



**TOWN OF SAUGERTIES
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 21st, 2020 MEETING**

Present: Commission Chair Stefan Yarabek, Commission Vice-Chair Susan Puretz, Commission Members: Alba LaFiandra, Peigi Mulligan, Commission Alternate Jason Nelson, Town Board Liaison John Schoonmaker, Town Historian Audrey Klinkenberg, Secretary Jeremy Russell.

Excused: Commission Member Ken Myer, Jr.

(Minutes appear in chronological order. Numbering of items refer to the agenda for the meeting, which is attached)

The Commission met virtually, on the platform Zoom (zoom.us), ID #969-987-8583. The meeting was called to order at 5:31 pm.

The Chair opened the meeting by announcing he would play with the order of the items on the agenda slightly due to the proximity of the holidays. He asked the Commission if it was ok to deal with some minor announcements and questions raised first, and there was no dissension amongst the present.

The first matter addressed was that Susan had asked Stefan for an updated report on Neil Larson's work with the Asbury District. Stefan saw this request too late, and said he'd get the report post-meeting. Stefan said he saw no other comments on page 1.

Susan asked what Neil's balance was for the Asbury project. Stefan explained that he had asked Neil to send a balance for the remaining work to use for the budgeting at the end of the fiscal year. Stefan said the local designation was \$1,000.00, and the final report (for National Register) was \$3,500.00. Stefan also asked Neil for a price quote on an inventory of the Malden District. The entire project would cost \$8,000, and, Stefan said that the Town could pay \$5,500 to produce the report, and the Commission could work on the map, or other perifocal items. He said it will be discussed later, during the final budget business item.

Thumbing through the previous month's minutes, Stefan said that we would talk about some questions that were raised during the circulation of drafts of minutes from November. Stefan stopped at page 3, and noted that Marti Randall's daughter, Jen Jablonski, asked to postpone any meetings until after the New Year. Stefan said that John Mullen also asked to postpone any meetings until the New Year. There was one last question about the status of the payment schedule of grants that also, would be addressed later.

MINUTES: There were no further questions or comments on the minutes of November. *Peigi made a motion to approve the minutes, and it was seconded by Susan. Approval passed 5-0, none opposed.*

OLD BUSINESS:

1) Asbury District Update/Neil Larson: Neil had reported to Stefan that they'd made very good progress on the project. The entering of data into the CRIS (Cultural Resource Inventory System) had been taken care of. Susan mentioned that she had spoken to Samantha Dederick (a homeowner in the Asbury District) and said that she was not opposed to the project so long as all the other homeowners were supportive of the project after being contacted. She was particularly concerned about the new owners of the Smith property. Jeremy mentioned that there was some correspondence between the State Historic Preservation Office and himself concerning the applicable funding of the project. Stefan said that he was not worried about it. Jeremy then mentioned that he'd spoken to Julie Dunn, who had said that grants that provide reimbursements are not "returned" to the Commission, but are sent to, and/or associated as a separate grants account. Jeremy thought there might be a miscommunication in that the question he asked didn't elucidate whether the money had already been spent from the Commission's budget.

2) Historical Markers Committee Update: Alba announced she'd received a list from Audrey and a list from Peigi. She continued, saying she has listed each hamlet based on a map of Saugerties, and she's been inventorying the historical markers according to each hamlet, and trying to determine which hamlets have the least recognition. She's identified a number of old school houses and old churches. Some research showed that many of the chapels were built by the Flatbush Church, and many of the chapels have moved around; to Glenerie, Glasco, Centerville, etc.

Alba believes the most significant unrecognized landmark is the Glenerie Falls area that produced white lead paint. The company was called Great Falls Manufacturing Company. Further, she said that a suspension bridge built by Edmund Clarke, the entrepreneur that built the lead paint company, was built before the company had begun production, and is immortalized in a painting that stands in the Museum of Natural History (in actuality, it is in the collection of the New York Historical Society) in New York City. Clarke built the house in 1831, and the company took off in 1833.

Alba, working her way through Mt. Marion and Glasco for potential historic markers, found that the Pleasant Valley Inn was built in the 1800s, which is relative to PVI Hill and PVI Bridge. She said there was still a schoolhouse standing in Flatbush. She said Hendrick Farm, which is now the Greymouse Farm, was historically significant. In Mt. Marion, there is the Plattekill Reformed Church and Parsonage, built in 1830s, and the Mt. Marion Schoolhouse, built in 1849. In Glasco, she recognized Schoentag's, originally named Martin's, had been built in 1825, and is still standing in what appears to be entirely original construction. Near the river in Glasco is an area once called Porterville, which was a shantytown that African-Americans lived in. Nothing stands today, but there are records in numerous censuses. The Icehouse(s) has potential significance, though Alba hadn't been able to nail down dates for those, as of yet.

The discussion turned to the consideration of a ceremony. Alba thought Glenerie Falls did not have much in terms of parking. Peigi mentioned that people would be able to see the sign, but likely not be able to read it. Peigi said she'd like to opt for properties that are still standing in the hopes that people could connect and have access to them.

Jeremy asked if Alba was keeping a spreadsheet or notes of all her research. Alba started naming the current marker sites that don't have properties attached. Stefan mentioned that the placement of a sign often compels other entities to recognize the historical significance of particular land. Peigi mentioned that the initial grouping

of markers, placed in the 1930s and 40s, were more accessible, as the roads were in different locations. Alba said she agreed with Peigi on accessibility points, and asked Audrey if she had any suggestions.

Audrey liked the Brainard House, which she said is made entirely of bluestone. Peigi noted that the area was once named Brainardville. Alba asked which hamlet it is located in, and Peigi said Centerville. Alba then said that Centerville was not listed as a hamlet on the list she worked from. Peigi mentioned living in the hamlet of Daisy, and that not being listed as an official hamlet. Alba said that her list associated it as Shults Corners/Daisy. Peigi said that Veteran was also known as Unionville and Toodlum at other times.

Peigi said despite what she'd said earlier, she would like to see a marker be placed in Porterville, so that Saugerties can recognize black contributions to the community. Stefan agreed. Peigi thought it was a good starting point in documenting black history in the area. Alba thought it would be useful to have Bard, or a similar research entity, come and do archaeological research in Porterville. Audrey thought Bard had done it before near Latham Circle. Stefan thought it might have been SUNY New Paltz. Audrey thought Jeanne Goldberg might know.

Stefan asked for the cost. Jeremy said that a standard marker, from Catskill Castings, was \$1,025, the poles are \$114, and there are shipping costs associated with both. He noted that Dave Corrigan would be providing the pole for the marker once placed at the Ulster/Greene County line, and would find out if the Department of Transportation had more. Audrey asked if the sign would finally go up. Jeremy said the crew was ready and waiting for it. Peigi said that Porterville is so close to the border of Kingston or Ulster, and some history might be located in those records. Alba said that on some old maps, the location of Porterville was often left blank. Audrey mentioned that Steep Rocks was another area close to Kingston Point that may have been another African-American settlement.

3) Map and Ramble, Update: Stefan asked if there was a cost for the Ramble Map. Jeremy had suggested, with Richard Crist, the artist, a \$1,500 retainer of sorts, and for an hourly billing in which Richard would return any amount if the work fell below the hourly rate, and future billing if it went over. A contract had not been drawn at that point. Jeremy also realized that Adobe Photoshop was necessary for the task, and called the Saugerties IT team to inquire into whether any department already had an account. Nick, from MCS Technologies, said nobody had it, at least to his knowledge, and didn't believe anyone requested it. The annual rate for a membership is \$240 annually.

During this phone call, Jeremy also instituted an e-mail address for the historic preservation commission, history@saugertiesny.gov. The IT team was working on getting alias accounts for everyone.

Stefan asked if more money should be earmarked for the production of the map. Jeremy wasn't really sure.

Stefan announced he had a meeting with another entity, and would have to jump around the agenda item order.

6) Cemetery Update: Stefan asked Audrey what the Commission could do for the Trinity Church restoration project. The Barclay gravestones have recently been cleaned. John Stegmeyer, a local leader with the Boy Scouts, will coordinate with the Boy Scouts in helping out with the restoration process in the spring. There will be some resodding. The fencing is in disrepair or missing. Audrey believes the fencing was likely to have been produced at the Ulster Iron Mill. She thinks it needs some fabrication and refurbishing. She'd contacted Benson

Steel about this, but had not heard back. Stephen Schaefer had told her that the Trinity Church would be happy to receive a check to earmark for the Barclay/Cemetery Restoration Project.

Stefan thought the donation was a good idea, and it might help other churches recognize the importance of their properties. He thought the “Beetlejuice” cemetery at St. Mary’s was in dire need of repair and restoration. Audrey reminded him that that was in the Village. Alba thought the Mt. Marion Church and Cemetery had a number of important people buried there. Stefan thought the Village might be able to get involved. Audrey assured the group that the Trinity Cemetery’s southern section is in the Town and the northern section is in the Village.

8) HPC Budget Update (Final Allocation for 2021 & Financial Standing as of today): Stefan began recapping the budget at this point. \$2500 was to be set aside for the historical markers. He said that the foundry, Catskill Castings, could be contacted about the purchase, with the language for the signs to be worked out later. He thought \$2500 should be set aside, and \$1500 for secretarial duties. Stefan had asked whether to allocate the rest of the budget towards Asbury District, Malden District, or if there were any other suggestions.

Peigi asked if anyone had met with Joan Lamb to discuss using the Lamb Center. Stefan had not been able to meet with Joan. He thought there would be money in next year’s budget to pay rent. Jeremy had remarked that accounting for \$4500 for Asbury District, \$1500 for the Ramble Map, \$2500 for the markers, \$130 for the National Alliance of Preservation Commissions, \$100 for the Preservation League of New York, and \$540 for hourly pay for secretarial pay, it would leave \$1936.79 to budget for the Cemetery project. Stefan proposed \$1500 or \$1750 for the Cemetery.

Because money must come out of the budget to pay for things that will be reimbursed through grants, but the money does not go back to the Commission’s budget, Stefan stated he was still unsure as to whether the money should go to the Malden project or the Asbury Project. Peigi said she’d oblige to however Stefan worked it out. Stefan proposed working with Jeremy over the next few days and re-grouping to go over the final numbers. (Final budget is attached).

At this time, Stefan had to tend to other matters, but announced he was very excited for 2021. He wished everyone a Happy Solstice, and suggested we may soon see the Bethlehem Star.

4) Designation Status of Local Landmarks Update: Not discussed.

5) Winston Farm Update: Not discussed.

7) Historic Alliance of Kingston Update: Not discussed.

9) Preservation 2020 Conference Update: Susan asked if anyone had seen any of the videos. Nobody but Susan had had time Jason has been monitoring to see if the Conference videos had been posted, but they had not, at that point.

10) Marti Randall Files: Not discussed.

NEW BUSINESS:

1) Saugerties Comprehensive Plan Update, Re: Better Communication: Susan wasn't sure if Stefan had spoken to anyone associated with the Village. Susan thought that if the Village Commission only discussed signage and paint colors, the meetings would at least be short. Peigi said she hadn't really considered it. Susan said they'd tried to reach out during the last (2018) house tour but weren't very involved. The decision was made to address it later.

2) Susan's NOVEL idea re: The Wynkoop House: Susan had never noticed that there was a for sale sign in front of the Wynkoop House. Alba said it had been there for a while. Susan asked about her idea about using the house as a destination for the Commission and other like-minded tourism-centered entities. Alba thought it wasn't worth addressing until there's a new owner. Susan thought it likely that a new owner would have plans, and thus, likely not be agreeable to finding use.

Jason asked who owned the building. Peigi said Mark Colligan and his wife had owned it. Peigi's memory of the house was that it was lived in until the 1990s, and sat on the market for quite some time. She likened it to being a scenario similar to Clovelea, the William Sheffield property. Someone finally bought the property, and applied to tear it down. The community did not want to see it torn down, and the current owner came along and purchased the property so it wouldn't be torn down. He has not been able to move forward with the property since. Jeremy said that one of the Commission's duties was to help owners apply for grants, and he wondered how much work and money it would take to get the property up to code.

Alba thought it wasn't necessarily the case that a new owner will have a plan with a historic property, pointing to Winston Farm and Clovelea as examples. Jason said that it was a shame the Town didn't own the property, as it makes for the perfect statement piece for our History. He asked how much the asking price was, and Peigi thought it was considerable. Susan remembered someone with plans of building a restaurant at the location. Audrey said that searchiqs.com shows property transactions. Peigi thought that the Town has had opportunities like this in the past, and was not interested. Susan would speak to the owners in the interim. Jeremy mentioned it was a building on the National Register.

3) Audrey Klinkenberg Request for Cemetery Restoration: Discussed as part of budget talks.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS:

1) Town Board Liaison's Report: John said December was a slow month generally, so there wasn't much to report. Alba asked who had been nominated to fill the Town Board seat. John said it was Peg Nau. Audrey and Peigi thought it was a great choice. Jeremy asked for a short biography. John said she was a former tax-collector, and ran the office in a very non-partisan manner. Audrey said she was born and raised here, and the sister of the Fire Chief, or Head of the Fire Department. Susan said she was an excellent baker, and has been involved with LifeSpring. Peigi said she was related to Joe Sinnott, and Audrey said she was a member of the Monday Club.

3) Town Historian's Report (Other than Ramble): Audrey has been transcribing things, but, not much more, aside from the Trinity Restoration Project. She asked Alba if she had ever read Clarke's letter book (referring to the Great Falls Manufacturing Company). Alba said she hadn't and would love to. Alba asks if Clarke ever talks about the Bridge, and Audrey said no. Alba described the geography of the bridge, and of the mansion. Audrey said there were once plans to have an Artist's Colony, similar to Byrdcliffe, in Woodstock. Alba said that the site was about .25 miles from where the Funicular Railroad was built.

2) Secretarial/Financial Report: Had been discussed previously.

With no further business to discuss, Alba made a motion to adjourn, and Peigi seconded. None were opposed. The meeting was adjourned at 7:02 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Jeremy Russell

TOWN OF SAUGERTIES HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

Supervisor - Fred Costello
Town Board Liaison – John Schoonmaker

Contact

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Members

Stefan Yarabek - Chair
Susan Poretz - Vice-Chair
Alba LaFiandra
Ken Myer, Jr.
Peigi Mulligan
Jason Nelson (alternate)
Audrey Klinkenberg -
Town Historian, ex officio

Covid19 Web-Meeting, December 21st, 2020 at 5:30 pm

Agenda

Zoom info: Link – <https://uso2web.zoom.us/j/9699878583>

Room ID: 969-987-8583

Phone Number to call: 646-558-8656 then dial Room ID

Call to Order

Minutes

Old Business:

1. Asbury District: Update/Neil Larson*
2. Historical Markers Committee: Update*
3. Map and Ramble: Update*
4. Designation Status of Local Landmarks: Update
5. Winston Farm: Update
6. Cemetery: Update
7. *Historic Alliance of Kingston*: Update
8. **HPC Budget: Update***

Final allocation for 2020

Financial standing as of today

9. Preservation 2020 Conference: Report on the Conference
10. Marti Randall files

New Business:

1. Saugerties Comprehensive Plan update re: better communication
2. Susan's "NOVEL idea re: The Wynkoop House
3. Audrey Klinkenburg request for cemetery restoration*

Miscellaneous Business:

1. Town Board Liaison's Report
2. Secretarial/Financial Report
3. Town Historian's Report (Other than Ramble)

Next meeting scheduled for January 18, 2021 at 5:30

+ **Dr King Day**, since we are zoom shall we proceed or move to traditional following Monday, January 25

Adjournment

TOWN OF SAUGERTIES HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

Supervisor - Fred Costello
Town Board Liaison – John Schoonmaker

Contact

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Financial Report 2020

Beginning Budget - \$15,000.00

2-24-20: Voucher for Secretary Pay and Conference Costs - \$940.74

Remaining budget = \$14,059.26

3-10-20: Voucher for Neil Larson, Asbury Nomination Project - \$1,500.00

Remaining budget = \$12,559.26

5-1-20: Jeremy Russell & Ken Meyer Jr. returned conference booking funds + \$592.73

Remaining budget = \$13,151.99

6-5-20: Voucher for 2 bundles of paper and 1 notebook - \$12.77

6-5-20: Voucher for 3 acid-free flat file boxes, Hollinger Metal Edge (online) - \$66.91

6-5-20: Voucher for Secretarial work, February through Beginning June - \$322.50

Remaining budget = \$12,749.81

11-15-20: Voucher for Neil Larson, Asbury Nomination Project (Phase #2) - \$1,500.00

Remaining budget = \$11,249.81

12-27-20: Voucher for Catskill Castings, Historical Markers - \$2,110.00

12-27-20: Voucher for Neil Larson, Malden District Survey Project - \$5,000.00

12-27-20: Voucher for Richard Crist, Ramble Map Project - \$1,500.00

12-27-20: Voucher for Trinity Episcopal Church, Restoration Project - \$1,500.00

12-27-20: Voucher for Secretary Pay, Book of Stamps, Box of Envelopes, (2) Enlarged Blueprints of Map of Saugerties, Membership to National Alliance of Preservation Commissions, Donation to NYS Preservation League, Photoshop membership to January 27, 2020 - \$865.69

FINAL: +274.12