

## MINUTES

The regular meeting of the Historic Preservation Commission of the Town of Saugerties was held on ~~4~~<sup>11</sup> August 2008.

**Present:** Barry Benepe; Josh Randall; Susan Puretz; Myles Putman; Michael Sullivan Smith; Leeanne Thornton and Kate Kane, Secretary.

**Additional Attendees:** Audrey Klinkenberg

Barry opened the meeting at 7:08 p.m.

1. **Minutes of June 23, 2008:** Following review and discussion which included the request from Susan to add all changes in text to the Historic Preservation Ordinance discussed at the 23 June meeting to the minutes, Josh made a motion to accept the minutes per the changes mentioned. Michael seconded. Josh: aye; Susan: aye; Barry: aye, Myles: aye. Motion passed.

2. **Introduction of Audrey Klinkenberg:** Barry introduced Audrey Klinkenberg to the Commission members. He said that Audrey is a genealogist who has surveyed many cemeteries in the area and is currently working as the ~~Village~~<sup>Bwn</sup> of Saugerties' historian. Audrey explained that some of her other projects included copying a diary from the 1930s of a well-known Saugertiesian in addition to other historic documents. She mentioned other projects that she would like to work on: a review of the Kingston Commons Council deeds; working with old stone houses and cemeteries to mark with GPS coordinates; and compiling a list of all graduates of Saugerties High School since its inception (from about 1905 onward.) Michael said that he had been working on the Kingston Commons project and had GPS data for many stone houses from the Commission's survey work. Barry said that that data was somewhat limited, though, since the Commission had rated houses for the survey and only had GPS coordinates for the highest rated houses. <sup>named?</sup>

Barry said that Audrey's local knowledge would be helpful when reviewing properties for designations, such as the Cockburn house ~~currently listed on the market.~~

3. **Stone House Tour Event:** Susan asked Commission members to review and discuss the questions that she had sent to them regarding the potential stone houses tour. She said that she would like to move forward with developing the tour and send out notifications pending members' approval. Barry asked if there was a target date for the tour. Susan said that a target date needed to be chosen and that fundraising strategies were also needed. Michael said that the Commission would not be allowed to raise money for an event that it was hosting – that the Commission could use only its Town-allotted budget for its activities. Barry said that the Commission could seek a partner such as the ~~Village Historic Preservation Society~~<sup>Saugerties</sup> to co-host the event. He said that a partner organization such as the Village could be asked to assume some of the costs up-front (such

as costs associated with printing tour brochures) and then monies raised from the event could be turned over to them.

Josh offered to cover the costs of printing brochures if he could list his business on them. Myles said that the Saugerties Artists Tour was free <sup>incl</sup> but very successful. Barry said that he felt that tickets were needed to determine how many people would be attending and to develop traffic flow strategies for the event.

Commission members then debated the merits of using busses to take people through the tour route versus having individuals drive their own cars to each location. Barry said that the next step would be to contact UCAT to develop a budget to determine costs that could then be used to solicit underwriters or sponsors. Commission members agreed that the Dutch barn at the Kiersted House in the Village of Saugerties would be a good fund-raising project for the tour.

Barry asked if Susan thought this would be an event which would be held during the Quadricentennial activities. Susan said yes – the tour would be held in 2009.

Following review and discussion, Commission members voted to approve the draft version of the letter that would be sent to the owners of stone houses. Barry: aye, Josh: aye, Michael: aye, Susan: aye, Myles: abstain. Motion passed. Leeanne said that it could then be given to the Town Clerk's office to be printed on letterhead and sent out.

**4. Self-Guided Stone House Tour:** Susan asked Commission members to review the spreadsheet that she had created ranking stone houses in the town based on their visibility from the road. She added that there were some houses that she had not visited, to-date and that she hadn't listed houses located in the village because she was assuming that they were visible. Michael said that that wasn't always the case – as in the Mynderse house. Susan distributed brochures from the other self-guided tours including the Artists' Tour, Bicycle Tour and Map & Travel Guide. Barry said that a narrative was needed to every house and building and that text could be used from the 2005 survey that the Commission had printed. He added that a photograph of the building or house was also needed for a self-guided brochure so that people could know what they are looking for. Barry said that a great deal of work was needed in terms of graphics and layout to assemble such a brochure. Leeanne said that there might be money available from the Town's Economic Development Commission or Congressman Hinchey's office to develop the brochure.

Barry said that a narrative of the brochure-development process was needed for the next meeting and that winnowing the list down to 20 or 25 homes might help to limit costs associated with printing a brochure. Susan asked if Commission members should attend an Economic Development Committee meeting to request funds for the brochure. Michael said that it would be better to wait until

next year to request funds and that the Commission should request publishing funds in its own budget for 2009.

**5. Road Designations:** Barry asked Myles if he had contacted people in the Town of Hunter regarding Platte Clove Road. Myles said that he had, via his work with SAMA (Saugerties Area Mobility Analysis). Myles said that he had spoken with Dave Gilmore and Jim Plank. Susan added that she had spoken with John Farall of the Town Highway Department regarding the road. Myles, Michael and Josh indicated that they would like to go with her when she meets with John. Susan said that she would follow-up and make an appointment with John or someone else from the town to discuss the road.

Barry said that he heard a story from Dorothy Carlson, the granddaughter of Clark Van Vlierden that area residents used to avoid the toll road by using the East-West Road and that that was how the road came to be called the Nigger Road – that people who used it were being niggardly by avoiding the toll.

*Michael*  
Myles said that he learned that the NYS Museum was digitizing a survey map from 1903 which shows all of the quarry sites in Saugerties.

Michael said that he found lots of inconsistencies in the old maps. Barry asked if designating a road was a real problem due to the inaccuracies. He said that for now the Commission should stick with the strip that they have been looking at and that the changes to the ordinance should go before the Town Board so that the Commission can proceed with historic roads designation.

**6. Summary of Commissions Actions:** Barry asked Michael if he had finished creating a list summarizing the actions of the Commission during the last five years. Michael said that he didn't have the list finished.

**7. Other Old Business:** Barry asked if there was any other old business to discuss. Leanne said that the Town's attorney had still not returned to letter stating the changes to the ordinance that would need to be made in order to qualify for Certified Local Government (CLG) status.

**8. New Business:** Myles asked Commission members if they had any comments regarding the maps that he made of area roads. Barry said that he needed to clarify the source of the original maps that were used to create the composite.

Susan said that she had been invited by the Blue <sup>K</sup>Cats to speak at their most recent meeting about the Historic Preservation Commission and the projects that the Commission is working on. She added that there was an article in the Daily Freeman about heritage preservation.

Josh made a motion to adjourn. Myles seconded. All unanimous. Meeting adjourned at 8:57 pm.

The next Commission meeting will be held at 7 o'clock in the Town of Saugerties' Building Department Conference Room Monday, August 11, 2008.

Kate Kane