



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
June 13, 2007

I. MEMBERS PRESENT

Mr. Robert E. Cusack
Mr. Robert Goff
Mr. John Grosvenor, AIA
Ms. Patrice O'Malley Hagan
Mr. Michael Hebert, NR Review Board
Mr. Karst Hoogeboom
Dr. E. Pierre Morenon
Dr. Ronald Onorato
Mr. George Johnson, Statewide Planning representing Kevin Flynn, Asso. Dir
Mr. Frederick C. Williamson, Chairman & SHPO

STAFF PRESENT

Ms. Sharon Allison, Senior Grants Manager
Mr. Jeffrey Emidy, National Register Assistant
Ms. Pamela Kennedy, Deputy Director
Mr. Edward F. Sanderson, Executive Director
Ms. Charlotte Taylor, Senior Archaeologist
Ms. Sarah Zurier, Special Projects Coordinator

MEMBERS ABSENT

Mr. Joseph Dias, representing Dr. Michael Sullivan, Director DEM
Dr. James Garman, NR Review Board
Mr. Saul Kaplan, Executive Director, EDC
John P. Leyden, State Building Commissioner
Dr. Patrick Malone
Mr. Jean Rondeau
Dr. Patricia Rubertone

GUESTS

Mr. Michael Hogan, House Policy Office
Mr. Tom Ross, Blackstone Heritage Corridor

II. AGENDA

1. Call to Order

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

2. Minutes of May 9, 2007, meeting

On a motion by Mr. Hoozeboom, seconded by Dr. Onorato, the Commission

VOTED unanimously to approve the Minutes of May 9, 2007.

3. Executive Director's Report

a) Mr. Sanderson stated that there was no new information regarding legislative action on the historic rehabilitation tax credit program. A Providence Journal editorial from June 13 was distributed to Commissioners.

b) A modest increase in federal appropriations for historic preservation has been approved by the House and Senate Appropriations committees.

c) Ms. Allison distributed an updated report on the Historic Preservation Loan Program, including current balances and a historical list of loan projects.

d) Ms. Zurier reported presented a list of individuals recommended to serve as members of the RIHPHC 2007 State Preservation Grants Review Panel. On a motion by Mr. Hoozeboom, seconded by Ms. Hagen, the Commission unanimously

VOTED to appoint the 2007 State Preservation Grants Review Panel to include:

Cornelis de Boer, AIA, Architect, Haynes/de Boer Associates (Providence)

Joanna Doherty, Community Planner, Blackstone River Valley National Heritage Corridor
National Park Service (Blackstone Valley and Northern Rhode Island)

Michelle Maher, Town Planner, Town of Warren (Warren, East Bay)

Ronald Onorato, Honors Professor of Art History, University of Rhode Island (Newport,
South Kingstown)

Randall Rosenbaum, Executive Director, RI State Council on the Arts (Cumberland,
statewide)

Edward F. Sanderson, Executive Director, RIHPHC (Providence, statewide)

Plus three additional members to be confirmed:

Rob Cagnetta, Founder, Heritage Restoration, Inc. (South Kingstown)

Virginia Leslie, Member, Warwick Historic District Commission (Warwick)

Jonathan Stevens, Acting Executive Director, Preserve Rhode Island (Cranston, statewide)

e) Dr. Richard Greenwood has announced his resignation from the RIHPHC staff after twenty years as the Principal Project Review Coordinator. Dr. Greenwood has accepted a teaching position at Roger Williams University. Mr. Sanderson expressed his admiration and appreciation for Rick's outstanding work; as the manager of a critical program and as an expert in Rhode Island history he will be missed very much. Mr. Williamson and other Commissioners expressed their appreciation for Rick's work on behalf of the Commission and wished him well at Roger Williams University.

4. National Register Review Board

Ms. Kennedy explained that the nominations on the agenda are being presented as individual components in a multi-property format National Register listing procedure. RIHPHC town survey reports have documented the development history of single-family houses in every Rhode Island city and town, reflecting domestic architecture design and local historical development over 300 years. This information has been incorporated into a National Park Service nomination format that comprehensively documents the historical context of the entire class of properties (single-family houses), and allows each individual property nomination to reference the information contained in the historical context. While this procedure requires significant work to document the whole class of historic buildings (single-family houses), it streamlines the subsequent nomination process for each individual property. RIHPHC staff have decided to use this multiple-property format for nominating single-family houses in order to assist the many families who are interested in recognition for their historic home, but who would otherwise be deterred by the research requirements and cost of a traditional single-property nomination.

Final Nomination

Rose House, 97 Lafayette Road, North Kingstown

Ms. Kennedy presented information about the 1882 cottage on the edge of Lafayette Village that was built for a mid-level supervisor at the Lafayette mill. The well-preserved house has nicely detailed original woodwork on the interior and is a good example of its type. Following discussion, on a motion by Dr. Onorato, seconded by Mr. Grosvenor, the Commission unanimously

VOTED to approve the nomination.

Sweet House, 38 Esmond Street, Smithfield

Ms. Kennedy presented information about this Mansard-roof cottage and carriage house in Esmond Village constructed about 1890. The original owner ran the local company store and served as Village postmaster. The house is well-preserved with a Colonial Revival sun porch addition. The property is owned by a member of the RIHPHC staff; the staff member has not participated in the review or evaluation of the nomination. Following discussion, on a motion by Dr. Onorato, seconded by Dr. Morenon, the Commission unanimously

VOTED to approve the nomination.

Moses Taft House, 111 Wallum Lake Road, Burrillville

Ms. Kennedy presented information about this one and a-half story, center chimney house built in 1786. The owners have carefully restored every historic detail, and RIHPHC presented a Statewide Historic Preservation Award to the Moses Taft House restoration. Following discussion, on a motion by Dr. Onorato, seconded by Ms. Hagen, the Commission unanimously

VOTED to approve the nomination.

William Spencer House, 11 Fairview Ave, West Warwick

Ms. Kennedy presented information about this elaborate 1869 Italianate Villa in Phenix Village. William Spencer was president of the local bank, postmaster, and a leader in the Baptist Church. This well-preserved high-style dwelling represented Spencer's success, and unfortunately may have contributed to his financial over-extension since he was bankrupt in 1880. Following discussion, on a motion by Dr. Onorato, seconded by Mr. Grosvenor, the Commission unanimously

VOTED to approve the nomination.

5. John H. Chafee Blackstone River Valley National Heritage Corridor

Mr. Tom Ross, Acting Executive Director, John H. Chafee Blackstone River Valley National Heritage Corridor Commission presented a power-point report on the programs and accomplishments of the Heritage Corridor. Created by the U. S. Congress in 1986 to commemorate the "birthplace of the American Industrial Revolution," the Corridor runs along the Blackstone River Valley from Providence, RI to Worcester, MA. Twenty-four communities are included and more than 10,000 historic properties. Heritage Corridor programs promote historic preservation, outdoor recreation, heritage tourism, and conservation of natural resources including improving water quality and flow in the Blackstone River. As executive director of

the RIHPHC, Mr. Sanderson is a permanent member of the Heritage Corridor Commission and is the current Chairman.

6. Other business:

There was no other business.

7. Next meeting date: The next meeting of the Commission will be Wednesday, July 11, 2007.

9. Adjourn: The meeting adjourned at 11:20 A.M.

Minutes recorded by,

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