

**Meeting Minutes  
State College Borough  
Historic Resources Commission  
January 19, 2016**

The State College Borough Historic Resources Commission (HRC) met on Tuesday, January 19, 2016 in the State College Borough Municipal Building, 243 South Allen Street in Room 241. Chairman Boeldt called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m.

**Members Present**

Eric Boeldt, Chairman; Mary Ann Schreck, Vice-Chairman; Guido Cervone, Katsuhiko Muramoto and Eric White

**Others Present**

Anne Messner, Planner/Zoning Officer; Connie Randolph, Community Development Block Grant/Citizens' Advisory Committee (CDBG/CAC) member and Denise Rhoads, Staff Assistant and other interested parties

**Approval of Minutes**

A motion to approve the December 15, 2015 minutes as submitted was made by Dr. White and seconded by Ms. Schreck. The vote was unanimously in favor.

**Chair Report**

Chairman Boeldt had nothing to report.

**Public Hour**

No one in the audience wished to discuss matters not on the agenda.

**Election of Officers**

A motion was made to have the current Chairman and Vice-Chairman remain the same for 2016 by Ms. Schreck and seconded by Dr. White. The vote was unanimously in favor.

**Presentation**

State College History Presentation

Ms. Messner introduced Ms. Randolph, a resident of the Borough who has offered to present information on State College Borough history.

Ms. Randolph asked the Commission if they are following what is happening with the Autoport Restaurant. She stated she read an article in the Centre Daily Times that the Autoport had filed for bankruptcy and was being sold to an outside entity.

She noted she travels around to postcard shows trying to collect postcards pertaining to the local State College Borough history and presented some cards of the Autoport in past years.

Her discussion included:

- She stated that the Borough has to fight Penn State University (PSU) for their identity.
- She stated the Autoport is a gem for State College.
- She stated Don and Marion Meyer originally bought the building in 1936.
- She noted back in 1940 it was a teenage hangout.

Her suggestions:

- A plaque to recognize the Autoport as the first motel in PA.
- Make the public aware of the situation.

Chairman Boeldt suggested a historical marker of some sort to commemorate this building.

## **Work Program**

### House Plaque – 363 Ridge Avenue

Ms. Messner stated an application for 363 Ridge Avenue has been submitted by the property owner to purchase a plaque for their home which is located in College Heights Historic District. The Commission considered the following text.

Sears Catalog Home  
The Lynnhaven, built 1935  
For Mary L. Willard

A motion to approve this plaque was made by Ms. Schreck and seconded by Dr. White. The vote was unanimously in favor.

### Draft 2016 Work Program

Ms. Messner noted Borough Council will review the 2016 ABC Work Programs during their February 8, 2016 meeting.

Ms. Messner stated staff has been looking carefully, overall, to what the Planning Department should be concentrating on in 2016. She discussed the five priority objectives:

- Student home rental licenses.
- Complete the Property Maintenance Code (PMC).
- Make substantial progress on the State College Town Center project.
- Continue operating the Homestead Investment Program (HIP).
- Begin zoning update process.

Ms. Messner noted the “high” priorities are:

- Plan Reviews.
- House Plaques.
- Items Referred by Council.

- 2016 State of Preservation Report.
- Update the HRC webpage as needed.

She also noted “future” activities included:

- Initiate actions to implement a Historical Architecture Review Board (HARB).
- Welcome opportunities to promote preservation.
- Monitor status of the Train Station and Post House.
- Continue to work on the expansion of the Historic Districts.

Chairman Boeldt suggested adding a historical marker for the Autoport Restaurant to the “Other Activities” column as a medium priority.

Chairman Boeldt also suggested moving the HARB up to a high priority and place it in the first and second quarters.

Dr. White asked what the status is regarding the discussion of combining both the Design Review Board (DRB) and Historic Resources Commission (HRC) committees. Ms. Messner stated it will be an action of Council.

A motion to approve this 2016 Work Program was made by Ms. Schreck and seconded by Dr. White. The vote was unanimously in favor.

### **Official Reports and Correspondence**

Planning Commission (PC): Ms. Messner reported the PC will meet on Thursday. Council has asked them to revisit the Inclusionary Housing (IH) ordinance regarding a proposed building that is looking to segregate their IH units to one area. She noted they will also be looking at the fence ordinance again.

Borough Council (BC): Ms. Messner reported Council had their first meeting to swear in the new and remaining members.

Design Review Board (DRB): Ms. Messner reported the DRB met today and reviewed two signs, approved their Work Program and they reviewed a wireless installation proposal.

Conflict of Interest Policy: Ms. Messner noted the policy was placed in the agenda and is something that is distributed at the beginning of every year for information purposes only.

### **Adjournment**

With no further business to discuss, this meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m. by Dr. White and seconded by Ms. Schreck.

Respectfully submitted by:  
Denise L. Rhoads, Staff Assistant