



**TOWN OF SAUGERTIES  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION  
MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 18th, 2019 MEETING**

**Present:** Commission Chair Stefan Yarabek, Vice-Chair Susan Puretz; Commission Members Alba LaFiandra, Peigi Mulligan, Ken Myer, Jr., Commission Alternate Jason Nelson, Town Historian Audrey Klinkenberg, Town Liaison Paul Andreasson, Secretary Jeremy Russell.

**Excused:** Town Board Liaison John Schoonmaker

(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 5:07 pm.

Jeremy handed out agendas and previous minutes once the meeting was called to order.

Susan announced a correction for the agenda - that the December meeting for the Commission is December 16th, and not December 23rd, as stated on the agenda.

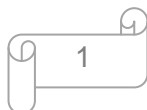
Discussion on acceptance of the October minutes began and some minor corrections were made. However, Peigi mentioned that there was incorrect information provided in the October 2019 meeting. She corrected the record to show that while the meeting with Town Supervisor Fred Costello was positive about having space, there was no letter of confirmation written, and thus the Commission will not, for the time being, be moving items into the 2nd Floor storage space. In Peigi's last conversation with the Supervisor, he'd stated that he'd be meeting with the Town Clerk to figure out where to have space for the Commission.

Stefan and Susan thanked Jeremy for the job on the minutes.

*Susan makes a motion to accept the minutes of October 21, 2019. Alba seconds the motion. Passed by a vote of 5-0, none opposed.*

**OLD BUSINESS**

1) Deed of Gift: Stefan had just received an e-mail from Town Attorney John Greco.



[Jason arrives - 5:16 pm]

The Town Attorney believes that it had been decided that these types of gifts are to go to the Town of Saugerties and not the Historic Preservation Commission. “I believe the Town needs to control the acceptance, handling, and disposition of donations perhaps on recommendations from the Commission and with the Commission’s assistance.”

Susan and Alba ask what the difference between the “Town” and the Commission is. Paul interpreted the e-mail as to say the Town Board is the body to accept gifts. He suggested that the Building Department or the Zoning Department take the lead on many projects as an arm of the Town, and that he sees the Commission as no different. Susan asked if Paul could contact the Association of Towns to clarify whether the Town or the HPC should be the recipient of donations. Paul will contact them the next day.

The Town Attorney also suggested that some language on an all-purpose form may lead to problems in people making claims for returns of donated gifts, but Susan believed that she had sent an earlier copy of the form, and this problem had already been corrected.

Peigi asked if anyone had contacted the State in regards to Certified Local Governments for advice on gifts. Jeremy mentioned he was supposed to but was unsure of what information he was supposed to get up until that point. Jeremy will get in touch with Julian Adams. Stefan will speak to the Supervisor and Town Clerk concerning space for donated gifts, and an inquiry on the Deed of Gifts.

Peigi expressed concern that employees of the Town may mix up who “owns” and who “curates” materials, and that it may confuse what happens to material in the future. Something definitive has to be established.

Susan asks the Commission to make a motion authorizing her and Peggy to meet with Marti Randall as soon as possible, because sadly, her health has declined. The deed will be changed to say that the Town Board will accept any gift on behalf of the Historic Preservation Commission.

3) Update on Storage Space in Town Hall: Stefan will meet the Town Supervisor and Town Clerk to discuss space. Jeremy spoke to Kathleen Gray, and they are also meeting with the Town Supervisor in the future to discuss space needs and grant information. Kathleen needed from the HPC an amount of storage space for the grant application, in either cubic feet or numbers of bank boxes. Everyone started informally/mentally counting materials: Jeremy would need 3 boxes for Barry’s material, a box for Michael’s material thus far, a box for material Jeremy has generated, Stefan needs about 12 boxes for Myles’s material, Susan needs about 4 boxes for Marti’s material. Stefan will talk to Kathleen. The final estimate was about 25 bank boxes and a flat file.

Peigi asked if the Town Historian should be asking for or is required to have space as well, and if it should be separate. She has many boxes. Stefan will try to hammer this out.

4) Memorializing Resolution: Planning for it: The Commission will likely try to coordinate the Stone House Resolution Celebration with the Town Historian’s plans to host a Hudson Valley Ramble event on September 19, 2020.

In terms of the Ramble, Audrey said she hoped to have a table at the Farmer’s Market to hand out material. She expects to soon meet with the Saugerties Chamber of Commerce to fill in the area businesses. Audrey s poke to Patrick Landewe, at the Saugerties Lighthouse, who informed her that September 19th, 2020, will have the

highest tide of the year, and if any visitors do trek to the Lighthouse, to do so before 2 pm. The Pastor at the Katsbaan Church will allow the church to be open for the event.

Stefan asked if there was financial support for any help. He believes that Greenways will support a ramble event financially, and asked whether it'd be prudent to put together an informational package.

Audrey also spoke to Marjorie Block at the Saugerties Historical Society, as well as Tad Richards at Opus 40. It's believed that Opus 40 would likely open for free admission to a public event. Stefan believes a grant from the state or Greenway would help subsidize admission to Opus 40. Stefan wants to create a History Moment event, centered around stone houses, for Saugerties, that creates resources that can be used in the future. He will check on the deadline of the grant and then put together a subcommittee to work on this event.

Peigi asked if plotting stone houses on a map would fall under a grant. Stefan said yes. The Commission may be able to pay a professional to prepare a map. Some of the material that has been created in the past is technical. Jason mentioned he knows a local graphic designer that might be willing to give some time towards a map. Susan has a map of Saugerties stone houses, that Michael Sullivan Smith had created, that had become bleached by the sun. Peigi informed the Commission that Michael would like to add to the map with information from a census of 1855.

Stefan reiterated that he'd find the grant dates, but would not be able to submit a grant. Paul then asked if Audrey could write the grant, or whether the grant has to be submitted by a different entity of the town. Audrey asked in what capacity the Town would receive the money. Stefan suggested that if it's required that Vernon Benjamin, the Town Grants Writer, or another entity has to submit the grant for technical reasons, we should be able to coordinate that.

5) Budget update from Town Liaisons: Paul believed that as of the afternoon of November 18, there was a commitment for \$12,000.00 to the Historic Preservation Commission. Cheering ensued. Audrey mentioned that someone should show up for the public hearing the following Wednesday night. Stefan wants to organize and embark on an Asbury District nomination. Audrey then mentioned that a local citizen has recently scanned a deed for the Comfort-Smith House, in Saugerties. Stefan believes with this budget, if accepted, that Saugerties will have a National Heritage area.

## NEW BUSINESS:

1) Stationery and Contacts: Stefan realized that our current letterhead and information does not allow for the public to actually contact the Commission. Jeremy interrupted to say that he just found out that the Historic Preservation Commission has a mailbox, and asked whether anyone checks it. It was decided that the secretary should check the mail. Paul asked if there is a web presence for the Commission, and feels that people e-mail more than call, nowadays. Jeremy will provide his e-mail address to use as point for the Commission, as Stefan mentioned that e-mails should be documented.

Paul asked for clarification as to whether Stefan said something about the creation of an app for a phone, to be used for the ramble. Stefan confirmed having mentioned this. It was stated that Michael Sullivan Smith had attempted to create this before. The board collectively stated that they would not be able to figure out how to create an app. Peigi proposed working with the High School to develop an app.

Stefan instructed Jeremy to remove the phone numbers from the letterhead. Susan mentioned that Jeremy was going to create a new letterhead. Susan asked Jeremy to check on changes as to the new composition of the Commission on the Town Website with Michael Campbell.

### MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS:

1) Town Historian's Report: Audrey mentioned she hadn't done much that wasn't already mentioned in terms of the ramble. Stefan mentioned that Hudson Valley Greenway is coordinating the entire State of New York's Greenway programs. Stefan had attended a Hudson River Valley film event, and informed us that the valley contains 85% of the biodiversity of the State of New York. Stefan will be sending all information to Audrey.

Paul mentioned that Nina Postupak was soon giving a historical presentation through the Ulster County Chamber of Commerce at the Best Western on November 20th.

Stefan asked if the subscriptions had been paid for the memberships to the two organizations that the Commission regularly renews membership to. Jeremy said he didn't know which organizations they were, but would do that. Jeremy asked if the Commission had a checkbook. The answer is YES, however, it is not Town allocated money but rather funds that were raised as a result of the various House tours that the HPC produced. Those funds are under the direct control of the HPC. Town allocated moneys are controlled by the Town bookkeeper and reimbursement for HPC member outlays are done through vouchers.

Continuing the Historian's report, Audrey reported that the Friends of Historic Saugerties, a group that gives historical presentations at the Saugerties Public Library, will be hosting Audrey to give a Historian's Report at every presentation, moving forward.

Audrey mentioned that Saugerties Public Library has finally uploaded her transcription of the Hassinger scrapbook. It is primarily a collection of newspaper clippings and notes taken during the mid 1800s.

Audrey then announced that she is producing a book about Saugerties based on mentions in the newspapers contained on Hudson River Valley Heritage's website.

Alba asked if Jeremy had received Volume 1 of the survey produced around 2004. He had not and also mentioned that he still needs a summary of action from between 2014-2018.

Peigi announced that a quilt had been made on behalf of a soldier that was killed in Vietnam, Richard Quinn. Peigi and her husband's name are both knitted into this quilt, as a small tribute to the fallen's friends and those that worked on the project.

Jeremy announced he would not be able to attend January's meeting.

*With no further business to discuss, a motion was made by Alba LaFiandra, and seconded by Susan Poretz, to adjourn the meeting.*

The meeting was adjourned at 6:18 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jeremy Russell  
Secretary  
Town of Saugerties Historic Preservation Commission





**TOWN OF SAUGERTIES  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION  
Regular Meeting, November 18, 2019 at 5 pm  
Agenda**

Call to Order

Approval of October 21, 2019 Meeting Minutes

Old Business:

1. Deed of Gift --update about Town's input AND if available, Marti's input
  2. Asbury District
  3. Update on Storage Space in Town Hall (and going forward)
  4. Memorializing Resolution: Planning for it (date/etc)
  5. Budget (update by Town Board liaisons)
- Other Old Business

New Business:

1. Stationary and Contacts
2. Other New Business

Miscellaneous Business

Town Historian's report: Update on "Path Thru History"  
Town Board Liaison's report  
Other announcements

Next meeting scheduled for December 23, 2019

Adjournment

Town Hall, 4 High Street  
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Fred Costello, Town Supervisor  
Town Board Liaisons to the HPC:  
Paul Andreassen  
John Schoonmaker

Stefan Yarabek, Chair  
Susan Puretz, Vice-Chair  
Alba LaFiandra  
Peigi Mulligan  
Ken Myers Jr.  
Jason Nelson (alternate)  
Audrey Klinkenberg, Town Historian, ex officio  
Jeremy Russell (Secretary)

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