

Historic Preservation Commission
Monday, June 18, 2012
Building Department Conference Room
7 pm
Minutes

Present: Josh Randall, Susan Puretz, Barry Benepe, Stephen Shafer, Michael Sullivan Smith

Ex-Officio: Audrey Klinkenberg, secretary

Liaison: Jimmy Bruno, Town Board member

Meeting called to order by the chair, Josh Randall at 7:05 pm.

1. Minutes of the previous meeting. Moved by Barry, seconded by Stephen, to approve the minutes. Josh, aye; Barry, aye; Susan, aye; Michael, aye; Stephen, aye. Unanimous.

2. Old Timers Day to be held on August 5 with a place under the main tent on the front lawn. Josh notified Marjory that the Commission would participate. Barry emailed Marjorie to request information about the placards. Her response was that the placards could be found within the building and further that the Commission would be located in a pop up tent on the main lawn of the Kiersted House rather than the main tent. Barry provided an update when he indicated that the previous Saturday he was told by Marjorie that the Commission WOULD be able to have space under the tent on the lawn. Susan made a motion that we clarify and confirm that the HPC will be under the big tent on Old Timer's Day. Michael seconds, Josh, aye; Barry, aye; Susan, aye; Michael, aye; Stephen, aye. Unanimous. Barry will make sure we have confirmation in writing.

Barry indicated that he would like to see the Commission develop a friendly relationship with the Historical Society. A discussion ensued over the difference between the Commission (town appointed) and an organization (the Saugerties Historical Society is a membership society with a private board) and by implication the stature of each. It was mentioned that there is some discordance between the two (HPC and the Society) regarding recognition, respect, and mission. To that last point, Marjorie has told Josh that the mission of the Historical Society is to preserve everything historical within the town of Saugerties. It was brought up that a Historical Society is supposed to hold functions to generate their own funds, not receive money from government entities. Susan stated that the SHS gets Town money in return for providing services and activities for the town. It was mentioned that the Society is registered with the State Education Department as it needs to be. As a result of the discussion regarding the role of the Historical Society vis a vis being a depository for all historic documents, Jimmy Bruno was

asked to have the Town request an inventory of the Historical Society, and further to find out if one has to be a member in order to look at or access the archives.

It was announced that the Kiersted family reunion is July 14, 2012 at the Historical Society. With the exception of a public speech, this function is private.

3. Michael spoke to his report on the education initiative to the Historic Preservation Commission, which is filed with this report. Susan suggested that if the space which is now the one next to the tax collection area on the main floor of the Donlon Town Hall building, is glassed in, it could be considered as a potential space to not only house the HPC archives but also could be used by the Historic Preservation Commission and the Town Historian. It was indicated that it was necessary to have a central storage area for the archives so that the material be available to the public. Barry offers a two step proposal, one getting the town planner back into office. A planner is equipped to use the computer and do mapping. The second step is asking a planner to do what we are asking Lisa Stanley to do, i. e. be responsible for the records. Jimmy states that there is nothing in the budget for a town planner. The town has someone on a per diem basis. Susan argues against the proposal.

Commission requests that the Town keep, physically and electronically, all historic materials that are relevant to the legal duties of the Town of Saugerties Historic Preservation Commission. Further that these historic materials be under the auspices of the Town Clerk using the volunteer positions of the Town Historian and Commission for organization, maintenance and application. Josh, aye; Susan, aye; Michael, aye; Stephen, aye. Barry abstained. Passed.

Comment [SP1]: This is a bit awkward, but may work better than what you had.

4. Final Report Historic House Tour: Copy filed with these minutes. Final income \$774.41. This is a line item within the Historic Preservation allotment, the balance of which carries forward each year; however, because there was some concern about this, Jimmy Bruno was asked to check on the figures in the HPC budget as well providing the Commission with a copy of the resolution stating that the money can carry forward from one year to the next. Susan indicated that the Tour Committee is just now 'burned out' and the members are not sure that there will be another tour. Josh stated that during the four years Susan has been involved in this, with Michael, Renate, Jeanne Goldberg, Barry and Myles, this has been a 'class act' and a model for other tours in the county. Barry asked when the decision would be made to have, or not have, the 2013 Tour. Susan responded that she would call a meeting of the Tour Committee in October. Josh would like to see the Historic House Tour continued.

5. Josh stated that the town should pursue Phillips NA, regarding the Christian Myer Home, where an office for Historic Preservation could be housed. Susan reported that she had been told that recently Phillips NA stated that they wanted to retain rights to the house.

6. Possible Designations: Fawn's District, Carle house on Rt. 32, Blue Mt. Road, Hansel's house in West Camp, Lindquist house, De Jorio log house, built 1920, on Cole Bank Road, West Saugerties. sbl 7.4-4-39. Susan wanted to know if the Commission could designate all the stone houses, Josh stated that it has to be on an individual basis with a public hearing for each. Josh opined that we should designate the Fawn's district around the reservoir Discussion about the non-contributing houses that would be included in the District included the fact that the Commission would still have to approve façade changes on non-contributing houses. Josh requested that members speak with certain parties who have an interest in the area to see if the designation process can begin.

7. New Business: Susan sent three emails to Commission members, two on Poughkeepsie and one on New York State History.

8. Old Business: None

9. Adjourn: Stephen moved to adjourn, Michael seconded

Meeting adjourned 8:45 pm

Audrey Klinkenberg

Secretary

Resolution Dated June 18, 2012

Whereas:

Over the past several years significant new information on Saugerties history has been brought to light through the activities of the Commission, its programs and its individual members. More is in the process of being developed. For the first time, it is possible to assemble a verifiable narrative on the curious aspects of our history to support campaigns for tourism and also to articulate an intriguing story of the positive atmosphere for economic development that is the innovative bedrock of our community's unique heritage.

Whereas:

Since 2004, when the cultural assets survey was created, the capabilities of electronic media have made access to an unprecedented range of material possible. This has coincided with the creation of the Historic Preservation Commission and its requirements for accurate information. Because we have a mature capability now for applying this level of information it is important that this material be made understandable to the citizens of Saugerties so that we may all be capable of representing our heritage to the best benefit.

Whereas:

The Town Board acting upon the motion presented below will make the credible experience, expertise and accumulated documents of the Commission useful for publicity campaigns, education and proper treatment of historic facts in the press.

Be it resolved that:

The HPC requests that the Town keep, physically and electronically, all historic materials that are relevant to the legal duties of the Town of Saugerties Historic Preservation Commission under the auspices of the Town Clerk using the volunteer positions of the Town Historian and Commission for organization, maintenance and application.

It is the intent of this motion that the Town and Village separately and jointly seek grant support for a preservation program which would allow outreach services to schools, libraries and community groups in support of Saugerties unique history and historical assets and for the creation of the facilities and purchase of equipment and services needed for it.

The HPC asks that the Town Board act on the motion approved at the HPC meeting of June 18, 2012.