

CHATHAM BOROUGH HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
March 15, 2022

7:30 p.m.

Commissioner James Greener called this Regular Meeting of the Chatham Borough Historic Preservation Commission to order at 7:30 p.m. This was a virtual meeting. Commissioners were present by way of Zoom.

Names	Present	Absent
James Greener	X	
Catherine Chin		X
Council Member Dempsey	X	
Lynn Magrane	X	
Council Member Truilo	X	
Karen Franklin	X	
H.H. Montague		X
Liz Holler, Recording Secretary	X	

Justin Strickland, an interested resident, was also present.

Mr. Greener announced that Natalie Ringot has resigned from the Commission for personal reasons.

Public Comment

There was none.

Motion to Adopt Meeting Minutes

The minutes of January 18, 2022 were approved as submitted.

The February 15, 2022 HPC meeting was cancelled.

Commissioners discussed when in-person meetings could be held again. Hopefully, this will happen in the spring.

Resolution #22-03

CHATHAM BOROUGH HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR THE YEAR 2022

No action was taken.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Proposed Lighting Plans for Bank of America

Mr. Greener reported that Bank of America (BOA) on the corner of Fairmount Avenue and Main Street is looking to put exterior lights on the building to be used during the night hours.

Council Member Truilo felt it would have been a good idea if a representative of the Bank was present tonight.

Mr. Greener and Council Member Truilo noted that this proposed lighting would outline the BOA building in **overly intense** lighting.

On the Zoom screen, Mr. Greener put up a photometric layout of this proposed lighting. He pointed out that there was no indication of the height of these lights. Mr. Greener felt the bank wanted to “wash” the exterior of their building with **overly intense** lighting. Coach lights are being proposed for the front entranceway at Main Street.

On the plans, Commissioners reviewed the existing lights installed on the building.

Council Member Truilo stated that he was not happy with **the intensity of the** lighting that was being proposed; however, he approved of the coach lighting for the entrance.

Commissioners discussed the security lighting currently provided by the sidewalk and perimeter lights around the BOA building.

On the Zoom screen, Mr. Greener put up the Design Guidelines for lighting. He and the Commissioners reviewed the language for acceptable lighting.

At 8:01 p.m. Council Member Dempsey departed from the Zoom meeting.

Mr. Greener felt the existing street lighting already provided enough security for the Chatham BOA.

Mrs. Franklin added that there are already security cameras installed on the exterior of the building, providing safe conditions.

Council Member Truilo pointed out the interior lights in the bank during the night hours are strong, giving even more security. He felt that the proposed **intense** lights were more for BOA’s advertising, than for safety reasons.

Mr. Greener and Council Member Truilo counted the number of LED light fixtures on the plans. The LED lights will also provide sufficient lighting.

Council Member Truilo made a motion that the Historic Preservation Commission make a recommendation to the Zoning Officer not to approve the Bank of America’s proposed lighting plan, believing too much unnecessary illumination would result. Mrs. Magrane seconded the motion. A voice vote was taken. All Commissioners present voted aye.

Mrs. Magrane suggested the HPC ask the Bank to look at the HPC Design Guidelines for lights. Council Member Truilo also suggested that these Guidelines on lighting be sent to Mr. Turi, the Borough Zoning Officer. Perhaps the Bank of America will review these Guidelines and re-submit revised plans.

Miscellaneous

Council Member Truilo reported that there will be a series of town meetings in the future for the public to review different options for Post Office Plaza. He felt the HPC could also look over these options.

Mrs. Franklin asked what became of the proposed application for 5 South Passaic Ave.

Mr. Greener answered that those plans have been withdrawn.

Mr. Strickland, tonight's visitor, chatted with Commissioners about his interest in local history and the importance of maintaining historical buildings. Council Member Truilo and Mr. Greener encouraged Mr. Strickland to fill out a Volunteer Application in the Borough Clerk's Office. There is a recent opening on the Commission. He would be an excellent candidate.

At 8:20 p.m. the meeting adjourned.

The next Chatham Borough Historic Preservation Commission meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 19, 2022, 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Liz Holler
Recording Secretary