

Historic Preservation Commission

November 19, 2012

Building Department Conference Room

7:00 pm

Present: Michael Sullivan Smith, Josh Randall, Barry Benepe, Susan Puretz, Stephen Shafer

Liaison: Jimmy Bruno, Town Board, Deputy Supervisor

Secretary: Audrey Klinkenberg, Town Historian, Associate County Historian

Auxillary: Graydon Yearick, excused

The meeting was called to order by the chair, Michael Sullivan Smith at 7:00.

1) Motion to waive reading of the minutes, by Josh, seconded by Barry Josh, aye; Steven, aye; Susan, Barry, aye; Michael, aye.

Move to approve by Stephen seconded by Josh. Josh, aye; Stephen, aye; Susan, Barry, aye; Michael, aye. Unanimous approval. Approval of the minutes of the October meeting. 2)

Susan's rewrite of the resolution of use of room from the meeting of September 2012, as presented.

Resolution after Susan Puretz edit:

Whereas the HPC has requested the use of office space in the Town Hall and that request has been approved;

And, whereas the Historic Preservation Ordinance section 4E makes it a duty of the Historic Preservation Commission to educate;

And, whereas the Historic Preservation Ordinance section 4A makes it the duty of the Historic Preservation Commission to adopt criteria for identification of historic significance;

And, whereas these obligations make the Historic Preservation Commission the arbiter on what constitutes our heritage along with the responsibility for keeping data to substantiate historic significance and heritage;

And, whereas by collecting such data and using it in ways that further satisfy the spirit and intent of the law which says to "focus and stimulate attention on and foster civic pride in the historic accomplishments and resources of the Town" (Historic Preservation Commission Ordinance, Section 1B)

Now, therefore, be it resolved, that the Historic Preservation Commission requests that the space offered it by the Town Board in the Town Hall be adequate for carrying out small educational sessions, for keeping the Historic Preservation Commission's library and archives, and for housing equipment necessary for the Historic Preservation Commission's record keeping and digital research material collections;

And be it further resolved that the Historic Preservation Commission requests that the Town be cognizant in the planning stage for this space of the special needs for this room such as security, adequate power, environmental conditions that are conducive to the preservation of these historical documents;

And, be it further resolved that the Historic Preservation Commission requests that the Town honor the Commission's budget request for a large scale scanner, computer, and sufficient digital storage media which will enable the Historic Preservation Commission to carry out the responsibilities required under the Town of Saugerties Historic Preservation Ordinance.

Motion to amend the last paragraph, second line, between the words Commission and budget, to add the word future. It would then read "honor the Commission's future budget". Josh, aye; Steven, aye; Susan, Barry, aye; Michael, aye. Unanimous approval.

Motion to approve the entire resolution as amended by Josh, seconded by Stephen. Josh, aye; Steven, aye; Susan, Barry, aye; Michael, aye. Unanimous approval.

The resolution will be submitted to the town board through Jimmy Bruno.

Michael and Jimmy will meet with Greg Chorvas to discuss the room.

3) Discussion of Opus 40 wall collapse, etc. and process of informing the Commission.

Susan noted that a lot on Opus 40 is listed in the newspaper for sale because of unpaid taxes. This is the lot which is 13.5 acres, called the Harvey Fite land, privately owned by Tad Richards, lot number 28.1.52 and is part of the viewshed for the sculpture.

The collapsed wall is on the left of the entry road and is a façade wall and is under the jurisdiction of the Historic Preservation Commission and requires a certificate of appropriateness. Harvey Fite took already formed quarry mounds and covered them to make the walls. The collapse is about 20 feet across and the wall is about 16 feet high. Dave Kaminsky had, about 3 years ago, produced a video of Opus 40, and Michael hopes to get a copy of the video. The Commission was not notified when the collapse occurred. The building inspector is supposed to notify the Commission whenever a request is made for a designated building but would not be involved in this particular situation. Iron is leaching from the rocks now, and the materials for repair should be the same rock which had been used in the past. The reconstruction should end up with the façade looking the same and the wall structurally sound when done. Michael plans to visit the property again with Dean Osterhoudt and Brian Wilson. Tad Richards emailed that he had people from Arizona and Vermont who will be analyzing the situation, offering suggestions and possibly repairing the wall. Steven raised a concern regarding whether or not the repairs are done by local or distant repair persons and whether the board has the right to request that the work be done by local repair persons. There is a requirement that a Certificate of Appropriateness be given to the building inspector and be submitted to the Commission at least 14 days prior to the scheduled monthly meeting.

4) Discussion of request for bids publication bill to Commission for "community facility" grant.

Michael found two bills in the mail box at Town Hall for the publication of bids for a roof on a building in the village of Saugerties. Michael brought the bill into the clerk.

5) Guidelines. The guidelines are now completed up to page 47 with the exception of the pictures. These are now online at <http://saugerties.ny.us/preservehistory>. There are two more parts to complete and the photographs have to be added. The latter part is an explanation of what the Historic Preservation Commission does.

6) New Business:

Susan mentioned that Michael has to distribute the information on the finances for the 2012 house tour. There was a committee meeting today, there will be no house tour in 2013. The committee will be applying to a grant from Greenway to fund a project to prepare an app and a booklet.

The committee has received a bill for the web site and domain names. HistoricHouseTour.com The Historic Saugerties Stone Houses.info and Preserving Saugerties.info. All expire on March 31, 2013. Susan would like to renew the domain names at \$9.00 each. The Commission also needs to renew the web builder which is about \$60.00 . Josh moves that Saugerties Historic Preservation Commission pay for this, seconded by Stephen. Barry asked whether the Commission should have all three domain names. The consensus was, yes. Michael says that Google has the same web builder for free as long as there is a domain name. Susan will wait, the motion is tabled.

Josh offers kudos to Michael who wrote the Saugerties History for the comprehensive plan for the town and the village. This is on-line at the town web site. The comprehensive planning update had one meeting and will have another open meeting coming up.

Audrey requested that the Commission be the entity for a grant to microfilm the Saugerties Weekly Post, 1891-1893. This was approved by unanimous vote

Josh moves to adjourn.

Adjournment at 9:00 pm

Audrey Klinkenberg
Secretary