

## THPT Minutes

June 24, 2013

A meeting of the Torrington Historic Preservation Trust was held in the Torrington Historical Society Carriage House on June 24, 2013. Ed Cook, president, called the meeting to order at 6:40 p.m. The following board members were in attendance: Ed Cook, Linda Beyus, Bobbi Boe, Mike Boe, Bill Haygood, John Manson, Travis Lipinski, Ed Cannata, Mark McEachern, Chuck Perret and Gail Kruppa. Also present was Clarice Pietrefase, a member of the Marketing Committee.

Bobbi Boe made a motion to accept the minutes of the previous meeting (June 3, 2013). Mark McEachern seconded the motion. So voted.

**Treasurer's report:** As of our last meeting, the starting balance was \$3,531.47. Mark McEachern reported that there have been expenses of 311.00 [rent, payment to Bobbi for Skee's brochures]. No income for this period is reported. The ending balance is \$3,220.47. Travis also reported on the income from scrap metal: recent income of \$74 now brings our petty cash total to \$295.00

**Insurance Report:** John Manson provided the following quotes:

- 1) Liability for THPT, \$1,000,000/\$2,000,000, Essex Insurance Co., \$780 premium
2. Diner, based on a finished value of \$250,000 can be insured at a cost of \$2,167/annual premium through Central Insurance Co.

**Website Subcommittee report:** Linda provided printouts of the pages from the THPT website. Discussion about the need to add the THPT logo and whether or not the Berkshire Planning Group should include their logo. It was suggested that a phrase acknowledging their design would be appropriate, without the logo.

**Marketing Subcommittee report:** Ed Cannata reported the following: sign can be reinstalled at the Skee's Diner site to replace the one which St. Maron's Church removed; link from home page of Skee's Diner site will chronicle the restoration project; brochures have been printed for Skee's; September 28<sup>th</sup> concert is being organized to be held at PSam's. Tom Ethier's band will provide the music. Also, the marketing committee recommends having a Skee's presence at the MSMP. MSMP officials have told Ed that the group can use the information booth. Board agreed this would be a good idea. .

**Skee's Diner report:** Ed Cook updated the group on recent activity regarding Skee's Diner. The group removed the soffit and also held a scrap run. Ed and Mike had a planning meeting and discussed removing the ceiling, need to inspect framing, blow in insulation. Ed is devising a list of things to do at present. Discussion also touched upon use of volunteer labor, prioritizing projects, fundraising. Ed and Mike recently met with city officials regarding plan to place Skee's on near the library. City loves the idea. Ed, Mike and Mark also met with Karen Worrel from the Library; she is in favor of the idea. City has proposed a 99 year lease for \$1. Mike Boe suggested that we have Michael Magistrali look over the lease – *THIS SUBJECT NEEDS TO REMAIN CONFIDENTIAL.*

**Architect's Plans** – Neither Ed nor Mike brought the plans but there was discussion about locating Skee's in the municipal lot near the library. We are currently waiting for information from the state regarding work that may occur at the nearby intersection. Also some discussion of proximity of diner to the street, number of seats that the diner could accommodate (with an addition).

**Executive Board Meeting:** Among the topics discussed at a recent Executive Committee meeting were the following: need to increase membership; need to keep a thorough listing of donations; promote Skee's Diner as "a project of the Torrington Historic Preservation Trust". Ed also discussed the need for members of the board to visit other diners. He would like all members of the board to visit diners in the coming months and report on why they are successful (location, menu, character, integrity, etc.)

**Open Floor:** Mark McEachern reported that the preservation restriction for Skee's has been recorded. The Chamber needs a bill of sale from the THPT in order to turn the diner over to the organization. Mark will email information to Michael Magistrali so that we can move to finalize the paperwork. It was also noted that a physical address for the diner needs to be listed in official paperwork. It was decided that 192 Main Street (the Historical Society address) will be used for this purpose.

Mike Boe brought up the Post Office murals which are in need of restoration. He suggested that the Trust offer to help on this issue.

Mark reported that the THPT has provided recommendations to the City of Torrington for Historic Property Commission members. The recommendation list is as follows: Regular members - Marc Trivella, Mike Boe, Ed Cannata, Bill Haygood, and Mark McEachern. Recommended alternate members are Ed Cook and Travis Lipinski.

**Next meeting:** The date of the next THPT board meeting was scheduled for August 5, 2013.

**Motion to adjourn:** Travis Lipinski made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mike Boe seconded the motion. So voted. The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Gail Kruppa, Secretary