

# **CUMBERLAND HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION**

**Cumberland Town Hall**

**45 Broad Street**

**Cumberland, RI 02864**

**Meeting, Tuesday, January 15, 2013**

## **OFFICIAL MINUTES:**

**A simple majority was declared and the meeting was called to order at 7:32 PM.**

**Commissioners present were: David W. Balfour, Chairperson, Katie McKenzie, Lester Hilton, Ruth Bascombe, Joyce Hindle Koutsogiane and John Robinson.**

**Absent: Councilman Jeffrey Kearns, Commissioner Bruce Shepard.**

**Presentation of prior minutes meeting. Commissioner Hilton moved to approve the minutes, Commissioner Robinson seconded. Unanimously approved**

**Introduction of Town Planner: Christopher Carcifero**

**Open of Public Hearing: 7:35 PM**

**Mr. Carifero updated the Commission on the possible sale of St.**

**John's Parish Hall. The hall is located in both a state and federal historic district. The sale does not include the church and the commissioners expressed concern about its fate. Letters have been written to the Episcopal bishop but we have had no response.**

**Action: Buyers will have to come to the Commission regarding easements of cemeteries (Ballou and St. John's Episcopal) located adjacent to the property, right of way, new signage and any exterior modifications to the building**

**Question: Why did Buyers go to planning board before the historic district commission? What are the appropriate steps in these cases?**

**Neves (Amaral) General Store Update: Mr. Carcifero believes that the town will be eligible for \$9000.00 from the state to update the building. He believes that the lead and asbestos abatement has been completed. Status on what will go in building will be forthcoming.**

**Old Business:**

**Number of historic (over 100 years old) homes for sale in Cumberland. Many are not currently on historic register but could be eligible. Many (19) are multi-family.**

**Action: Suggestion by Commissioner Robinson to create a letter to send to realtor's regarding house's historic status in town,**

**modification suggestions, etc. Commissioner Hindle Koutsogiane will draft one out for the next meeting.**

**Commissioner Hindle Koutsogiane had forwarded Cumberland Historic District Commission's Guidelines to town web manager but it has never been put on the town's website.**

**Action; Send to Mr. Carcifero for placement in the website.**

**No action was taken on old mill in Ralco Way. Commissioners Shepard and Robinson were to take a look at it before this commission meeting. Chairperson Balfour was to mention the offer from the current owner to the Mayor.**

**New Business:**

**.**

**Westerly has had old photos of their town on display in the town hall. Mayor asked both Chairperson Balfour and Commissioner Hindle Koutsogiane regarding same.**

**Action: Chairman Balfour would go with Mayor to see them. Commissioner Hindle Koutsogiane would bring mounted photos from Cumberland's 250th Anniversary to Mayor's office (done on 1/17/13).**

**The next RI Historic Preservation Conference will be held in West**

**Warwick, RI on Saturday, April 27th.**

**Action: Mr. Carcifero suggested that if any commissioners were interested in attending the conference, the Planner's Office would pay for our registration. Commissioner Hindle Koutsogiane has not yet been reimbursed for last April's conference. Mr. Carcifero would look into it.**

**Possible solar farm being placed on Tower Hill Road.**

**Action: Have to go to Planner's Office first before any determination will take place.**

**Motion to adjourn by Commissioner Hindle Koutsogiane, seconded by Commissioner Bascombe. Passed unanimously**

**Adjourned at 8:45 PM.**

**Respectfully Submitted:**

**Joyce Hindle Koutsogiane, EdD**

**Recording Secretary**

