

Town of Saugerties
Historic Preservation Commission

Minutes

22 June 2015

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

Excused: Stefan Yarabek

Liaison to Town Board: Bill Schirmer – arrived at 6:00 pm

Secretary; Audrey Klinkenberg, Town Historian

The meeting was called to order by the chair at 5:15 p. m.

1. Minutes of 18 May 2015. It was moved by Stephen and seconded by Michael that the minutes of the meeting of May 18, 2015 be approved as submitted. Stephen, aye; Susan, aye; Barry, aye; Michael Sullivan Smith; aye.

2. Cell Tower Update. Barry sent a copy of the resolution made by this Commission at the last meeting to Howard Post, the chair of the Planning Board.

3. Historic House Tour Event Update. The next meeting of the Historic House Tour will be in July.

At the June 5th meeting, it was decided to send invitations to the 150 houses on the survey and the 150 houses which were in the next category, not included in the survey. Additionally invitations will go to the historic structures in the Village as provided by Dave Minch. The event is scheduled for October 17, 2015 either at the Saugerties Public Library or at the Frank M. Greco Senior Citizen's building. There was a question as to the availability of Wi-Fi at the Frank M. Greco building which will be addressed by Susan. Michael asked whether the guidelines are to be given out. It is thought that the guidelines will be given to the participants. A discussion on whether a bus tour could be held at the same time, as with the Artist Tour in 2005. Michael spoke of two buses, which would circle the area, dropping and picking up passengers. Susan said that she would bring the idea of a bus tour to the committee, but felt it would be too much to add to the event at this time.

4. History Map Update. Barry has not yet spoken to anyone in the building department to see who would do the printing of colored maps, as discussed at the last meeting.

5. Winston Farm Holiday Inn Update, including a proposal sent by Stefan Yarabek who could not attend tonight's meeting. Stefan suggested in that email, circulated to all members, that the area around the proposed Holiday Inn become a hamlet with more of a county focus and oversight, rather than township oversight. Barry will let members

know when the opportunity arises to speak regarding this project at a Planning Board meeting.

6. Designation Proposals.

a. Barry mentioned Bristol Beach. He received an aerial photo of the area. The Staples Brick Yard is a portion of the property. Stephen expressed hope that the Town is planning to take back the whole area from the Palisades Interstate Parkway Commission. Bill Schirmer stated that the Town is interested in owning the property again. Barry asked regarding insurance and liability, to wit, will owning the property increase the insurance to the Town? Bill said he was fairly sure that it would increase the insurance. Barry asked whether a letter to the Town Board would be reasonable in order for the Town Board to understand our sentiments. The CAC has been working with Assemblyman Lopez to bring the transfer to fruition.

b. Barry asked whether the Commission should revisit the designation of some of Winston Farm and Augusta Savage Road.

Barry would like to organize an informal meeting with the Supervisor about this. Bill stated that the request should come from the Commission. Michael stated that the Commission should attempt to designate the Mansion.

c. Barry also mentioned the Persen House, formerly owned by the Tamayo's. Barry noted that John Jacob Astor is mentioned on the sign in front of the house. Barry asked Town Historian Audrey Klinkenberg to do some research on the John Jacob Astor connection.

d. Stephen mentioned that he has contacted the owners of the First Brink House in Mount Marion, but has not received a reply.

7. Joint Grant Request Submission deferred due to absence of Dave Minch who is away. Consideration of further surveys also deferred.

8. Schedule for Future Meetings. Certain members are unable to attend meetings on the fourth Monday of the month. Barry asked whether the meeting should be changed back to the third Monday at 7 p. m. Stephen offered to ask Stefan whether he would be able to attend a meeting on the third Monday. Audrey stated that she would not be available in July and August. Barry suggested that the August meeting be cancelled at this time and future meetings will be held on the third Monday at 7 p. m. Stephen asked that the meeting be on the third Monday at 5 p. m. Barry will check the master schedule for availability.

9. Other Old Business. None.

10. New Business. We recommend that there be a change in the way a building permit is issued for structures that are included in the 2005 Cultural Survey. Currently, the applicant's request must be answered within ten days. However, it was noted by Barry that Josh Randall had reached an agreement several years ago whereby if the building appears in the 2005 Cultural Survey, that the Commission be notified of the request for

permit. This would be an interdepartmental courtesy. Because of some confusion about the agreement and whether it is being honored, Susan suggested a memo be sent to the building department (Alva Weeks) clarifying the process by which building permits for buildings on the 2005 Cultural Survey are issued. Barry will check the files for a copy of the agreement made in the past by Josh. The idea of a memo being sent by Barry was adopted unanimously. Michael, aye; Susan, aye; Stephen, aye; Barry, aye.

All the business being completed the meeting was adjourned.

Audrey Klinkenberg
Secretary