



**TOWN OF SAUGERTIES
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 27th, 2020 MEETING**

Present: Commission Chair Stefan Yarabek, Vice-Chair Susan Poretz; Commission Members Alba LaFiandra, Peigi Mulligan, Ken Myer, Jr., Commission Alternate Jason Nelson, Town Historian Audrey Klinkenberg, Town Board Liaison Paul Andreasson, Secretary Jeremy Russell, Historic Preservation Consultant Neil Larson, American Legion Representative Kevin Pendergrast

Excused: none

(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 Chair Stefan Yarabek at 5:10 pm.

Stefan asks if everyone has had a chance to read the minutes of the December meeting. Peigi mentions that the designation to Snyder Farm has been found at the Lamb Center Building at 41 Market St.

*With no further revisions, Alba makes a motion to accept the December minutes, Susan seconds the motion. **Passed by a vote of 5-0, none opposed.***

Stefan welcomes the guests.

NEW BUSINESS

1) Nomination of Peigi Mulligan and Ken Myer, Jr. for new terms - Both members' terms would expire in March, Stefan explained. Both members also completed terms for past members.

*With no objections, Alba makes a motion to nominate Peigi Mulligan and Ken Myer Jr. to new, four year terms, Susan seconds the motion. **Passed by a vote of 5-0, none opposed.***

2) Town Board Liaison 2020 - John Schoonmaker, of the Town Board, mentioned during the last meeting (December 2019) of the HPC that he would not be able to be a co-liaison for 2020. Paul Andreassen confirmed this.

3) Asbury District Larson Proposal - Neil Larson is introduced by Stefan - Neil has done yeoman's work for the Commission in the past. Stefan then provided some background information: The Town had contacted the Commission about the Asbury Hamlet when a company had plans to develop a solar farm in the area. As the Commission studied the area, it'd become apparent that the area was significant enough to be recognized as a State and Federally protected district. Stefan then asked Neil to walk the Commission through the proposal, which is attached to the minutes after the Agenda.

Neil said that when he received materials from the Commission, it was received with a statement saying that the State approved the initial submission of the District. Four individuals from the State Historic Preservation Office

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had attended an earlier meeting with the Commission and conveyed a comparable unofficial excitement for the project, Stefan recalled. Neil explained that he meant to review the boundary of the district before meeting, but was tied up with computer maintenance earlier that day.

Moving forward, he explained that he typically proposes two stages of development. The first is to submit an application to the State Historic Preservation Office. In this case, he will have to defend the boundary lines that are drawn up for the District. Because of this, he may have some recommendations, down the line, as to changes of the boundary, once his research is complete. The initial application consists of a map outlining the boundary, a statement of significance, an overview of history, and some photographs. Once the determination is made, the second step of the process is the preparation of the nomination of the District.

One part of this preparation is to go property to property within the boundary to collect information for New York's digital database of recording properties. To complete the nomination, Neil asked the Commission to assist in determining and composing the historical record of the District. He asked if there was a written history - Audrey mentioned that she had written some on the Church and community, and given to Michael Sullivan Smith.

Peigi mentioned that it was the Palatine settlement, and asked whether Neil was asking for an overview of the community writ large for the narrative when it's to be developed, or is it developed with through the individuals. Neil only said that he would like to have some of the material before he begins working on it, himself. Audrey mentioned that Jeremy's Great-Great-Great-Great-Great-Great-Grandfather (Ludwig Russell) taught school out there.

If the first proposal is rejected by the State, there would be no further cost to the Commission, Neil explained. Stefan mentioned that it could still be done on a local level. He said it would take a few months to collect material and write what is needed for "Step 2." Susan asked if the Commission should submit the District locally at the same time as Neil is submitting it to the State and National Register. Neil said that it generally helps a local designation have a National Register nomination preceding it, because then you don't need to defend the local designation. Neil said that if "Step 1" is accepted by the State, then "Step 2" typically follows straight through. A staff determination is made in each step, and they tend to all see things through.

Alba asked Audrey if she knew of any families currently living in the Asbury Hamlet that might have material to help with the process. Neil thinks he has all that is needed regarding Trumbour Farm. Audrey thought Holley Carnright, a Stone House resident within the district, might have some information. Jeremy mentioned that Barry's collection has some material. Neil asked if the Saugerties Historical Society might have some material. Nobody really knew, but thought it was worth Neil asking them.

Neil mentioned that the State has a 50 year period that they use for their definition of "history.," and so that he would likely end his research within the 20th Century, regarding material. He said he'd perused "through the Arcadia book," and two names were mentioned, "Dorothy Frooms," and "Trnka's Picnic Ground." The Frooms house is still standing, someone said. The Trnka building also still exists, and a long discussion ensued about it being haunted. It was also remembered that there was a citizen that was vocal during some earlier public meetings in favor of the District, but her name could not be recalled.

Paul then asked whether the State and National Districting would impact the properties within the boundary in terms of being able to make changes. Neil and Stefan said that the State does not tend to get involved in these matters, with the exception of tearing a building down, perhaps. It is a local designation that has a review process. Conversation turned to the Town of Ulster and their solar farm, to which Neil asked the Commission about its involvement with the solar farm in the Asbury Hamlet. Stefan answered that the Commission concluded that the farm would negatively impact the scenic qualities of an historically-rich area, and the State agreed with this

assessment. Paul cited Clay Trumpbour's impressive presentation to the Town Planning Board. Neil then emphasized that any buildings within the district would be eligible for state and national register tax credit projects.

Susan asked about the budgeting of the matter - (the presumed course of action was that the Commission would pay for the initial retention of Larson & Fisher (\$1,500.), and seek a grant to pay for the second leg of the contracted work (\$6,000.00)) - How would the second part be paid for if there was no grant. Stefan answered that it would come out of the Commission's budget. Neil suggested seeking matching grants from CLG or the Preservation League of NY. Stefan asked about the process. First was a question about the possibility that the Town might be planning to use their allotment of grant applications for other purposes. Neil thought that it was likely that the Town would not be seeking Historic Preservation grants (likely NYS Archive grants). Stefan asked about CLG grants timelines. Neil offered that the Preservation League of New York has a deadline of March for their grants. CLG has more of a rolling application timeline. Neil will move promptly in light of these grants. Susan asked Neil if he applies for these grants. He said that it's something for the Commission to do, but he'll be able to provide project description language for the application. He's been involved in applying for grants in the past, but he hasn't seen a CLG application in a while. He said he'd see what the steps and the Commission can take it from there.

*With no further questions, Stefan made a motion to accept Neil's proposal and fund him for the first phase, with the second phase conditional on the acceptance, by the State, of the first phase. Susan seconded this motion. **The motion passed, 5-0, none opposed.***

[The Commission thanked Neil, and vice versa, and Neil exited]

4) Kevin Pendergast NYS Blue & Gold Sign Request re Col Roger Donlon Propose Signs for Other Places/People: Saugerties American Legion Centennial, Augusta Savage..: Having cornered Stefan at Price Chopper with an idea, Kevin Pendergast was invited to the meeting to present an idea. He is a member of the American Legion, and is inquiring as to how to go about getting a historical marker noting the birthplace of Col. Roger Donlon. Stefan told a story about seeing a sign in Catskill noting the birthplace of George Decker, and he imagined it was certainly a possibility that the birthplace of Congressional Medal of Honor Recipient Roger Donlon be issued a marker as well.

It was pointed out that the location, being 2 Main St., Saugerties, NY 12477, is in the Village, and may not be a Town matter. The American Legion, located on John St., is also in the Village. Paul asked if Roger had given permission. Kevin said that he had not, but would be sure to run it by the family and doesn't expect there to be problems. It was agreed that this was a great idea.

It was suggested that Jonathan Shapiro of the Village Historic Review Board, or possibly Dave Minch or Mike Fanelli could help and should be reached. Kevin then asked if the Commission had ever been involved putting up a sign before - Audrey said that they had worked on Harrick's Bridge, but through the Department of Transportation, and not the William G. Pomeroy Foundation.

Stefan did some research and found that one can nominate a marker for a living person. The Pomeroy foundation typically funds 50% of costs to get a new marker, and they accept multiple proposals. The grant deadline for the Pomeroy Foundation is in August. The Pomeroy Foundation generally deals with a company in Ohio that constructs the sign, and the price is typically the best, but at the time, unknown. Another company, called Catskill Casting, sells them for \$1,200.00.

Stefan, based on his conversation with Kevin, thought there were some sites in the Town that deserved some markers, and asked the Commission if they had any ideas. He suggested Augusta Savage's house, Woodstock '94 site and Snyder Farm. He asked the commission to come up with ideas, because Pomeroy Foundation didn't really seem to have a limit.

Kevin then gave an update on the Donlon Family, who is living in Kansas. They'd recently attended an NFL AFC Championship Game with NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell, and they'd called Kevin while they were sitting in the Commissioner's Box. Their health is good, and they are headed to Bangor, Maine for a "Reach Across America," event that he will be honored in. He asked that if anyone from Saugerties was interested in joining him, he would be happy to have them.

[Kevin Exited]

Susan is reminded about Harrick's Bridge, and asks about the mess with boats near this location. Was there ever a resolution? Peigi and Paul believed it was a zoning issue, being that there was nothing that could be done.

Alba asked if there was a community of African-Americans living near the river. Audrey said that it was Porterville - a settlement just south of Catskill. She thought that might be an important aspect to include in a Ramble event. It's believed it might just be an empty lot. Audrey mentioned that some of the signs were going to Benson Steel, and a woman was repainting them. Following this arrangement, a sign went in, but never came back. It was painted, but when it was ready to be put back together, the pole could not be found. The location is near West Park near an underpass. The sign was about Ulster County and Saugerties. Stefan mentioned that Catskill Casting makes poles - they are \$114 for the pole, and \$120 to deliver the pole.

Feeling the crunch of time, Stefan moved to

OLD BUSINESS

1) Stone House Ramble Event/2020 Grant Application Due February/ Rosh Hashanah - September 19, 2020
conflict: Audrey is going to send a description of events to Stefan, and then coordinate with Jeremy. Stefan thinks it would be great to be on the Greenways radar.

3) 2020 Grant Application for HPC Storage Space/Status of Town Hall: Susan mentioned that in her talks with Vernon Benjamin (Special Projects Coordinator), there will not be a grant application written for storage space in the second-floor space in the Town Hall. Stefan visited the area before the meeting, and noticed that there were empty boxes throughout. He opined there being enough room to store the archives as it currently appears. He will try and meet with the Supervisor, Fred Costello, to inform him the Commission would be placing things there. Audrey warned that the Commission's material should be clearly labeled, also specifying that nothing should be thrown out.

Susan asked about Barry's materials. Jeremy said that he had them. Susan asked where it would be going. Jeremy wasn't sure, and just assumed that there would be one space for everything. He asked if there was room upstairs, who had access, and if people go up there. The answers came from all corners - it's believed that there's room, and some Commissioners have just gone up to the room. It was mentioned that it's general storage for many departments, and any employee can plausibly go in there. Paul mentioned there being equipment from the Parks Department; Jeremy asked if it was gas-powered equipment, Paul believed there probably was.

Jeremy had spoken to Vernon earlier, and started to rehash his conversation. The grant application had been released within a few days of the meeting. Those working on the grant are just reading the guidelines for the application. Jeremy's understanding was that the plan for this grant would only be able to cover the archiving of the material, and that they look forward to creating space in future years, after the archiving is done.

Peigi offered her interpretation of the state's statement: The material in the space had not been deaccessioned, and to create more space, it needs to be. Since the grant awards up to \$75,000, Alba wondered why both aspects of the

project, deaccessioning and creating archival space, couldn't be attained with one grant. Stefan offered to do it for \$69,500.00. Susan asked Paul to clarify further this issue.

4) Other Old Business: Stefan informed everyone of the Preservation League of New York's March Conference - it is required for the Commission to send a representative to the Conference, and so he asked for volunteers. There would be a voucher authorized for hotel, gas, and meals. The Conference offered scholarships for attendants, and thought that anyone interested should apply. Susan thought some of the younger members should go. After confirming that he qualifies as a representative, Jeremy offered to go. Paul mentioned there's a specific mileage reimbursement.

*Susan made a motion to allow Jeremy and any other interested members to attend the 2020 New York Statewide Preservation Conference, covering the costs of the hotel, gas, and a per diem meal reimbursement. **The motion passed, 5-0, none opposed.***

Before Stefan left, Peigi asked if the Commission should invite Kathleen Gray (a grant writer for the Town) to the next meeting.

[Stefan exits, Susan becomes Acting Chair, Jason Steps in as 5th Commissioner]

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

1) Town Historian's Report: A person selling their property asked Audrey on the history of the building. She found an old mention in a newspaper, and the person was very happy. Another man researching sculptor Thomas Penning called, and Audrey showed him the Quarryville Church. Audrey then mentioned the continuing work on the Historic Ramble. She has many volunteers lined up. The Commission wished Audrey a Happy Birthday.

Transitioning back to

OLD BUSINESS

2) Snyder House and Winston Farm update/Notify Building Department: Susan asked whether the Building Department had clarified whether Snyder Farm was designated locally, or state and federally. Audrey believed it was only a local designation. Peigi believes that Kenny's deed may grant the ability to subdivide, but is not sure. She also mentioned that there's a hole in the stone house roof.

Ultimately, the status of the Winston Farm and Snyder Farm designations were up in the air. Jeremy realized that there is no way for homeowners to easily find out if their property is registered or not, and began trying to build a list. He also, found, however, that the list seems to be comprised of designations that might be incorrect, so further investigation was needed. Jeremy read the list that was provided by the Building Department. Peigi believed that she had seen a designation within the Minutes of the Town. It was then postulated that the Winston Farm designation was rejected by the Town, but not in the formal manner necessary, and thus became a locally designated site. Jeremy would try to confirm this. Susan recommending everyone finding as much information as possible and getting it published so that potential buyers could have the information.

Back to

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

2) Town Board Liaison's Report: Paul didn't really have much to add, and said he would try to get as much information as possible. Jeremy brought up the reception of gifts, asking if it might be easier to create a resolution defining everything. Paul suggested creating an official inquiry to the Town, so as to further engage a conversation

in the development of space for the Town Board. Audrey added that gifts that people bring to the Town Hall are taken to the Town Historical Society. Paul suggested also seeking clarification on where past gifts are, and what the records are.

Susan made a motion, and it was seconded by Peigi, to draft an official inquiry to the Town Board. Jeremy interrupted and asked if it might be better, as the Commission, to establish the Guidelines for gifts. Alba pointed out that this alone would not clarify the space situation. Susan rescinded her motion.

*Susan then made a motion, seconded by Peigi, to have the Commission create Guidelines for accepting gifts on Behalf of the Town, to be approved by Stefan, Chair of the Commission. **The motion was passed, 5-0, with none opposed.***

3) Other Announcements: Jeremy researched and found that “HistoricHouseTour.com” will expire on March 21, 2020, and is registered through “GoDaddy.com,” which is a company that Jeremy finds difficult to deal with. He recommended switching domains to something more specific. It is ok to do this because Michael Sullivan Smith has retained all the material with his own servers.

*Susan made a motion, seconded by Ken, to authorize Jeremy to make decisions regarding the purchasing of a domain name and server space for the development of an HPC website. **The motion was passed, 5-0, with none opposed.***

After a meeting that Susan exclaimed was very productive, it was believed that there was no further business to discuss.

Susan made a motion, seconded by Peigi, to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:52 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jeremy Russell

Secretary of the Town of Saugerties Historic Preservation Commission

TOWN OF SAUGERTIES

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION



Regular Meeting, January 27, 2020 at 5 pm Agenda

Call to Order

Approval of December 15, 2019 Meeting Minutes

Welcome to our guests

New Business:

1. Nominate Peigi Mulligan and Ken Myer, Terms expire March 31,2020
2. Town Board Liaison(s) 2020
3. Asbury District Larson Proposal
4. Kevin Pendergast NYS Blue & Gold Sign Request re Col Roger Donlon
Propose Signs for Other Places/People: Saugerties American Legion
Centennial, Augusta Savage
5. NYS Archive Webinair / Grants
6. Other New Business

Old Business:

1. Stone House Ramble Event/2020 Grant Application due February
Rosh Hashana – September 19,2020, conflict
2. Snyder House & Winston Farm Update/ Notify Building Department
3. 2020 Grant application for HPC storage space/status of in Town Hall
4. Other Old Business

Miscellaneous Business

Town Historian's report

Town Board Liaison's report

Other announcements

Next meeting scheduled for February 24, 2020*

Adjournment

PROPOSAL FOR PREPARING NOMINATIONS FOR STATE/NATIONAL & LOCAL HISTORIC DISTRICT IN ASHBURY, TOWN OF SAUGERTIES

17 December 1019

Having reviewed the preliminary materials provided by the Town of Saugerties Historic Preservation Commission, LFA proposes the following scope of services to prepare a National Register Nomination Form for a historic district in the hamlet of Ashbury that can also be used as documentation for a local historic designation.

While it was understood by the Commission that materials regarding the historic district were submitted to the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) and a favorable response was received, current staff there has no record of any eligibility determination opinion having been made. That being the case, we propose to approach this project in two stages, the first making an application to the SHPO for nominating a historic district and, if successful, the second would be to prepare a nomination form and following it through both state/national and local designation processes.

Stage 1: Applying for and obtaining a determination of eligibility from SHPO.

- Review existing materials prepared by the Commission on the Ashbury Historic District
- Review proposed boundaries and propose amendments if needed
- Prepare an application for SHPO with a description of the district, a property list, historical overview, significance statement, boundary map, figures and photographs
- Review application with the Commission and revise if necessary
- Submit application to SHPO and schedule site visit
- Respond to SHPO comments

Stage 2: Prepare documents for State/National Register nomination & local designation

- Enter property data into states Cultural Resource Information System (CRIS)
- Draft National Register Nomination Form and assemble supporting documentation
- Review document with Commission
- Submit nomination form to SHPO and schedule review process

- Respond to SHPO comments
- Participate in public presentation
- Follow nomination through state review process
- Develop proposal for local designation with Commission
- Participate in public presentations
- Revise documentation if needed

We propose a fee of \$1500 for the initial eligibility determination stage and \$6000 to prepare materials for the two designations. If the outlined scope of work and costs are acceptable to the Commission, we would be able to begin work on the first stage in early 2020 and secure an opinion from the SHPO expeditiously. With a favorable response, we could develop the necessary materials for a National Register Nomination Form over the next 4-6 months aiming for its presentation to the State Review Board before the end of the year. We could work with the Commission in obtaining a local historic district designation while the state review process runs its course.

Since the Town of Saugerties is a Certified Local Government, we recommend that the Commission seek a matching grant to fund the second stage of this proposal once the district's eligibility is formalized. We believe that this is an inquiry for the Commission to make, rather than LFA, although we can help with the application and this proposal providing the scope of work.

Please indicate your agreement to this proposal by returning a copy with a signature

below. Yours truly,



Neil Larson
President

I accept the scope of services and costs specified above.

For the Saugerties Historic Preservation Commission

Date