

**Town of Saugerties
Historic Preservation Commission
Minutes of the September 18, 2017 meeting**

Present: Stefan Yarabek, Chairman; Susan Puretz, Vice-Chairwoman; Commission members Myles Putman, Secretary; and Michael Sullivan Smith; Town Historian Audrey Klinkenberg; and Town Board Liaison Bill Schirmer (arrived around 5:40 pm).

Excused: Commission member Barry Benepe

The Commission met in the conference room adjacent to the Building Department offices at Town Hall.

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Yarabek at 5:01 pm.

Approval of minutes of August 21, 2017 Commission meeting.

Motion by Susan Puretz to accept the minutes as submitted, seconded by Myles Putman; approved unanimously.

Voucher submitted by ML Putman Consulting for 4.0 hours of secretarial services for the Commission for the month of August, 2017.

Old Business.

1. Asbury District - Overview. Myles called attention to a revised short text overview of the district, copies of which were circulated on-line to the Commission members prior to this evening's meeting. Myles pointed out that seven of the properties have been inventoried either in the 2005 Town resource survey or by Larsen Fisher Associates survey in 2016.

Audrey mentioned that the Asbury Cemetery is a Methodist Church Historic Landmark (No. 297). Former church pastor and Revolutionary War patriot John Carwford is buried here along with his wife. The old church / grange building on the site was demolished due to significant physical deterioration.

Mike mentioned that the overview text be corrected. The 2005 survey was undertaken by a subcommittee of the Planning Board, as the Historic Preservation Commission didn't exist at that time.

Stefan asked that the Commission consider, as an alternative to a full Local Landmark District designation under Chapter 145, a "thematic" designation, similar to that proposed for the stone houses.

Additional work is required before the Commission proceeds to a public hearing. For the October meeting, Commission members will be given copies of all site descriptions from the 2009 - 2012 House Tours, a list of properties, and the local designation forms (to be distributed by Mike). Myles will forward a copy of the property list to Stefan.

2. History Map Project. As Barry was not present to participate in this discussion, this topic was tabled until the November 2017 Commission meeting.

3. Finalize Status of Correction to Town Website (Address inconsistencies in on-line town historic preservation regulations). Stefan asked that Myles update the memo from July and add Mike Campbell on the cc list. Since Mike C. handles the Town website, the correction is expected to proceed fairly smoothly.

Motion by Susan Poretz to direct the Secretary to update and revised the memo from July 2017 to the Town Board and Town Clerk, and add Mike Campbell onto the cc list; and to transmit the same to said parties; seconded by Michael Sullivan Smith; approved unanimously.

4. Stone House Legacy memorialization resolution. Stefan had been in contact via e-mail with Linda Mackey of SHPO. Her response to Stefan's question was somewhat broad, touching upon the requirements if a landmark district were to be designated. The response also discusses "thematic" designations, saying that a public hearing is "warranted" and would apply to the thematic district designation but that all property owners should be contacted individually.

After some discussion, the Commission members were of the opinion that the basic question posed to SHPO had not been satisfactorily addressed. Stephan will follow up with Linda Mackey via a phone call for clarification.

The Commission was also of the opinion that no further action be taken on the Stone House Memorial resolution and instead that the Commission's time and energy be directed towards further exploration of an Asbury District.

5. Finalize Osterhoudt designation. Stefan asked that Myles prepare a short letter to the County Clerk, in a form similar to the letter to the Town Clerk, with regard to the designation of the Osterhoudt house, including identification by street address and tax map number. Myles will send Stefan a draft of the letter for review prior to sending to the County Clerk.

New Business.

1. Bus Tour. Susan stated that she had contacted several people about serving on a steering / organizing committee. She has gotten positive response from a number of people so far. Michael agreed to serve on this committee. Myles asked to serve as a consultant and not a formal committee member.

Susan said that based on past difficulty in finding an open date in the spring for the house tours, she suggested August might not be such a busy time. Michael mentioned planning around the Artists' Tour, which is the second weekend of the month.

2. 2018 Budget. Bill mentioned that the Commission's 2018 budget is due by the end of the month.

Miscellaneous Business.

1. Plattekill Cemetery Clean Up. Audrey mentioned that there is an Eagle Scout project pending to clean up the cemetery, although there have been some legal obstacles created by a neighboring landowner. The Town's consulting attorney is investigating how to quickly resolve

this problem.

2. 1816 Daybook Scan. Audrey also mentioned that a leather-bound day book from 1816 has been scanned, indexed and printed and a copy will be available in the Library. The book records transactions from an unknown store in Saugerties between May 1816 and January 1817,

The next Commission meeting is scheduled for October 16, 2017.

With no further business to discuss, Susan Poretz made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Michael Sullivan Smith. Meeting was adjourned at 6:09 pm.

Respectfully submitted
Myles Putman
Secretary