

## HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION MEETING

Monday, January 22, 2007

**Attendance - Board Members:** William H. Trumpbour, Josh Randall, Barry Benepe and Michael Smith, Leeanne Thornton, Town Board Liaison, and Cheryl Van Schaack, Secretary.

**Public:** John N. Vagianelis, Esq., Gil Hales, Anthony Mondell, Gus Pedersen, Jan Wallen, Eliner Trumpbour, Susan Weeks, Marti Randall, Audrey Klinkenberg, Mary J. Rightmyer Kimble, and Margaret A. Rightmyer.

1. **Minutes of December Meeting:** Josh Randall corrected spellings, and added that Lighthouse Cove was in the village not in the town therefore not under this commission's jurisdiction.

2. **Appointment to Commission** - Barry said in an executive session on January 3<sup>rd</sup> to review applications for the position available on the Commission. He, Bill and Josh interviewed and voted to recommend to the Town Board Susan Puretz. Leeanne confirmed that the Town approved her last Wednesday.

### 3. Correspondence –

A. Request from attorneys for the Schaller family that the public hearing on Winston Farm be continued to February.

B. Letter from the Preservation Committee of New York asking for a report on the Cultural Resource Survey, which was completed in 2005. Barry asked Michael to help with the response.

C. Letter from Douglas Mackey supporting designation of the Winston Farm.

4. **Phase II of Cultural Resource Survey** – Barry said that Phase 1 of the survey was done in 2005. Phase 2 should be conducted to look at agriculture properties and barns and farm related buildings that were built in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. We would look remains of industrial archeology in the town, record historic roads, and produce a history map. Barry asked for Christina Plattner's opinion; she also believed we should also survey the approximately 185 1/2 and unlisted properties that were not listed in the 2005 survey. Bill thought the commission could complete the survey without Christina's help. He added that there are not that many industrial sites left and we should concentrate on our real history. Michael believed that the William Cockburn map would form a strong basis. Josh asked who applied for the first Phase I grant, and how was it used. Leeanne said it was paid out in salaries to Bill and Christina. Barry said we needed a consultant to coordinate and schedule volunteers, and complete tasks on schedule. Barry mentioned that we don't have an advocacy group to keep us on the commission on our toes. Josh thought if our mission should be included on the Town website. Our designation request should be getting more use. Michael added that we could maybe put a form on the website. Leeanne mentioned that the Webmaster sent out an e-mail in December basically saying if anyone wanted something on the website to let him know. Leeanne contacted him last week and asked if there could be a blurb.

5. **Report on HVVA Meeting January 20** – The Hudson Valley Vernacular Architecture. Barry asked if anyone was a member, and distributed applications. Next year the HVVA will be surveying barns around the area. Bill asked if all the barns were included in the original cultural resource survey. Barry didn't think that they were.

**6. Continuation of Public Hearing on Designation of Winston Farm** - Audrey Klinkenberg mentioned that Lila James Roney recorded inscriptions on the headstones in the three Wynkoop cemeteries on the property, which were published in the New York Genealogical & Biographical records. Marti has pictures of some of these. There have been some cemeteries that have been demolished. Barry said there has to be an approval from a judge to move a cemetery. Michael mentioned that there is access to descendents for grieving rights. Audrey mentioned that she spearheaded this effort to record inscriptions and that Emma Wolven, Mrs. Donaldson, Jean Wrolsen provided the library and Saugerties Historical Society with them to be microfilmed. These are documents that we wouldn't have if it weren't for Emma Wolven. Audrey stated that we should consider these cemeteries as part of our heritage. Barry mentioned that we are not allowed to go on the property of the Winston Farm to verify our documentation.

Margaret Rightmyer and Mary Rightmyer Kimble stated that they were Randy Winston's nieces. In the 1950's they used to spend time on the Winston Farm where there were horses, around 100 cows, and vegetables. They described a beautiful piece of land with a pond where they used to swim and go fishing. They remembered the mansion and the trucks that delivered milk. Barry asked if they remembered a mule barn or its remains close to the main house. He replied that the hugh dairy barn and silos had collapsed since they were there. Marti said that corn; wheat and hay were grown on the farm. Mary didn't know Randy's brothers or sisters well. Leeanne asked if they could ask their relatives for some more documentation as to what went on at the farm. Mary said that there were two who would have knowledge about the farm. Barry asked they had any historical letters. Mary and Margaret said that they didn't. They added that Winston Farm would have been a perfect place for "HITS" and that the Mansion would make a perfect "Bed & Breakfast". Marti said that there was a reservoir on the Winston Farm from which Mr. Winston dug ditches and trenches to supply water for the whole farm. Josh mentioned that this was done for fire fighting; when they would dig they would bring up wooden pipes. Barry mentioned that the Kimble Quarry was on the Winston Farm. Barry spoke to Karen Hartgen, Archeological Consultant who surveyed the site in 1993 and established that presence of chert mines used by Native Americans. Gil Hales stressed the importance of the site's history as a location of the Woodstock II Festival in 1994. Margaret Rightmyer recommended that the site be a historical museum.

Susan Weeks said that people in her generation had tremendous caring for the Woodstock 94 Festival. Josh moved to make a motion to continue the meeting for the Winston Farm to Monday, February 26<sup>th</sup>.

**The vote is as follows:**

? Kate Heidecker <sup>fax</sup> 845-331-3557  
phone 331-5000 x419

Michael S. Smith – Yes

Barry Benepe – Yes

Bill Trumpbour – Yes

Josh Randall – Yes

**7. Summary of Testimony on Winston Farm thus far** – Barry had gone carefully through the minutes. He distributed a summary of actions taken by Town of Saugerties Historic Preservation Commission. Including Public Hearing Testimony on Winston Farm. The action included span minutes from April 14, 2004 through July 17, 2006. The balance will be provided at the next meeting.

8. **1993 Archeological Report**- Barry spoke to Karen Hartgen regarding the EAF December 22, 1993 with Archeological findings. She said she provided the State and the Town with a 2-volume report, which Barry is trying to find.

9. **Summary of State/Federal Designations**- Josh provided copies of reports on the 10 sites on the National and State Registers, 5 in the Town and 5 in the Village. The 5 in the Town were in the Augusta Savage House, Opus 40, Osterhoudt Stone House, Trumpbour Homestead Farm, and Wynkoop House.

10. **Report on Placing Record of Designations on Real Estate Records**- Josh had talked to Country Clerk, Nina Postupak; she plans in the near future to bring together some of the historical commissions to discuss recording historic designations on records filed with the Country Clerk. Leeanne reported that she spoke to Tax Collector, Peg Nau, about the forms that come from the State.

11. **Other Old Business**- Leeanne introduced John Vagianelis, Esq. and asked the commission to take advantage of his legal expertise. Barry said that he had left a Designation Request Form with Jeannine Ricketson because of her concern with the possible demolition of the Viero House across Route 32 from her house. He will bring the survey form to the next meeting. Barry reported on his visit to the property. Susan Weeks stressed that designation depends on the historic significance of the property, not the wishes of its current owner. Eliner Trumpbour emphasized the importance of private property ownership. Barry added that demolition of a house such as the Jeremiah Russell House could be permitted if no feasible alternative existed. Barry said we have to follow the law. Barry distributed copies of the Historic Guidelines used by the city of Kingston. He also distributed a draft copy of Guidelines for the Winston Farm, adding that the cottages were left off the list and should be added.

The next meeting of the Commission will be held on Monday, February 26th @ 7:00 p.m.

12. **Adjournment** - Josh Randall moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Michael Smith, and approved unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 8:54 p.m.

Cheryl Van Schaack, Recording Secretary