as a gateway into town off I95, via route 81 (High Street).

David Traskas questioned why John Street was included in the map as part of the Village District and why was the Historic District Commission named as applicant. L. Ouellette answered D. Traskas by stating that as part of the Unilever survey, both High Street and John Street were included as “Village District 2” with the Unilever property designated as “Village District 1.” Approximately 3-4 years ago Planning and Zoning turned the study over to the Historic District Commission to act as the applicant and tasked the HDC (as applicant) to recommend design standards to preserve the district and establish regulations to preserve and protect the historic houses on John Street and High Street.

After discussion regarding the difference between a Village District and a Historic District, the rules regarding notification of the property owners affected, and why a Village District

would be in the best interest of John Street property owners to preserve the neighborhood, the discussion was ended and L. Ouellette entertained questions and concerns from the John Street property owners, i.e., parking and benefit to homeowners. The John Street property owners expressed a desire to ask P&Z to separate John Street from High Street when creating the Village District ordinances.

**4. Correspondence – None**

Due to the length of the meeting, a motion was entertained to table all items on the agenda except for the Town Historian. Peggy Adler seconded and the motion was approved.

**5. Certified Local Government (CLG) Reporting – Tabled**

**6. Update of Historic Buildings Tabled**

- a. Stanton House
- b. Academy Building
- c. Munger House
- d. Kelsey House
- e. 1720 House

**7. State Circuit Rider Communications regarding potential sources of preservation funding. – Tabled**

- a. Applications Availability
- b. Subcommittees
- c. Funding to purchase historical homes
- d. 501(c) 3 for funding as non-profit

**8. Proposed Founders Day – Potential for Coordination with other Town events – Tabled**

- a. Coordinate with Summerfest 2020
- b. Clinton Chamber of Commerce

**9. Certificate of Recognition Program – Tabled**

- a. Criteria
- b. Candidates
- c. Award Presentation

**10. Needed Restoration and Improvements to Liberty Green Historic District - Tabled**

**11. New Business**

- a. Town Historian
  - i. P. Adler explained that the Town Historian was always appointed by the Board of Selectman (now the Town Council) and that recommendations have always come from the Historic District Commission.
- b. State of Tri-colored House “Will build to suit” sign – Tabled

- c. Andy Marzano suggested that HDC create their own website to assure accurate information is released to the public. A. Marzano volunteered to work on the site and P. Adler offered to assist.
- d. P. Adler made a motion to add **Election of Officers** (Chairman and Vice Chairman) to the agenda for the next meeting, February 18, 2020. Motion was seconded by Maureen Wellman and unanimously approved.
- e. P. Adler made a motion to nominate Larry Ouellette for Chairman, M. Wellman seconded. Motion to close nominations for Chairman, M. Wellman, seconded Andy Marzano. Motion passed.
- f. Motion to nominate Peggy Adler for Vice Chairman, seconded A. Marzano. Motion to close nominations by A. Marzano, seconded, M. Wellman. Motion passed.

## **12. Adjournment**

- a. Motion to adjourn A. Marzano, 2<sup>nd</sup> M. Wellman. Approved.
- b. Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gloria McQueeney  
Clerk, Historic District Commission