



**TOWN OF SAUGERTIES
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 19th, 2019 MEETING**

Present: Commissioner Chair Stefan Yarabek, Vice-Chair Susan Puretz; Commission Members Alba LaFiandra, Barry Benepe, Peigi Mulligan; Commission Alternate Ken Myer Jr., Town Historian Audrey Klinkenberg, Town Liaison John Schoonmaker, Secretary Jeremy Russell.

Excused: Town Liaison Paul Andreasson.

(Minutes appear in chronological order. Numbering of items refer to the agenda for the meeting, which is attached)

The Commission met in the conference room adjacent to the Building Department offices of the Town Hall. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Yarabek at 5:09 pm.

Approval of minutes of June 17, 2019 Meeting was postponed as several members had not received e-mails;

Quick discussion concerning need for Commission to appoint an alternate member. Welcoming of new secretary. Secretarial responsibilities discussed, including but not limited to sending minutes to Michael Campbell, who runs the Town website, so as to abide by the law, and sending agenda through Secretary in an effort to become point on all communication and any follow-ups that are requested by the Chair as a result of HPC needs.

NEW BUSINESS:

6) Acceptance of Barry Benepe's retirement, effective November, 2019. Chair states that he would like to continue receiving Barry's wisdom, and invites Barry to continue as best he can. Barry states that he wishes to continue receiving minutes.

OLD BUSINESS:

1) Comfort-Smith House Application: Susan states that the application has been filed with the Building Department to do restoration work. Susan plans to invite the two owners to the next HPC meeting, taking place September 16th.

2) Status on Grant Application concerning Historic Preservation Commission's Storage Base: Susan reports that she and Peigi Mulligan recently met with Vernon Benjamin (Town of Saugerties Special Projects Coordinator) and Dennis Riley (Regional Advisor, Catskill-Hudson Valley Region, New York State Archives) regarding the rejected Grant application.

Vernon Benjamin wrote the grant; Dennis Riley was involved as an employee working for the NYS Archives. The issue at large is that many materials have recently been donated to the Town Historian and/or the Commission. The aforementioned grant's intention, was supposed to be, according to the Commission, to provide space to not only archive donated historical materials, but also to provide a room for the public to review these documents. A miscommunication must have occurred, as Vernon Benjamin did not apply for the grant in a

way that conveyed the intention to create space for the Town Historian and the HPC to store historically relevant material in a safe manner. At the aforementioned meeting, Mr. Riley provided input as to correcting the previous grant application for future grants.

*Motion by Stefan Yarabek, seconded by Susan Puretz, stating that the Commission shall issue a resolution requesting the town adopt the recommendations of Dennis Riley, being that the Town shall a) review the records in storage and decide what can be decommissioned, b) allow the Town Historian to review said decommissioned documents, c) create official storage space, if only on an interim basis, and d) allow the Commission to be involved with the writing of any future grants. **Passed by a vote of 5 in favor, none opposed.***

3) Marti Randall is considering donating materials to the Commission. Susan has been in constant contact with her. Susan explains for the record that Marti, and her husband Josh, were an instrumental part of conducting research on Winston Farm, and have collected, maintained and drawn many associated documents. Susan created a “Deed of Gift” for the Commission to be able to accept these materials. Because Mrs. Randall, wanted to have implicit in the Deed the right of allowing some owners whose material is in the Randall collection, to claim that material. Peigi has offered that an addendum be written allowing the original owners the chance to claim such property.

*Motion by Stefan Yarabek, seconded by Barry Benepe, stating that Susan continue drawing this “Deed of Gift,” which will then be reviewed by Ms. Randall and any parties with claims to any property. **Passed by a vote of 5 in favor, none opposed.***

4) Update: Interfacing with the Building Department to protect Historic Survey structures. Susan reports that the Building Department has been very proactive and is a pleasure to be working with. They’ve been making many referrals lately to the Commission, and consulting with the Commission on projects. Potential buyers have also been contacting the Commission, asking about restrictions that will be imposed on properties. So far, most calls are about properties that are eligible but not designated. The Commission, while offering to work with these buyers so that the property would be preserved recognized that, in fact, the Commission has no control over the majority of these properties since they are not HPC designated properties. Stefan adds that it’s a wonderful help to the Commission to receive these referrals from the Building Department so that the introduction is made, and the Commission can provide resources, tax information, and assistance in getting properties designated.

Stefan suggests sending a note to the Building Department, for the record, that the Commission’s determination of Winston Farm is that it’s a designated site and structure. John recommends including all technical aspects of such. Susan suggests contacting Michael Smith. Peigi thinks the search will find its way back to Josh Randall’s letter. Peigi believes an e-mail was circulated within the last six months. Jeremy will contact Michael Sullivan Smith on the backup on the Winston Farm designation. Audrey informs us that the Supervisor and County Clerk should receive a letter about the Winston Farm designation. Finally, Susan asks if the Commission could write a letter of gratitude to the Building Department for their collaboration. Stefan offers to do this.

5) Update: Interfacing with Building Department to address problems and inquiries: It’s determined that this was covered already.

6) Memorializing Resolution Implementation/Publicity: The Town Board, at its meeting on May 1, 2019, unanimously accepted a resolution from the Commission recognizing that the Town of Saugerties is a community in New York State with the most Stone Houses within its borders. The Commission would like the Town’s help in publicizing the fact and the resolutions. The following suggestions are made:

- a) Stefan - Team up with Chamber of Commerce
- b) Peigi - Ask the History Whisperers to set up a section at their booth at the Farmer's Market, which closes at the end of October.
- c) Stefan & John - Booth at the Garlic Festival
- d) Susan - Reception for the Owners of the Properties, perhaps during the time Ulster County celebrates history week
- e) Susan & Peigi - Set up a committee of the Commission for, and it shall include, Alba, Susan, Peigi, and Stefan.
- g) Barry - Find copies of the stone house tours. It is believed there were five tours. He also has display boards. He will get copies of the surveys. Departed members have books, and we will focus on getting theirs so they can be duplicated. Barry will bring a book to Jeremy and copies will be made.
- h) Susan - Make a copy of the stone houses for the Building Department for their reference.
- i) Peigi - Create an index that is searchable by something other than SBL.

7) Asbury District: Having been found to be one of the more significant neighborhoods, the designation process was started by the Commission several years ago. Jeremy will contact Michael to try to get this work consolidated.

8) HPC Website Update for HPC Information on Town Website: No Progress made on this Front. Tabled.

9) Other Old Business: None

NEW BUSINESS:

1) Looseleaf for Newbies plus Extras for the Future: Jeremy will help facilitate this.

2) Kocherthal-Eligh Stone House: Tabled for later discussion.

3) Ricks Lane: One owner has contacted Audrey. This particular house is on the market and has two potential buyers. Barry (with Dave Minch's help) would like to find measured drawings, which they believe exist on the Hudson Valley Vernacular Architecture website. If not, perhaps HVVA may come and do this for free. The belief is that the property should be considered for designation, and the Commission would like to meet with the current owner. Barry will speak to her (current owner) about attending the next meeting.

4) Budget and Finance: Stefan and Susan plan to get together soon to Discuss. John mentions that the Town will likely start the process of the budget at the beginning of September.

5) Other New Business

6) Appointments to the HPC

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

1) Town Historian's Report: Audrey would like to start the process of creating a tour as part of the "Path Through History," a State initiative. The following places are suggested as potential landmarks to visit:

- a) Saugerties Light House
- b) Opus 40

- c) West Camp Area
- d) Saugerties Historical Society
- e) Katsbaan Church
- f) Flatbush Church
- g) History Whisperers at the Library
- h) Mynderse House
- i) Village Buildings

Other ideas mentioned:

And the following were submitted as ideas for inclusion with the meeting.

- a) Church can have tea and cookies
- b) Sidewalk sale
- c) People visit on their own
- d) Historically-themed First Friday (Perhaps first week of May)
- e) Generation of a Map
- f) Collaboration with Shout Out Saugerties and the Saugerties Arts Commission

2) Town Liaison's Report: Focus on Budget.

*Going Back to New Business, number 6, a Motion is made by Stefan to accept the retirement of Barry Benepe. **Passed by a vote of 5-0, none opposed.***

Finding no further Commission business to be discussed, a motion was made by Stefan Yarabek to adjourn the meeting, seconded, full steam ahead, by Susan Puretz.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:16 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jeremy Russell
Secretary
Town of Saugerties Historic Preservation Commission

TOWN OF SAUGERTIES
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

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Commissioners:
Stefan Yarabek, Chair
Susan Puretz, Vice-Chair
Barry Benepe
Alba LaFiandra
Peigi Mulligan
Ken Myers Jr. (alternate)
Audrey Klinkenberg,
Town Historian, ex officio

**Regular Meeting August
19, 2019 at 5 pm Agenda**

Call to Order

Approval of June 17, 2019 Meeting Minutes

Welcome to our new Secretary, Jeremy Russell

Old Business:

1. Comfort Smith house: update on communication and application
2. Grant applications for HPC storage space in Town Hall
3. Update: Marti Randall
4. Update: Interfacing with the Building Department to protect Historic Survey structures
5. Update: Interfacing with (Building Department) to address problems and inquiries
6. Memorializing Resolution implementation/publicity
8. Asbury District
9. HPC Website Update for HPC information on the Town website
10. Other Old Business

New Business:

1. Looseleaf for Newbies plus extras for the future
2. Kocherthal-Eligh Stone House??
3. Ricks Lane
4. Budget and Finance
5. Other New Business
6. Accept Barry Benepe Retirement Request effective November 2019
- 7.Appointments to the HPC

Miscellaneous Business

Town Historian's report
Town Board Liaison's report
Other announcements

Next meeting scheduled for September 16, 2019

Adjournment