

Town of Saugerties

Historic Preservation Commission
Minutes

18 May 2015

Present: Barry Benepe, Chair; Michael Sullivan Smith, Susan Puretz, Stephen Shafer, Stefan Yarabek.

Bill Schirmer, Liaison to Town Board

Audrey Klinkenberg, Secretary, Town Historian.

Guests: Mary Alice Lindquist, Ken Lindquist.

The meeting was called to order by the chairman at 7:10.

1. Minutes of April 27, 2015.

It was moved by Stephen Shafer and seconded by Susan that the minutes of the April 27, 2015 meeting be accepted as submitted. Barry, aye; Michael, aye; Susan, aye; Stephen, aye; Stefan, aye. Unanimous.

2. Proposed Cell Tower impact on historic resources. Presentation by Mary Alice Lindquist.

Mrs. Lindquist spoke and gave the Commission a 2 page document about the proposed Verizon Cell Phone Tower and its impact on the view shed of School House Road with its many historic structures. She stressed that the Tower is not allowed by the Zoning Laws of the town and as such, Verizon would need to have a variance -- which would involve a public hearing. She pointed out that the School House Road area has many older historic houses that relates to the historic fabric of Saugerties. Stefan stated that the Historic Preservation Commission could state that the area qualifies as a historic district and supports maintaining the view shed of the area. Michael stated that it would be possible to make the tower less visible thereby accomplishing two goals -- protection of the view shed and improving cell coverage for the area.

Susan proposed the following motion:

Whereas: The Verizon's proposed School House Road cell tower would impact the historic view shed; and

Whereas it seems that there are other sites which would meet Verizon's objectives and would not impact the historic view shed; and

Whereas School House Road is considered by the Historic Preservation Commission as having a unique collection of structures dating back to the 1700's.

Therefore now be it resolved: That the Historic Preservation Commission recommends against the siting of the Verizon tower as currently proposed and recommends for relocation further to the west of the hill and closer to the Central Hudson Line.

Barry, aye; Michael, aye; Susan, aye; Stephen, aye; Stefan, aye. Unanimous.

3. Historic House Tour Event. Susan reported that the committee had a meeting, and a summary of that meeting had been emailed to members of the Commission. Their next meeting is June 6. It was decided by the committee to send the invitations earlier, i. e., mid June, in order to determine how many persons might attend. There will be two speakers Frances Gubler and Audrey Klinkenberg, and the time is from 3-5 pm on October 17, 2015.

4. Elements to be included in proposed History Map. Barry asked that the Commission be in agreement to go ahead with the history map. Michael brought an example of a base history map which he distributed. Stephen suggested the burying grounds be added to a map, other suggestions include quarries, churches, schools, stone houses, fire houses, railroads, bridges, dams, docks, ice houses, brick yards, etc. Stephen suggested that Michael be reimbursed for work on such a map. Bill said that the town ordinance should be consulted to determine whether a member can be reimbursed. Suggestions included that the 1875 roads should be shown in black with newer roads overlaid in another color, and that the 1901 map of roads should also be used. Later roads, such as the Thruway, should also be added. Michael pointed out that the hamlets on the map are from the 1875 election districts.

5. Properties to be considered for designation in 2015. For more information, see the April 27, 2015 meeting minutes. Additionally, Barry would like to have a meeting with Supervisor Helsmoortel to discuss the Winston Farm. Two members are willing to attend such a meeting. Michael suggested that the Commission recommend that the mansion on the property be designated and perhaps the cottage. On another issue, Barry would like to look at the foundations found on the property projected for the Hotel as a result of a paper describing said foundation that he had recently seen.

6. Update on the Hotel on Route 32. It was pointed out that there are gateway requirements that must be considered; however, the planning board looks at flat maps, so that elevations are not reviewed. Susan asked whether the Planning Board and the Zoning Board of Appeals has a copy of our Guidelines. Stephen said that Town Hall had received a copy as well as the Village Hall.

7. Other Old Business. Susan would like the Commission to move forward to update the Survey. Michael suggests that the project be jointly submitted with the Village. Discussion ensued.... Barry stated that the contract has to be signed by each governmental entity. Other members suggested that there should be no difficulty in both entities seeking a grant together.

Barry brought up the question of whether there is a necessity for a new survey. He stated that the 2005 survey was done and not used. Susan stated that the survey has been used for research and other uses. Michael spoke in favor of a new survey in spread sheet format. The 2005 survey has 155 houses. Susan suggested that Neil Larsen be invited back to clarify his proposal and that the chair of the Historic Review

Board or designee, be invited to attend. Barry will invite the chair of the Village Historic Review Board or the designee to the next meeting. It was mentioned that the state agencies encourage a joint application from the village and town.

8. New Business:

The next meeting will be held at 5 pm on June 22.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15.

Audrey Klinkenberg, Secretary