

MINUTES

The regular meeting of the Historic Preservation Commission of the Town of Saugerties was held on 15 December 2008.

Present: Barry Benepe; Josh Randall; Michael Sullivan Smith; Susan Puretz; Myles Putman; Leeanne Thornton and Kate Kane, Secretary.

Additional Attendees: Audrey Klinkbenberg

Barry opened the meeting at 7:03 p.m.

1. Minutes of November 17, 2008: Following review and discussion, which included correction of the proper address of the Dragon Inn, located in the Village of Saugerties, Josh made a motion to accept the minutes as corrected. Michael seconded. Josh: aye; Michael: aye; Susan: aye; Barry: aye, Myles: aye. Motion passed.

2. Photographs of Historic Homes / Blue Mountain Crossroads: Barry said that Theresa Duchane was sick and unable to attend the meeting; as such, he said that he was unsure how the project of photographing historic homes was progressing. Josh said that the map of historic homes that Myles had prepared and that the Commission had reviewed at the November meeting was very complete. Barry asked if there were additional comments on the map. Leeanne made additional copies of the map for Commission members.

Barry said that the Blue Mountain Crossroads Historic District would be added to the Commission's list of goals for 2009. Josh added that deeds needed to be pulled to develop more historic emphasis for this potential designation. Barry suggested that speaking to someone at Blue Mountain Church might be helpful for additional historic record information. Josh offered to try to contact the church for information. Barry asked if any of the Commission members knew residents in that area. Myles said that a man with the last name Peller had spoken to the Commission previously and added the names Bayley and Joan Sellick and Bob Cranston. Barry said that he would try to contact Bob Cranston. Myles said that he would try to get in touch with the Peller contact.

Barry suggested a public meeting in April (2009) to discuss the potential designation. Leeanne said that it would be better to hold it at the Frank Greco Senior Center since it could hold more people. April 20, 2009 was decided as the public hearing date for designation of the Blue Mountain Crossroads Historic District.

3. Cockburn / Snyder House: Audrey said that she had written an article on the "Mansion House" as it was called by the heirs of William Cockburn. She read from her article facts that included that the house was built possibly as early as 1742 and featured half round windows and bluestone lintels. Her friend Dr. Kerry Cook, an architect, felt that the house was of Empire style and that the

lintels were added during the original construction. Barry asked if there were any acreages associated with the historic deeds of sale. Audrey read from several. Barry suggested that the name for the designation should be "Snyder/Cockburn House" since the name Snyder predated that of Cockburn in its history. Michael said that he had been in touch since the November meeting with Rick Rumick, an authority on brick and preservation engineering. He said that Rick mentioned that the bricks may have been sun-dried, which would explain the technology behind a brick home predating the local kiln-dried brick manufacturing time period. Barry asked if a hearing in February (2009) would be possible. Audrey said that since the current owners had approached the Commission requesting designation that there was no reason for delay. Barry added that he would like to visit the property once more before the public hearing is held. Barry added that he would contact the Sachars about the visit and also to discuss the possibility of including the barns and surrounding property in the designation.

A public hearing to discuss the designation of the Snyder/Cockburn House will be held on February 16, 2009 at the Frank Greco Senior Center. The Commission's regular meeting will proceed the public hearing at 7:30.

4. Stone House Tour: Susan said that the Commission had not received a grant from Furthermore for the Stone House Tour brochures. She added that she had heard from two other home owners who were contacted regarding their willingness to include their homes in the tour, but both had declined. She said that the final list of homes was almost complete and that a committee had been formed which included three individuals. She said that she met with Jamie Fine on November 25th and that she declined the offer of a committee seat, but that she offered advice including reducing the number of homes on the tour from 11 to 7 or 8 and that 3 or 4 of the houses should include an interior tour. Jamie also suggested dividing the tour into two regions to allow for visitors to start from different points and suggested staff to post at each home during the tour (parking assistance, docents, etc.) Susan said that currently there are nine homes and the possibility of four interiors to tour.

Susan added that it would be helpful if Barry could contact the Mynderse House owners to try to get their permission to allow tour takers inside.

Leeanne said that she had contacted Marjorie Block regarding the Kiersted House and its insurance for the Christmas tour and that Marjorie said that they don't seek additional insurance for the event. She felt that the homeowners individual policies should cover the homes involved for the event.

Susan said that she had four letters prepared to send to the homeowners which would include notification of inclusion (or not) for those who had responded and also letters to those homeowners who declined permission and whom never responded thanking them for their consideration.

Susan added that she thought that the tour should start at the Saugerties information kiosk next to the McDonald's.

Clark) Susan and Jeanne Goldberg met

5. Stone House Tour: Barry said that he had been in touch with Jamie Fine, who manages the annual Saugerties Garden Tour. Susan asked if Jamie was willing to chair the committee and take responsibility for the Stone House Tour. Barry said that he didn't go so far as to ask her to do those things but that she said that she would be willing to help. He added that she wouldn't give the Commission her mailing list or hardware for erecting signs and that she recommended not using a bus as they are expensive. Josh said that if the Commission needed signs for the event that it should print them up while money is still available in the 2008 budget. Leeanne said that the money needed to be spent before December 31st.

Leeanne added that the Commission would need insurance for the event and that the Kiersted House would have to absorb the cost of the insurance. She added that the rider that the Kiersted House used for its Christmas event would be a good basis to determine the cost for the Stone House Tour.

Susan said that if Jamie wasn't going to chair the committee that she would need names from Commission members and others who would help out. She added that the Commission needed to select a date for the event. Following discussion, Josh made a motion to hold the Stone House Tour on May 16, 2009 with a rain date of May 17th. Michael seconded. Susan: aye; Myles: aye, Barry: aye, Josh: aye, Michael: aye. Motion passed unanimously.

Susan asked Commission members to review the list of houses that would be included in the tour. Following discussion, Josh made a motion to accept the final list of 11 houses and asked Myles to create a new map showing all of the properties. Michael seconded. Susan: aye; Barry: aye; Myles: aye. Motion passed unanimously.

6. Map: Barry said that he hadn't had the chance to speak to Jeremy Kane regarding the map that he was working on for the Commission which would show the historic homes in the town. He added that homes had been looked at and forgotten during the process of developing the 2005 register of historic homes. Michael said that notecards and fieldwork from that time still existed but that he wasn't sure what had happened to the material. Barry said that it was probably in the file cabinet in Town Hall.

7. 2009 Goals: Barry suggested that an additional goal for 2009 (other than the designations previously discussed) would be to enhance the town's website with illustrations of some historic buildings. Michael showed Commission members the video that he had been working on involving the historic maps that he had created related to the 2009 Quadricentennial event.

8. Old Business: East-West Road. Josh said that Claudette (who works for the Town) had pulled up the roads on the town's GIS parcel viewer. Following discussion, Barry suggested that a public hearing on the designation of the road

should be scheduled. Commission members suggested that more information was needed before a hearing is scheduled.

9. New Business: Barry announced that he would like to step down as Chair of the Historic Preservation Commission and asked the Commission members to consider their interest in the position.

Josh made a motion to adjourn. Myles seconded. All unanimous. Meeting adjourned at 9:02 pm.

The next Commission meeting will be held at 7 o'clock in the Town of Saugerties' Building Department Conference Room Monday, January 19, 2009.

Kate Kane