

Town of Saugerties, NY: Historic Preservation Commission

Meeting Minutes: August 25, 2008

Revised September 15, 2008

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In Attendance: Board Members: Chairman Barry Benepe, Members Susan Puretz, Josh Randall, Michael Smith, and Myles Putman.

Also In Attendance: Town Councilwoman and Liason LEEANNE Thornton; Town Historian Audrey Klinkenberg

Guests: Bayley Silleck

Excused: Kate Kane, Secretary.

Meeting Location: Conference Room, Saugerties Town Hall.

Barry called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Acting Secretary. Kate was unable to attend tonight's meeting. Myles volunteered to serve as recording secretary.

Communications and Documents. Copies of the following were distributed to all present:

1. Stone House Tour letter and other documents (updated) from Susan
2. SBL Data Sheet (Blue Mountain Church) from Josh
3. Town Attorney's correspondence re: Historic Preservation Law amendments; from LEEANNE; and
4. Copies of Saugerties quarry maps (on USGS 15 minute maps) from Mike
5. Barry noted correspondence from Corrine, asking to confirm our meeting dates. Commission meetings take place on the third Monday of the month.

Minutes of August 4, 2008 Meeting. Commission members discussed the following corrections to the minutes:

1. Page 1, Item 2, last para.: The house cited here is not on the market.
2. Page 1, Item 3: The citation of "Village Historic Preservation Society" should be changed to "Saugerties Historical Society".
3. Page 2, Item 4, first para.: Discussion of use of "ranking" versus "rating"; no changes, keep as is.
4. Page 3, Item 5, third para.: Change "Myles" to "Michael".
5. Page 3, Item 8, second para.: BlueKats - is spelled with a "K", not a "C" as printed.
6. *Motion by Josh Randall, seconded by Susan Puretz, to approve the minutes of the August 4, 2008 Historic Preservation Commission meeting, as amended; approved unanimously.*

OLD BUSINESS.

Amendments to Historic Preservation Local Law. Correspondence from Attorney John Greco reviewed. LEEANNE stated that a public hearing would be scheduled at the next Town Board meeting, most likely for the first week in October.

CLG Status. Still pending.

Stone House Tour.

1. Susan presented her revised form letter to the homeowners, updated as per the Commission's recommendations. The revised letter is dated 8/25/2008.
2. *Motion by Josh Randall, seconded by Myles Putman, to adopt the letter to be written to the owners of stone houses in the Town, as per the version dated August 25, 2008; approved unanimously.*
3. Discussion over Tour pamphlets and guides. LEEANNE directed Susan to work with the Town's grant writing consultant. Costs discussed. The 2008 Saugerties Art Tour produced 2500 pamphlets for \$1800.00. LEEANNE also spoke with Nancy Campbell, and her husband Mike may be able to do some work in-house. Discussion over production steps and costs. Discussion over base maps. Mike can supply a

Town map made from a composite of the 15 minute USGS quadrangles dating from around of the late 1800's to early 1900's.

4. Leeanne noted that with CLG status we could have greater access to grants. Barry recommended that the Commission consider this project in determining its 2009 budget.

Report of Commission's Actions. Summary report. Draft prepared by Mike, copies distributed. Josh noted that the first actions of the Commission were 2 designations only (Opus 40, Wynkoop House). Josh also asked that the report include the most recent designations (e.g., Anchorage Farm). Barry asked that the Commission members take this report home and review it for the September meeting.

Historic Preservation Commission ID Tags. These will have the member's term expiration date included on them.

Kodis (Eligh House). Discussion of pros and cons of Town ownership (if offered). Would Saugerties Historical Society be interested in acquiring? Susan will continue to develop and research ideas for a possible receiver.

Meeting with Bernie Ellsworth. Josh noted that a meeting has yet to be arranged. Bernie is awaiting some revised data and maps from NYSDOT. On a related note, Susan Poretz said she would be in touch with Hunter Town Highway Superintendent John Farrell after September 9.

NEW BUSINESS.

Blue Mountain Historic District.

1. Bayley Silleck was present to discuss the idea of creating a historic district at Blue Mountain, centered on the Reformed Church and old school house properties (8.003-6-11.1 & 8.003-6-11.2). Discussion over size of district, number of parcels to be included. Several 19th century dwellings in area; cited in 2005 Historic Resources Survey. Focus on Blue Mountain Road between Church and West Saugerties Road; also along Blue Mountain Church Road.
2. Commission requested information about, and photos of, the properties of interest. Bayley was asked to speak to his neighbors about idea of a district.

2009 Budget.

1. There was discussion over the amount to be paid to the Commission's Secretary. The Secretary is paid \$10.00/hour for roughly 5 to 6 hours per month, this amounts to 60 to 72 hours per year. Additional information should be gathered from Gary Newkirk on the costs of our hearing notices and other public notices. There are also costs for programming, publishing and general in house office costs (photocopying, etc.)
2. Barry suggested that the Commission request \$8000.00 for next year's budget. Josh felt this was too low and urged this be \$20,000.00. Leeanne said the proposed budget figures should be submitted to Gary Newkirk by September 15.

Historic Resources Survey Map. Barry handed out copies of the map Jeremy Kane has compiled.

Saugerties Public Library, National Register Designation (Village) - Letter of Support. This Carnegie Library in the Village has been determined by SHPO to be eligible for listing on the NY State and National Registers of Historic Places. Some background history is needed. Audrey will ask Janet Carter, a Library Trustee. Barry asked for information to be e-mailed to him, and he offered to write a letter in support of this designation, as the library serves both Town and Village residents alike.

Motion by Josh Randall, seconded by Susan Poretz, to direct Town Historic Preservation Commission Chairman Barry Benape to draft a letter to the New York State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), on behalf of the

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Commission, in support of the Saugerties Public Library being placed on both the New York State Register of Historic Places and the National Registers of Historic Places; approved unanimously.

Quarry Map. Mike presented downloaded copies of quarry maps of the Town and surrounding areas, compiled around the turn of the last century. The original is now on the bluestone-ny.wikispaces.com site. The maps were located by Dave Kaminisky of Nyack. Three maps, each at a different scale, were submitted.

Miscellaneous Business.

Leeanne noted that the CAC will be hosting a presentation by consultant Melissa Barry on the Town's Open Space Plan on September 22.

Adjournment.

Motion by Josh Randall, seconded by Mike Smith, to adjourn the meeting. Meeting closed at 9:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Myles Putman
Acting Secretary