



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS
HISTORICAL PRESERVATION & HERITAGE COMMISSION
Old State House 150 Benefit Street Providence, RI 02903

Telephone 401-222-2678
TTY 401-222-3700

Fax 401-222-2968
www.preservation.ri.gov

MINUTES

RHODE ISLAND HISTORICAL PRESERVATION & HERITAGE COMMISSION October 10, 2007

I. MEMBERS PRESENT

Mr. Robert E. Cusack
Mr. Robert Goff
Mr. Michael Hebert, NR Review Board
Mr. Karst Hoogeboom
Dr. Patrick Malone
Dr. E. Pierre Morenon
Dr. Ronald Onorato
Mr. Jared L. Rhodes, Chief of Statewide Planning representing Kevin Flynn, Asso. Dir
Mr. Jean Rondeau
Mr. Frederick C. Williamson, Chairman & SHPO

STAFF PRESENT

Mr. Jeffrey Emidy, National Register Assistant
Ms. Pamela Kennedy, Deputy Director
Mr. Edward F. Sanderson, Executive Director
Ms. Sarah Zurier, Sr. Special Projects Coordinator

GUESTS

Mr. Michael Hogan, House Policy Office

MEMBERS ABSENT

Mr. Joseph Dias, representing Dr. Michael Sullivan, Director DEM
Dr. James Garman, NR Review Board
Mr. John Grosvenor, AIA
Mr. Saul Kaplan, Executive Director, EDC
Ms. Patrice O'Malley Hagan
John P. Leyden, State Building Commissioner
Dr. Patricia Rubertone

II. AGENDA

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:35 A.M., Mr. Williamson, presiding.

2. Minutes of September 12, 2007 meeting

On a motion by Mr. Rondeau, seconded by Mr. Goff, the Commission

VOTED unanimously to approve the Minutes of September 12, 2007.

3. Executive Director's Report

a) Ms. Kennedy presented Criteria for 2008 Certified Local Government grants. The Criteria are unchanged from 2007. Following discussion, on a motion by Dr. Onorato, seconded by Mr. Hoogeboom, the Commission unanimously

VOTED to approve the 2008 CLG Criteria.

b) Ms. Kennedy reported on staff review of the RI CGL program guidelines and requirements. This is a twenty-year old program that was originally developed to closely follow National Park Service suggestions that local historic district zoning review be required for communities to participate as CLGs. Approximately one-third of RI communities currently participate, and in about half of these communities historic district zoning regulations apply to only a small fraction of the communities' historic properties. In Rhode Island, communities are employing a broader range of options in protecting and planning for their historic resources, including the state-mandated local comprehensive plan, local tax incentives, local government ownership of historic properties, local historic resources study commissions, Preserve America programs and educational activities. RIHPHC staff are studying ways to recognize the programs that local governments use address historic preservation in their own community and to revise the RI Certified Local Government program requirements in order to encourage more communities to participate. Ms. Kennedy will consult with local historic preservation and planning officials in Rhode island and with National Park Service staff and report back to the Commission.

c) Ms. Zurier reported on 14 recently-completed State Preservation Grant projects. To date, 89 SPG grants have been awarded, and 42 of the projects are complete.

4. National Register of Historic Places

Final Nominations

Amendment - Westerly Downtown Historic District (addition of 12 Canal Street, Nardone Motors)

Ms. Kennedy presented information about an amendment to the historic district boundary to include 12 Canal Street, the 1934 Nardone Motors building. Following discussion, on a motion by Dr. Onorato, seconded by Dr. Malone, the Commission unanimously

VOTED to approve the nomination.

Additional Documentation - Westerly Downtown Historic District (change period of significance)

Ms. Kennedy presented information about an amendment to extend the period of historical significance to 1957. Pam Kennedy explained that the original nomination had treated any property less than 50 years old as not contributing to the historical significance of the Westerly Downtown District; however, the 1957 Micele Furniture Building and six other buildings within the district boundary represent historically consistent development that should be recognized. Following discussion, on a motion by Mr. Rondeau, seconded by Dr. Onorato, the Commission unanimously

VOTED to approve the additional nomination information.

Additional Documentation - St Mary's Church, William Street, Newport [previously listed as part of Newport NHLD]

Ms. Kennedy presented additional information about the 1848 St. Mary's church designed by the noted architect Patrick C. Keeley. The church has supplied RIHPHC with excellent and detailed church history that documents the property's significance as a work of architectural design, for its associations with the history of the Newport Irish community, and for its association with the history of the Roman Catholic Church in Rhode Island. Following discussion, on a motion by Mr. Grosvenor, seconded by Ms. Hagen, the Commission unanimously

VOTED to accept the additional information and to record that St. Mary's Church meets the requirements for individual listing on the National Register of Historic Places.

Additional Documentation - Providence Jewelry Manufacturing Historic District [change period of significance and report demolition to accommodate Brian Supply Bldg]

Ms. Kennedy presented information the 1956 Brian Supply Company (jewelry manufacturing supplies) and the 1948 Claverick Building (used for jewelry manufacturing).

When the Providence Jewelry Manufacturing Historic District was listed on the National Register in 1985, both buildings were less than 50 years old and therefore considered not to contribute to the historical significance of the district. With the passage of time and additional study, both buildings are recommended for inclusion as properties that contribute to the historical significance of the district. Following discussion, on a motion by Dr. Onorato, seconded by Dr. Malone, the Commission unanimously

VOTED to approve the nomination.

Preliminary Consideration

Martin Farm, Woonsocket Hill Road, North Smithfield

Mr. Emidy presented information about the 1815 farmhouse and 1900 barn located on a 100 acre property of meadow and woods. Following discussion, on a motion by Mr. Hoozeboom, seconded by Dr. Onorato, the Commission unanimously

VOTED preliminary approval.

Carr-Fulflex Mill, 12 Franklin Street, Bristol

Ms. Kennedy presented information about the 1932 mill (with expansions in 1951 and 1962) that manufactured elastic thread using an innovative liquid latex extrusion process patented in the 1920s. The mill represents a late phase of the RI textile industry, and it attracted Portuguese and Italian workers to the traditionally Yankee Town of Bristol. Following discussion, on a motion by Dr. Malone, seconded by Dr. Onorato, the Commission unanimously

VOTED preliminary approval.

Central Diner, 777 Elmwood Avenue, Providence

Ms. Zurier presented information about the Worcester Diner Company diner that originally was located in Downtown Providence, and was relocated to the Elmwood Neighborhood in 1953. In 1955 the kitchen was enlarged. The diner is generally well-preserved, including original tile floor and ceiling, marble counter and stools, oak booths, and kitchen fixtures and cabinets. Following discussion, on a motion by Mr. Hoozeboom, seconded by Mr. Goff, the Commission unanimously

VOTED preliminary approval.

5. Other business:

There was no other business.

6. Next meeting date: The next meeting of the Commission will be Wednesday, November 14, 2007.

7. Adjourn: The meeting adjourned at 11:30 A.M.

Minutes recorded by,

Edward F. Sanderson, Executive Director
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer