

Town of Saugerties Historic Preservation Commission

20 JUNE 2016: 5 PM

Minutes

Present: Susan Puret, vice chair; Michael Sullivan Smith, Myles Putman, Barry Benepe, Stefan Yarabek,
Town Liaison: Bill Schirmer
Town Historian: - Audrey Klinkenberg
Guests: - Mary Alice Lindquist, Ken Lindquist

The meeting was called to order by Susan Puret, vice chair at 5:06 pm.
The chair, Stefan Yarabek is absent at present but is expected. He was unable to make the meeting.

1. Minutes of May 16, 2016. It was moved by Michael and seconded by Barry to approve the minutes as corrected. Myles, aye; Barry, aye; Michael, aye; Susan, aye. Unanimous.

2. Verizon ZBA Application: Farber Farm and Lindquist's and neighboring Dutch Barn (Levin's)

The Verizon application looked at only the Lindquist home, aka Jacob Conyes house, 650 Schoolhouse Road, ignoring both the Farber farm, aka the DeWitt House, 694 Schoolhouse Road, which could date to the 1600's and the Dutch farm barn at 598 Schoolhouse Road. These are all eligible for state and national register designation according to the 2005 survey.

This issue was considered at an earlier Historic Preservation meeting May 18, 2015, and a letter containing the motion passed at that time was sent to the Planning Board. The letter stated that the Commission opposed this current Verizon application, and suggested some alternative sites,

The Planning Board completed its review and found no significant impact. The issue is now in front of the Zoning Board of Appeals with a request for three variances: an impact variance, an area variance and a second area variance. Myles asked which Board is lead agency and the answer is the Planning Board. The Historic Preservation Commission is an interested agency. Myles feels that the Commission should have the application in front of the members. Susan suggested that a letter be written to the Planning Board on procedural issues seen as being overlooked in this process. The second letter should be sent to the Zoning Board of Appeals, raising concerns. This project is being called the Churchland Project. Ken Lindquist foiled the application from the Zoning Board. Each Commissioner has a copy of the letter sent by the Lindquist's to the Zoning Board.

Susan offered that following resolution:

Whereas the Historic Preservation Commission at its meeting on May 18, 2015 resolved that:

Whereas: The Verizon's proposed School House Road cell tower would impact the historic view shed; and
Whereas it seems that there are other sites which would meet Verizon's objectives and would not impact the historic view shed; and
Whereas School House Road is considered by the Historic Preservation Commission as having a unique collection of structures dating back to the 1700's.

Therefore now be it resolved: That the Historic Preservation Commission recommends against the siting of the Verizon tower as currently proposed and recommends for relocation further to the west of the hill and closer to the Central Hudson Line;

And Whereas the Planning Board continued to process this application by Verizon and issued a negative declaration pursuant to SEQR;

And Whereas there is some question as to the State Office of Historic Preservation's declaration stating that there are no historic properties within the area, although their CRIS (Cultural Resource Information System) map shows that there are historic properties in the area;

And Whereas the goal of Verizon is to maximize cell coverage to its clients at minimal cost, while the town's zoning laws are written to carry out the goals of the comprehensive plan, among which is to protect historic resources.

Now therefore be it resolved that the Historical Preservation Commission reiterates its motion of May 18, 2015, where the Commission unilaterally stated that the HPC is against the siting of the cell tower as currently proposed for 679 Schoolhouse Road. The tower is in the view shed of 694, 650 and 598 Schoolhouse Road, which are eligible for National Register designation according to the State Historic Preservation Office and their CRIS database.

And further be it resolved the Commission recommends to the Zoning Board of Appeals to deny the variances submitted by the applicant.

The motion was made by Michael, seconded by Barry. Myles, abstain; Barry, aye; Michael, aye; Susan, aye, Stefan absent. The motion passes.

Note: The public hearing by the ZBA on this topic is scheduled for July 11, 2016, at the Senior Citizen Building at 7:00 p. m.

3. John Osterhoudt House and Property Public Hearing

The legal notice is appended at the end of these minutes

The public hearing was opened at 6:45 pm by Myles, seconded by Michael. Myles, aye; Barry, aye; Michael, aye; Susan, aye. Unanimous.

No persons appeared at the hearing.

Myles moved to close the public hearing at 6:46, seconded by Michael. Unanimous. Myles, aye; Barry, aye; Michael, aye; Susan, aye. Unanimous.

Barry asked for discussion on the application to designate the property.

He noted that he and Stephen Shafer visited the property about 6 months ago, and took photographs which were passed around. He pointed out that there is a rainwater cistern in one corner of the house.

He also noted that the house is already on the National and State Register.

Federal law requires owner consent for designation, local and state laws do not.

Barry moved that the John Osterhoudt house and property, 1880 Route 32, Saugerties, NY , sbl 29.3-1-26.200 be added to the designated properties within the town of Saugerties. This house has been fully documented by the State Historic Preservation Office in April 2001 and the owners have requested this designation.

Seconded by Susan. Myles, aye; Barry, aye; Michael, aye; Susan, aye. Unanimous.

Barry will write the designation report to the County Clerk, the Saugerties Supervisor and the property owners. The HPC Chairman will sign off on the letter.

Michael moved to adjourn, seconded by Myles. Myles, aye; Barry, aye; Michael, aye; Susan, aye. Unanimous.

The meeting adjourned at 6:58 p. m.

Amy McClure
Secretary

Attachment

TOWN OF SAUGERTIES

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

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Greg Helmsmoortel, Town Supervisor
Bill Schirmer, Town Board Liaison
Commissioners:
Stefan Yarabek, Chair
Susan Poretz, vice-Chair
Barry Benepe
Myles Putman
Michael Sullivan Smith
Audrey Klinkenberg,
Town Historian (ex officio)

24 May 2016

Local Historic Landmark Designation Public Hearing Notice
Osterhoudt Property; 1880 Route 32; Saugerties, New York
Town Hall Conference Room
20 June 2016 at 5 PM

The Town of Saugerties Historic Preservation Commission voted on April 18, 2016 to accept the request by Peter and Debra Bradley to conduct a Public Hearing on Monday June 20, 2016 to consider designating their property at 1880 Route 32; Saugerties, New York as a Local Historic Landmark per Section 5, Paragraph C of the Town of Saugerties Historic Preservation Ordinance.

The Request for Local Designation will be discussed at the Historic Preservation Commission's monthly public meeting beginning at 5 PM on June 20, 2016.

The Public Meeting will be held in the Town Hall Conference Room which can be accessed via the Building Department entrance.

The aforementioned property is presently recognized by the National Parks Service and New York State's Office of Parks and Historic Preservation as a National Historic Landmark Register Property, formally known as the "Osterhoudt Property"

The Public is invited to attend the hearing to voice support, ask questions and/or raise any concerns.