

MINUTES

The regular meeting of the Historic Preservation Commission of the Town of Saugerties was held on 21 September, 2009 at the Senior Citizens Center.

Present: Barry Benepe; Josh Randall; Michael Sullivan Smith; Susan Puretz; Myles Putman, Leeanne Thornton and Audrey Klinkenberg.

Barry opened the meeting at 7:22 pm.

Minutes of August 17, 2009. Following review and discussion which included the correction of the spelling of David Minch and other corrections. Josh made the motion that the minutes be accepted as corrected. Seconded by Susan. Barry: aye; Michael: aye; Josh: aye; Myles: abstain. Motion passed.

Section 1, paragraph 2, add - Except for the tape recorders and the secretary rolling file case which the town committee Life Spring is now using.

2nd paragraph page 2, a vote was taken and it was unanimous in favor of the motion. (delete "All were unanimous")

4 7th line It was through an agreement <not and>

Last in the town of Saugerties Senior Citizens Center on September 21, 2009

Susan proposed that the minutes be distributed for correction and the corrections be included before the meeting. There is still opportunity to correct minutes at the meeting.

Myles was absent from the meeting of August 17.

Audrey was excused from meeting of August 17.

Michael wanted to remind Commission members that his email address is greatknot@verizon.net.

2. Budget for 2010 – \$1,500 for salary, legal notices and mailings and \$1,500 for the Stone House Tour. Josh makes a motion \$4,000 for the budget for 2010, seconded by Susan. Barry: aye; Michael: aye; Josh: aye; Myles: aye. Motion passed.

3. October Agenda – Set priorities for 2010. Review of goals.

4. Public Hearing on proposed designation of Augusta Savage Road.

Max Voght here to listen

Mark Knaust – here to listen Marti Randall – here to listen

Marti Robinson – here to listen

John R. Wrolsen stated that the road was used to avoid the toll road. There may have been as many as two toll booths, including one at Toodlum (now Centerville) and another at Unionville (now Veteran) . The road was used from the 1800's through 1910, and the road was called Nigger Road. The highway superintendent abandoned the road in 1928, prior to that time the road was maintained by the highway department. (prior to the purchase of the land by Mr. Schaller.)

Marie Post made the proposal to the town board for the name change to Augusta Savage Road for the original road which continues to Buffalo Road.

Marti Randall stated that the arched bridge along the road predates the purchase in 1910 of the property by James O. Winston, from Rio Alto Stock Farm. The 1919 deed from Russell Wynkoop has an easement for the road from Route 32 into the property.

Michael Sullivan Smith stated that the road was called Nigger Road in one of the deeds from J. O. Winston to the Schaller's in 1920. The road is earlier named "the road to Blue Mountain".. The road was described as a right of way open to the public in the deeds of the Kingston Commons.

In the 1812 records of the town, this road is named as road # 21.

Barry stated that the road is 7920 feet, leading to the Kimball quarry according to the 1928 notice of abandonment. The road leads from Route 32 to the intersection of Buffalo and Lodge roads.

Bruce C. Felton: Wanted to know what makes this road historical? What is the impact going to be on the Winston Farm development? What are the ramifications to the designation? Leeanne suggests that these questions be brought up at the public forum this coming Wednesday.

Barry stated that as a part of the discussion, there are plans for bike and walking trails on the property. This road could become an integral part of the trail plans.

Josh Randall stated that the farm is 843 acres. There is a 673.6 acre parcel, the mansion is on a 100 acre parcel. On the left hand side of Augusta Savage Road is a 15.5 acre parcel. There is also a T shape lot at the end of Mower Mill Road of 10.4 acres and a 40 acre parcel on the west side of the power line.

Susan reiterated Mr. Felton's question regarding the future of the road. Particularly regarding the width of the road and the potential for paving. This east west road goes through Platte Clove.

Michael Smith stated that this road is one of the few in about the same shape as it was two centuries ago.

Josh mentioned an autumnal aerial map of the Winston Farm near Augusta Savage Road and the

reservoir where there is apparently a flat area, visible through a stereo-optoscope, the road curves and there appears to be corner posts of former houses. There are 12 different sets of 4 corner posts.

Max Voght asked: What is the definition of a historical road? Answer: A historical road has a history, has been used by persons over a long period of time and has scenic value.

Barry said that we have an opportunity to designate a historic road to keep it in its historic state.

Marti Robinson is still not sure, if designated, that the road can be paved.

Barry states that there would have to be another level of review if the road is to be changed. Her driveway is part of a “paper” road, on the town books but not accepted by the town. That road is there for future use if needed by the municipality. Barry has heard it called Buffalo Road extension or Buffalo Lane.

Pat Fitzsimmons asks are we going from the edge of Lodge Road to Route 32. The answer is yes. A portion of the road is paved.

Marti Robinson asked if the road can then be open to anyone. Barry stated that there are limits to the use of the road. People are concerned about bio-diversity and open space.

Susan stated that there are two parts of the road, some paved and most not.

Marti Robinson maintains a section of the road. She is not certain who owns the property.

Barry will ask that the hearing be kept open to answer some of the questions which have been raised. Bernie Ellsworth, highway superintendent will be asked to answer some of the questions.

Pat Fitzsimmons, stated that we should look at the deeds for the easements.

Josh Randall – The bulk of the road we want to protect is on the Schaller property.

There are a number of residents who own property along Buffalo Lane, which deeds need to be looked at. Do the deeds have an easement? Also the land of Central Hudson, which is itself an easement.

Josh moved to adjourn the public hearing, to be continued in October, and in the interim, to ascertain who owns the property from the end of Buffalo Road to the Schaller property.

Seconded by Myles. Barry: aye; Michael: aye; Josh: aye; Myles: aye. Motion passed. The meeting will be held at the Senior Citizen’s Center.

5. Other old business - LeeAnne mentioned the Oct 3 Hudson River Walkway opening. There is a bus going from the village. Nancy Campbell will be going. Marge Block is coordinating.

6. New business - no new business

Motion to adjourn by Susan at 8:40 pm, seconded by Josh. Barry: aye; Michael: aye; Josh: aye; Myles: aye. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned.

Audrey Klinkenberg
Secretary