

Historic Preservation Commission

Minutes: March 20, 2017

Present: Stefan Yarabek, chair, Susan Poretz, vice chair, Myles Putman, Michael Sullivan Smith, Barry Benepe, Bill Schirmer

Absent: Audrey Klinkenberg, Town Historian

Guests: Andrew McVinish owner of the Sebring House, Bill Trumpbour, Clay Trumpbour.

1. Minutes of the January meeting approved as corrected. MOTION (Michael/Susan)
2. Verizon ZBA Application resolution Update: Waiting on Verizon to come back. The cell tower in the concerned area has been stopped.

3. Town Solar Ordinance Meeting: Stefan went to a workshop held by Vernon Benjamin.

Discussion followed which ended with the recommendation that the HPC have a meeting with the Planning Board and the Town Board to educate them about: “who we are as a commission,” “ why we are here,” (i.e., we are here to help the Town grow and at the same time to protect our historic resources.) We are concerned about not only the Architecture of this Town, but also landscape, and surrounding areas. The Solar Ordinance which prompted the above discussion was a good idea to promote renewal energy but the HPC felt it wasn’t carefully looked into, nor was the idea run by this Commission.

4. Trumpbour property and proposed Pilgrim Pipeline: The Pilgrim Pipeline people are still working towards permits. Stefan will write a letter to the Town Board, cc’ing the Planning Board, asking for an information session. In this meeting we will be bringing up both the Solar field and the Pipeline and our concerns about them.

5. Trumbour property, Solar update: Andrew and Clay gave an educated and well presented program on all the wrongs of the solar project. Andrew, is not happy with the current laws regarding the building of the field, and feels most strongly that a moratorium should be placed, until the law can be figured out. Clay had visuals showing photos that were photo shopped falsifying view sheds. There is no limit in Saugerties for how much land is used for solar panels.

MOTION (Stefan/Susan): That the HPC Chair draft a letter to the Planning Board, including in it the fact that we are mandated by NYS law to protect the resources of the Town of Saugerties including historic uses of agriculture, the view shed and stone houses.

ACTION: Unanimous approval.

6. Bristol Beach Meeting: Stefan went to make sure that historic resources were being protected. He felt it was a nice presentation. The State leased the land back to the Town. As of this time there is no grant money to do this project.

MOTION (Stefan/Susan): Stefan, as the chair of the HPC, will draft a letter to the Conservation Advisory Committee commending them on acknowledging historic resources, and indicating that if they needed any other information from us we would be happy to help.

ACTION: Unanimous approval.

7. Old Business:

- a. Susan asks if the Osterhoudt house is officially designated. Stefan will look into this. Susan will come up with dates to see the Lucette Runsdorf 1720 stone house. This house is located on, 347 Old Powder Mill Road.
- b. Push on proposal for landmark recognizing not designation.
- c. Bill asks for the results of the audit.

8. New Business

None

Meeting adjourned at 6:56 p.m.