

Subj: **Historic Preservation Commission Minutes 11/22/04**
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From: Trumpbour1
To: Barrybenepe, Karlynelia, Manjrandal, greatknot@juno.com, kejt@earthlink.net
CC: Trumpbour1

MINUTES

The regular meeting of the Historic Preservation Commission of the Town of Saugerties was held November 22, 2004.

The following members were present: Barry Benepe, Michael Sullivan Smith, Josh Randall, William H. Trumpbour and Leanne Thornton. A list of everyone attending the meeting is attached.

Barry Benepe requested that the October 25, 2004 minutes be corrected as following: Change paragraph 5 on page 2, sentence 2 to read "He assured Bill Nieffer that the only concerns the Commission would have with the Cemetery would be any structures added and removal of headstones."

Josh Randall requested that the October 25, 2004 minutes be corrected as follows: Change paragraph 2, page 2, sentence 1 to read "Josh Randall reported that Steve and Abby Schiff own a lot next door to the Eligh house."

George Nieffer questioned the Commission about how they would feel if it was decided to pave the road in the Katsbaan Cemetery. Barry said he felt it would be no problem, and there would be no need for review.

Mark Colligan then reported on the progress at the Wynkoop House. Apparently there is no solution to the weight bearing problem on the second story--it presently has 17 pounds per square foot, and they need 100. As a result they have decided to use it for office space not an assembly area. He also discussed he problems they have with an ad on in the back of the house. It appears the most functional construction would be with a shed type roof. They also plan to put all new plumbing in the extension. A standing seam metal roof is proposed and a brick driveway. Peter Sinclair recommended they keep the original kitchen stairs. Mark assured him they had planned to.

Dave Minch felt there might be a legal problem with the structure but saw no problem with the add on. Peter Sinclair felt the flat roof was not appopriate for the add on--that a gable roof would be more appropriate. Many possibilities were discussed with no cluclusions reached. Bill Trumpbour cautioned Commission members to remember they are in the process of setting precedents.

Barry summarized the information contained in a copy of a letter written by Karlyn Knaust Elia to the Saugerties Planning Board concerning the archeology on the Saxton Flats on Route 32 where a large subdivision is proposed. Josh reported that on December 6th at 7:30 there will be a combined meting of the Planning Board and Zoning Board of Appeals about the problems associated with the development of this property-

-aquafer, archeology, digging on site without approval.

Michael Sullivan Smith presented to the Commission his proposal for a Palatine Historic District. A copy of his proposal is attached to the Minutes. Basically, his approach is to trace the history of the area through the history of the houses and land in the area--i.e. the Lockerman Patent, the Fullerton Patent, the Loverage Patent. Barry is leaning toward using physical evidence such as architecture and other structures as a basis for designation.

A draft of a proposed application for designation was presented by Michael. Changes were suggested and discussed.

A proposed Historic Property Guidelines Working Draft was given to the Commission members.

The next meeting of the commission will be December 27, 2004 at 7:00.

Motion was made, seconded and carried to adjourn the meeting.

Barry then proceeded to the designation hearing for the Katsbaan Reformed Church. He read the designation letter and explained to Bill Nieffer that the next step would be designation. Bill said that the initials on the back of the Church were beginning to fade and asked for any suggestions to preserve them. Several suggestions were made with the most useful probably being to coat them with something impervious to the weather. Discussions are to be continued at the next meeting.

There was then discussion about refurbishing the cemetery. It was mentioned that there were a lot of bluestone stones in very good condition in the cemetery. Several methods of doing rubbings on stone were discussed--i.e. shaving cream, dirt, etc.--because some methods can cause damage to the stones. Ernie Anderson appeared to represent the Katsbaan Cemetery Association and requested that no decision be made about designation until the Association has its annual meeting in May, 2005.

The next proposed designation was for Opus 40 with Tad Richards as their representative. Barry read the designation letter. Mr Richards said the property consists of 2 buildings plus the environmental structure. There is a studio back in the woods with a Quarrymen's Museum and a cabin workshop. The house on the property is not yet a part of it. He explained that they are a non-profit membership corporation but not eligible for grant money. Maintenance, insurance and real estate taxes are quite a burden to them. It was suggested that he contact David Palmquist of the State Education Department, 518-473-3131, Fax 518-473-8496, to request information about being chartered by the Board of Regents which would probably make them eligible for grant money. He questioned how Opus 40 could be added to the sign at the Town entrance. They do have signs at Fish Creek Road and Route 212 and the Glasco Turnpike and Route 212.

He said he would like to have Opus 40 designated. Hearings on the 3 properties will be continued until the next meeting of the Commission which will be on Monday, December 27 at 7:00 p.m. at the Senior's Center.

Eliner W. Trumbour
Secretary