

MINUTES

The regular meeting of the Historic Preservation Commission of the Town of Saugerties was held on 2 June 2008.

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

Barry opened the meeting at 7:02 p.m.

1. Minutes of May 5, 2008: Josh made a motion to accept the minutes. Michael seconded. Susan: aye; Barry: aye, Myles: aye. Motion passed.

2. Correspondence: Barry asked Susan to verify that the Town Building Department has the most recent version of the letters. He added that he wanted to be sure that Alvie Weeks, Town Building Inspector, understood that no building permit should be issued for designated properties without proper notification to the owners that it is a registered building. Barry said that the Town Building Department needed to have a list of all of the Town's designated properties. Josh said that they should have such a list. Barry asked Susan to verify that either Alvie or Jeremy Kane, Town Planner, has a list of the designated properties.

3. Proposed Amendment to Section 4 C. of Historic Preservation Ordinance: Barry said that he had spoken with Julian Adams and that Julian approved a change to Section 4 C. of the Historic Preservation Ordinance. The new version of Section 4 C. would read,
"Designation of individual landmarks and creation of historic districts; such designation to be subject to disapproval supported by findings by the Town Board within 45 days of enactment of the designation and filed as approved if no action is taken in this time."

Barry said that the Commission might want to consider a change to Section 6 since the Town Board would already be reviewing the change to Section 4. He said that as the text in Section 6 is currently not sufficient to act on historic designation for Buffalo / Niger Road. He added that the law needed language stating that roads are as important as buildings, when considering historic designation. Michael said that it would be difficult to deal with the Town Highway Department if it were a goal of the Commission to make private roads passable to public traffic. Barry said that was not one of the goals of the Commission. Barry asked the Commission members if they felt that there is a need to strengthen this Section of the Historic Ordinance. Myles said that there was a need, but that the changes needed were too great to add on to the other issue of changing Section 4. Barry said that he felt changes were needed if it were the Commission's intent to keep the quality of historic roads intact, rather than allowing the Town to update them from so-called substandard condition (i.e. narrow road width).

Commission members. Barry asked if any of the Commission members were willing to meet with Bernie Ellsworth to investigate the matter further. Josh said that he knew Bernie well and would be willing to arrange a meeting between Bernie, Myles and himself.

Barry asked the Commission members if they were ready to hold a public hearing on this item. Josh said that the Town Board needed to properly align Augusta-Savage Road before the Commission could proceed on holding a public hearing. Susan said that the necessary changes to the Historic Preservation Ordinance needed to be in place before proceeding – particularly if objections were raised to the designation. Barry agreed that more research was needed before proceeding.

6. Other Old Business: Barry asked if there were any other old business items. None of the members had any old business.

7. New Business: LeeAnne presented a list of items that the Village of Saugerties has posted on its website describing coordinated events planned by the Village, Town and area organizations to celebrate the upcoming (2009) Quadricentennial of Henry Hudson's voyage. She said that Audrey Klinkenberg, Town Historian, would like to meet with the Historic Preservation Commission but that she has a permanent conflict with the current meeting time. Barry made a motion to change the meeting to the fourth Monday of the month. Josh seconded. Myles: aye; Susan: aye; Michael: aye. Motion passed.

Myles passed a copy of *The Town of Esopus Story* to Commission members. Susan said that when Certified Local Government status was achieved, that the Commission might have money available for publications of that type.

Josh made a motion to adjourn. Myles seconded. All unanimous. Meeting adjourned at 9:04pm.

The next Commission meeting will be held at 7 o'clock in the Town of Saugerties' Building Department Conference Room Monday, June 23, 2008.

Kate Kane