

***HISTORIC COMMISSION***

**MAY 27, 2025  
via ZOOM**

<b><u>ATTENDANCE:</u></b>	<b><u>Present</u></b>	<b><u>Absent</u></b>
<u>Phyllis Angelo</u>	X	
<u>Mike Ginch</u>		X
<u>Eric Model</u>	X	
<u>James Hoogstrate</u>	X	
<u>Deborah Powell</u>	X	
<u>Archivist Tyler Manuele</u>		X
<u>Katelyn Nippes, Student Liaison</u>	X	
<u>Liaison Priti Dhariwal</u>	X	

PHYLLIS ANGELO: Questioned Priti what the timeline is for the Borough.

PRITI DHARIWAL: Advised there is some work left to get the Certificate of Occupancy, and they are starting that work now. Stated the Certificate of Occupancy was not getting approved because the building has an 80-year-old ramp that needs to be ADA compliant along with the parking lot.

ERIC MODEL: Advised, in terms of an update on the 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, he met with Priti and the 250<sup>th</sup> Committee and one of the issues is the fact that nothing has been budgeted for activities for the 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, however Lissette mentioned they can pass a special resolution.

PRITI DHARIWAL: Stated she has a VFW volunteer to join the 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

PHYLLIS ANGELO: Questioned Priti if they have decided on the Commission's budget for this year.

PRITI DHARIWAL: Stated she will ask and get back to her.

PHYLLIS ANGELO: Questioned if the Council mentioned the Commission needs new members and someone that is either an architect or has construction background.

PRITI DHARIWAL: Advised she mentioned it to the Mayor but has not heard back and she also asked about getting members for the 250<sup>th</sup> Committee.

DEBORAH POWELL: Stated it would be great if the Council and the 250<sup>th</sup> Committee takes a tour of the historic sight and that she would make herself available.

PRITI DHARIWAL: Stated that would be a good idea.

PHYLLIS ANGELO: Advised Councilwoman Lissa Montisano-Koen said Robert Schlossberg, Fire Chief, wants the Historic Commission to help celebrate 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Fire Department.

PRITI DHARIWAL: Stated she did hear about that and the Fire Department had a dinner and honored former Chief Cariddi.

PHYLLIS ANGELO: Advised the Fire Department wants the Historic Commission to put out a green sign where the original Fire Department was, on Kinderkamack and Lincoln, however she does not know what the cost would be, but stated they are willing to help.

PRITI DHARIWAL: Questioned what the Historic Commission would help with.

PHYLLIS ANGELO: Stated they would help with the history of the building and the sign.

ERIC MODEL: Stated if the Fire Department is looking for a green sign, that would be related to the history of the fire department, and not as a designation of a particular building. Advised Lissette told him that the Commission was being approached, as an official designation was required, so if Rob is talking about the history of the fire department a sign at the location is fine, but an official designation of a building is more involved. Stated if it is just a plaque, it is related to a history, but if you are looking at designating a particular building, the Mayor and Council would be asking the Commission to give the blessing for the historical significance of that building and then making the designation, which becomes more involved.

PHYLLIS ANGELO: Questioned Jim if there is any new information regarding YouTube.

JIM HOOGSTRATE: Stated there hasn't been much, but people are still watching it. Advised he has not spoken to Chief Walker regarding the interview.

PHYLLIS ANGELO: Questioned if the QR Committee has anything to discuss.

JIM HOOGSTRATE: Stated nothing has been done since the fall.

ERIC MODEL: Advised Jim and himself are going to get together when Jim has time regarding the QR signs, history path and the 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

PHYLLIS ANGELO: Advised if the Commission wants to do any local designations they would have to wait until they get back into the Borough. Questioned Katelyn if anything was happening with Instagram on River Dell.

KATELYN NIPPES: Stated there is nothing new on Instagram and she has been working on scheduling an interview with the gym teacher, who will be retiring soon.

PHYLLIS ANGELO: Suggested during the summer Katelyn can do some research on the history of River Dell.

KATELYN NIPPES: Stated she can do that over the summer.

PHYLLIS ANGELO: Questioned Deborah what is happening with the museum.

DEBORAH POWELL: Stated they are working on a grant they received a while ago on a pocket park at the substation lot. Advised they are about ready to break ground on the museum.

PHYLLIS ANGELO: Questioned Jim if there was any more exploration regarding the bottles.

JIM HOOGSTRATE: Stated the guy he knew passed away and does not know of anyone else to reach out to.

PHYLLIS ANGELO: Questioned Eric what new information he found out regarding the River Edge Hotel.

ERIC MODEL: Stated he has been concentrating on the 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and did not get a chance to look into that.

PHYLLIS ANGELO: Advised they met with Tyler, the archivist, to get more accessibility to the archives. Questioned Eric if wants to speak about that.

ERIC MODEL: Stated they wanted to refresh the database to make it more user friendly and update the access to the website, and since the Borough is looking to update the Borough website hopefully the Commission can have a role in refreshing the Commission's approach to the public as to what resources are available to them. Advised the discussion with Tyler was they did not want Tyler to just be putting in information in if it is not user friendly and asked him what the standard for the archives would be now.

PHYLLIS ANGELO: Stated Tyler agrees that Omega is a good program, but it needs to be more accessible. Advised Eric and herself are doing "Remembering River Edge – Part II" and Jim has agreed to videotape, which will be opened on River Edge Day.

ERIC MODEL: Stated they wanted to call it 'Legends of River Edge' as it could be individuals or stories.

PHYLLIS ANGELO: Questioned Eric about Facebook.

ERIC MODEL: Stated he is posting River Edge stories and he is getting some responses, but nothing major.

DEBORAH POWELL: Stated New Bridge Landing is having the vintage baseball game on July 12<sup>th</sup> and they usually get a pretty good crowd at that event.

PHYLLIS ANGELO: Questioned Eric about the banner project.

ERIC MODEL: Stated he will be talking to the DPW as there may be a space or jurisdiction issue and they are looking at putting the banners on the Retreat Route, Kinderkamack Road and from the train station to New Bridge Landing.

PHYLLIS ANGELO: Stated she will be speaking with Rob Schlossberg to see what exactly he would like the Commission to do.

MEETING ENDED

NEXT MEETING: June 24, 2025