

**DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE**

**Historic Preservation Council
May 1, 2013
One Constitution Plaza 2nd Floor
Hartford, Connecticut**

MINUTES

PRESENT: Chairman Nelson, Mr. Faude, Dr. Harris, Ms. Williams, Dr. Faber, Dr. Woodward

STAFF: Susan Chandler, Julie Carmelich, Mary Dunne, Dan Forrest,
Laura Mancuso, Todd Levine, Stacey Vairo

ABSENT: Ms. Cutler, Ms. Kane, Ms. Maher, Ms. Gilvarg, Dr. Robbins, Dr. Bellantoni

1. CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Nelson at 9:48 am. The order of presentation of the agenda items was altered to allow for establishment of quorum.

2. REVIEW OF PUBLIC COMMENT PROCEDURES

Chairman Nelson reminded the public if they wanted to speak they must sign-in using the sheet at the back of the room and reviewed the rules and procedures for public comment.

3. CODE OF CONDUCT/CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Chairman Nelson read the code of conduct and ethics statement.

Conflict: Todd Levine, CT Barns Project

4. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

A motion was made to approve the minutes of March 6, 2013.

(Y-5, N-0, Abstain-Chair Nelson)

A motion was made to approve the minutes of April 3, 2013.

(Y-5, N-0, Abstain-Chair Nelson)

5. **REPORT OF COMMITTEES** – No report.

A report of the Our Places Our Stories Sub-committee is expected at the June, 2013 meeting.

9. **STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION GRANTS**

C. **Certified Local Government Grants**

1. **New Fairfield**

Motion by Dr. Faber, seconded by Mr. Faude:

The Historic Preservation Council votes to recommend the award of a Historic Preservation Enhancement Grant, funded by the U.S. Department of the Interior, to the below-listed applicant in the amount shown. All grant guidelines and state requirements shall be met by the below-listed applicant upon receipt of a grant administered by the Department of Economic and Community Development.

Town of New Fairfield

**State Register Pre-selection feasibility study for the Creamery building in New Fairfield
\$2,800.00**

New Fairfield First Selectman, John Hodge and Fairfield Historic Properties Commission representative Faline Schneiderman spoke in behalf of the application.

(Y-5; N-0, Chair abstained)

6. **NOMINATIONS TO THE STATE REGISTER**

Todd Levine leaves the room at 10:00 am.

A. **State Register Nomination for the Connecticut's Agricultural Heritage Multiple Property Documentation Form, 9 Sites (as shown below).**

Motion by Dr. Harris, seconded by Ms. Williams:

The Historic Preservation Council votes to list the Connecticut's Agricultural Heritage Multiple Property Documentation Form, 9 Sites (as shown below), on the State Register of Historic Places.

1. **Jesse Sanford Farmstead, 613 Lovely Street, Avon**
2. **Booth-Dimock Farmstead, 1209 South Street, Coventry**
3. **Isaac Cowles Farmstead, 9190 (aka 400) Main Street, Farmington**
4. **Tillotson-Fisher Farmstead, 199 Town Farm Road, Farmington**

5. **John E. Knibbs Farmstead, 34 West District Road, Farmington**
6. **George Munson Blacksmith Shop, 21 North Hill Road, North Haven**
7. **Prospect Dairy, 177 New Haven Road, Prospect**
8. **Alessandro Secchiarolli Farmstead, 61 Miner Lane, Waterford**
9. **Massaro Farmstead, 41 Ford Road, Woodbridge**

(Y-5; N-0, Chair abstained)

Todd Levine returns to the room at 10:07 am.

7. **HISTORIC DISTRICTS/PROPERTIES** - no business.

10. **PRESERVATION RESTRICTIONS**

- A. **Former Girls Club, Bristol**

Motion by Dr. Woodward, seconded by Dr. Faber:

The Historic Preservation Council votes to approve alterations to the rear addition at the Former Girls Club of Bristol located at 47 Upson Street in the Town of Bristol as submitted by Tecton Architects on April 11, 2013 as reviewed and approved by staff.

Leslie Sanborn, Director of New Program Development at Oak Hill spoke on behalf of application. Preservation restriction is a 10 year easement which began in 2010 due to an HRF grant to restore the slate roof on the historic portion of the building. The original historic building was substantially altered prior to the building's nomination to the National Register in 1986 with an addition of 15,700 GSF. The proposed addition is 1,930 GSF. The Council's review is based on National Park Service standards for "Rehabilitation".

(Y-3; N-1; Abstain: Chair and Dr. Woodward)

8. **PROGRAMS REVIEW AND DEVELOPMENT**

- A. **Historic Preservation and Arts Catalyze Placemaking Grants – Todd Levine**

This grant is intended to provide funding for projects that lie between the currently available Preservation grants and the currently available Arts grants. Grants will range between \$5,000.00 and \$50,000.00. The grant will be funded with CIA funds. Grant applications will be reviewed by both the Arts Council and SHPO staff; reviewed by the Arts Council (for formal recommendation) the Historic Preservation Council for vote and finally the Advisory Council.

Council raised a few questions for consideration. The first question was that proposed grant was essentially the same grant as one regularly offered by the Humanities Council and if work had been done to coordinate with the Humanities Council to ensure that SHPO funds were not duplicating the efforts of others? Staff will review. Council also raised question if the grant would require 1-page "pre-

application”. Staff felt that a pre-application would not be useful. Staff will provide a brief update at the next meeting and hope to launch the grant program in September.

Dr. Woodward leaves meeting at 11:05 am.

B. Historic Mill Feasibility Study Grants – Julie Carmelich

The Historic Mill Feasibility grant is a pilot program intended to cover the cost of three Feasibility Studies for historic mills. Initial funding for program is \$300,000.00 and will allow (3) grants of up to \$100,000.00 each. Funding will come through CIA funds. Historic Mill Feasibility grant will use the same guidelines as the Survey and Planning grants and as this is a pilot program the requirements for matching funds will be waived. Council asked if any projects had been brought to the SHPO for this grant program? To date SHPO office has received general inquiries only.

Dr. Harris leaves meeting at 11:24 am.

C. Partners in Preservation Grants – Mary Dunne

The Partners in Preservation grant is a further refinement of the Survey and Planning grant program and is to cover anything that is not specifically a survey or (project) planning effort covered under the current Survey and Planning grants. The intention is to fund efforts that advance preservation education or awareness. Grants can be smaller grants of up to \$10,000.00 or larger grants of up to \$50,000.00. An examples of larger grants include convening a group of consultants around a historic preservation planning issues in a planning charrette or development of a specific preservation tool kit for specific town.

D. Historic Restoration Fund Grants – Laura Mancuso

SHPO staff has revised current HRF grant guidelines and grant application in an effort to streamline the grant process. To that end the entire grant application will be on-line. Council members offered a few questions / comments which included consistent use of the terms Historic Engineer / Historic Architect; question with regard to application question 21 as to whether the SHPO may want the applicant to identify the schedule for completion of Contract Documents and bidding; a question if the currently listed categories for “current use” and “future use” may be a source of confusion to come applicants (i.e. “commercial building” and “small business”) and if the categories should reference more generalized use categories such as the Building Code?

SHPO training with new application will be conducted in June.

10. **REPORT ON THREATENED PROPERTIES** - Susan Chandler

12. **ARCHAEOLOGICAL PRESERVES** – no business

13. **REPORT ON MUSEUM PROPERTIES** – Karin Peterson

Karin reported that the museums open May 1st and that the SHPO office is working on producing a joint calendar of activities and events.

Please also refer to Report on Museums, submitted by Karin Peterson, Museum Director.

14. REPORT ON STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE ACTIVITIES

Presentation on Section 106 by Todd Levin will be postponed for the June meeting.

Dan Forrest reported that the SHPO & Arts Director position has been reposted; closing date for application is May 30, 2013.

Dan Forrest reported that SHPO staff is working on developing guidelines and application process for Hurricane Sandy funds. The funds can be used for properties or landscapes damaged by Hurricane Sandy in Fairfield, New Haven or New London counties. Funds will not be able to fund religious properties. Work will require competitive bidding and may be able to fund work retroactively if competitive bidding process was followed.

15. GENERAL DISCUSSION

16. LIAISON WITH PUBLIC AND PRIVATE AGENCIES (FOR THOSE PRESENT)

17. OLD BUSINESS - no business

18. NEW BUSINESS

A. Historic Preservation Council Mission Statement – discussion postponed for the June meeting.

19. ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn was made, and moved. All were in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 12:10 pm.

Next Council Meeting

The next Historic Preservation Council meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, June 5, 2013, at 9:30 am, One Constitution Plaza, Main Conference Room.

Respectfully submitted by:
Lu Rivera
Administrative Assistant