

# CHATHAM BOROUGH HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

April 18, 2023

7:30 p.m.

Chairman James Greener called this Regular Meeting of the Chatham Borough Historic Preservation Commission to order at 7:30 p.m. This meeting was held in Room 301, Upper Level, Chatham Municipal Building. All legal notices have been made for this meeting.

Names	Present	Absent
James Greener, Chrmn.	X	
Council Member Carolyn Dempsey	X	
Council Member Frank Truilo		X
Lynn Magrane	X	
Karen Franklin	X	
H.H. Montague	X	
Justin Strickland	X	
Brigid McMenamin	X	
Liz Holler, Recording Secretary	X	

## Public Comment

There was none.

## Recap of Post Office Plaza

Chrmn. Greener felt the Post Office Plaza presentation went well at the March HPC meeting. He felt Mike Scro, the architect, did an excellent job presenting the plans and answering the Commission's questions.

## Motion to Adopt Meeting Minutes

Mr. Montague made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 21, 2023 HPC Minutes as submitted. Mrs. Magrane seconded the motion. A voice vote was taken. The February 21, 2023 meeting minutes were approved as submitted.

Council Member Dempsey made a motion to approve the March 21, 2023 HPC Minutes amended to include the corrections suggested by Chrmn. Greener. Mr. Montague seconded the motion. A voice vote was taken. The March 21, 2023 HPC minutes were approved as corrected.

## Discussion Items

Chrmn. Greener had nothing new to report about the Sherwin Williams building on Main Street. Council Member Dempsey noted that Sherwin Williams' lease is up at the end of this year. The building is not in good condition. The upper floors are not really deemed safe at this point.

Mrs. Franklin asked how deep the new building will go in the rear. No one knew.

Council Member Dempsey noted that the new building, to be constructed, will echo the architecture of the original building as it looked in the 1900s.

Commissioners discussed the future of the Chatham Sandwich Shop and Sunnywoods Florist. Chrmn. Greener pointed out that the HPC didn't get to review the plans for the new front of the Sandwich Shop. Unfortunately, the fake windows above this store unit cannot be removed. Commissioners also noted that the new store frontage for Mo' Dough had also not been reviewed by the HPC.

Mr. Strickland brought up a recent change of windows done at the shipping company building across from Dunkin Donuts.

Mrs. McMenamin questioned the new hanging light bulb arrangement in front of the frozen yogurt/sushi store. Also, is the purple awning appropriate? Council Member Dempsey believed that the purple awning has been in place for quite a while. Commissioners discussed the name change of the store, which now includes sushi.

Chrmn. Greener thanked Commissioners for keeping their eyes open, and noticing recent changes made in the Historic District. He will report back any conversations he has with Mr. Turi, the Zoning Officer.

#### HPC Flag Award

Commissioners discussed possible candidates for the HPC Flag Awards. Among the candidates were homes on Front Street, South Passaic Ave., Fairmount Ave., Hedges Ave., and University Ave. Chrmn. Greener pointed out that the age of the house is not that important. Some of the younger homes have gone through amazing changes.

Mrs. Magrane showed an article and photo of a Flag Award winner at 152 Fairmount Avenue.

On other matters, Commissioners discussed the building containing the new Mo' Dough on Main Street, the former Café Beethoven building. Commissioners felt the new owner has done a good job in fixing up this historic building.

Mrs. Magrane commented that the Tiger School sign, recently reviewed by the HPC and installed, looks good.

Chrmn. Greener will touch base with the newly formed Chamber of Commerce, on behalf of the HPC.

Commissioners discussed two Main Street businesses that could be possible candidates for the Flag Award.

Mrs. Magrane asked how the Charley's Aunt expansion was progressing.

Chrmn. Greener wasn't sure of the progress, but on the surface it looks fine.

Returning to the Flag Awards for homes, Mrs. McMenamin will leave a note at the home on Front Street that had been under discussion. A Flag Award application will be attached to the note. We'll see if the family responds.

Chrmn. Greener will talk with Brian Siegel, the former owner, of the Mo' Dough building. He will talk with Council Member Truilo about another store on Main Street. The HPC is looking to give two Flag Awards for selected businesses downtown.

Council Member Dempsey will asked her husband, Brian, to re-send the flag designs that he had created a year or so ago.

At 8:45 p.m. the meeting adjourned.

The next Chatham Borough Historic Preservation Commission meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 16, 2023, 7:30 p.m., Room 301, Chatham Municipal Building.

Respectfully submitted:

Liz Holler  
Recording Secretary