

**Borough of Roseland
Landmarks & Historic Districts Commission**

June 26, 2019

Call to order at 7:03pm

Present: Santo Barretta
Jack A. Gordon, Esq.
Tom Kaczynski
Vienna Mooney
Charles Rosen, Esq.
Angelo Sena (arrived late)
Jean Perrotti (Borough Council Liaison)

Absent: Dennis Lynch
Marie Pacio

The Commissioners discussed the possibility of naming additional homes or building as edifices of historic significance. It was agreed that there simply are no longer enough homes or buildings with enough historic pedigree to be honored in addition to the eleven homes honored in prior years.

Mr. Gordon brought the Commissioners up to speed on the intransigence of the Essex County Executive's office to assist with the Walter Kidde Dinosaur Park at Riker Hill. He explained that the County has indicated that it is too busy to focus on the park and its unique and invaluable assets at this time. Mr. Gordon, in conjunction with Lou LaSalle, have agreed to continue to pursue this opportunity but the outlook is bleak. Council Liaison, Ms. Perrotti, offered to "make a few calls" herself.

A discussion then ensued about the Roseland Historical Society, a not-for-profit entity entirely separate from the Commission. Mr. Gordon explained that the Society holds significant assets, including The Harrison House, the Becker Farm barn, a turn-of-the-century rental home, all of the contents of the Harrison House and the Becker Barn (including thousands of antiques, farm tools and implements) and several acres of prime real estate. Mr. Gordon expressed his concerns that it seems that no one other than Mr. Sena has access to the books and records – or even the buildings – of the Society, and that there is no succession plan in place in the event Mr. Sena becomes incapable of continuing the work of the Society. The Commission discussed the possibility of some kind of merger or joint efforts/task force between the Commission and the Society, but Mr. Sena was adamantly opposed to any "interference" with "his" Society. Mr. Sena also indicated that there are only "a couple of" members in the Society and that it has not held meetings in several years. Several Commissioners offered to assist Mr. Sena in a membership drive.

Mr. Sena was not responsive. Messrs. Gordon and Sena agreed to meet at The Harrison House on the then-upcoming weekend (Saturday, June 28) to go over the books and records of the Society, create and/or update an inventory of the thousands of donated items and otherwise work toward putting together a succession plan. [N.B.: Mr. Sena cancelled that meeting on Saturday morning and has since been unwilling to reschedule.]

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10pm. The next meeting is scheduled for September 18, 2019 at the Roseland Library.

Respectfully submitted,



Vienna Mooney
Commission Secretary