



**TOWN OF SAUGERTIES
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
MINUTES OF THE October 19th, 2020 MEETING (Continued on October 26th, 2020)**

Present: Commission Chair Stefan Yarabek, Commission Vice-Chair Susan Puretz, Commission Members: Alba LaFiandra, Ken Myer, Jr., Commission Alternate Jason Nelson, Town Board Liaison John Schoonmaker, Asbury District Nomination Consultant Neil Larson, Guest Andrew Zink, Secretary Jeremy Russell

Excused: Commission Member Peigi Mulligan

(Minutes appear in chronological order. Numbering of items refer to the agenda for the meeting, which is attached)

The Commission met virtually, on the platform Zoom (zoom.us), ID #969-987-8583. The meeting was called to order at 5:33 pm.

[Stefan's internet was not stable. It made for various timing problems. Before Neil could start speaking, the default iPhone ringtone was heard going off]

OLD BUSINESS:

1) Asbury District Update/Neil Larson: Neil sent a new Letter of Agreement to the Commission, and said he would like it signed so that his firm could start doing the later phase work. Neil congratulated the Commission on winning a grant for the project.

Neil began to outline the rest of the project. The next step would be to collect more data out in the field. John Ham, who works for Neil, would be doing the local work. This data would then be added into the State Cultural Resource Inventory System. Neil mentioned he's in Minnesota, likely for the rest of the year.

He projects that the nomination should be finalized in the next 4-6 months and be in front of the State Review Board. This will make the designation finalized by the end of the year. Neil asked if anything had been done with the local designation. Stefan said the Commission hadn't done anything, and asked Neil if he could help pursue that once all the documents are submitted to the State and Federal Government offices. Neil said the schedule can be decided by the Commission. He said it's useful to have a designation in place to justify a local designation, but, the Commission could also pursue a local designation as they wait for the state and federal designation.

Susan asked what the timetable would be if the Commission decided to move ahead of the state designation. Neil said once he'd have the draft of the nomination completed, all the information needed for a local designation would be contained within that draft. The only thing that would be missing is the imprimatur of having a state designation. Susan asked if a local designation would be helpful for a state designation. Neil said it's usually the

other way around. Stefan asked Neil if he thought the Commission should wait. Neil thought it depended on the local support – assuming it was likely not to be questioned based on its scope, there should be no reason not to pursue it. Stefan asked what the follow up step would be after the work is submitted to the state for the project as a whole. Neil said that there shouldn't be any further work needed.

There were no other questions, so Stefan said the Commission, having already approved the work, will sign the second Letter of Agreement and process his voucher.

Susan asked where Neil would be voting. Neil said he'd already voted in Minnesota. Susan said, "Good." Neil smiled and said that his vote was likely more important in the State of Minnesota than it was in New York.

Stefan mentioned that he'd been in contact with Marti Randall's daughter, Jen Jablonski. (Marti Randall had recently passed away. She'd donated hundreds of hours of research into Winston Farm.) Ms. Jablonski was awaiting clearance from Elizabeth Winston, Granddaughter of J.O. Winston, to release Marti's files of research to the Town. Elizabeth lives in California, and would like the files to be objectively reviewed for personal materials. Stefan asked if Neil's company could provide this type of service.

Neil asked for clarification on the matter: Stefan said that Ms. Jablonski was the owner, and had promised Ms. Winston that she could take a look at the material before it was donated to the Town. It is 60 boxes of materials. It would be far too expensive to ship or scan the material to Ms. Winston. Neil asked what the access is for the collection. Susan said that Marti had said that Elizabeth had only sent a small amount of stuff, and locating the Winston Family material might make the task easier. Susan said that it might have to be that the entire collection of materials is at least inventoried. Stefan thought it should be easy to narrow down the search for the Winston Family donations, and to then make a promise that if there are materials found later, that the Commission send them to Elizabeth Winston.

Neil asked if one of the Commission members could check to see how monumental the task would be. Alba asked where the boxes were – Stefan said they were safely with Jen. Stefan thought it prudent to find the Winston material as to expedite the acquisition of the rest of the research. Audrey thought that most of the records from Elizabeth were mostly pictures. Audrey asked Susan if she thought it was correct, but she wasn't sure. They said they should run it by Peigi, who was absent.

[Andrew left at this time]

Neil asked if there was a timeframe on this – Stefan thought that the files were safe with Ms. Jablonski and she was in no rush. He thought he might talk to Elizabeth Winston to see if it was sufficient to scan the pictures and send to her.

[Stefan's connection failed at this moment and he disappeared. Neil left the meeting. Stefan returned, but his connection was very slow. He dropped off the meeting permanently. Susan inherited Chairmanship of the meeting]

Minutes: Alba made a motion to approve the minutes of the September meeting. Ken seconded the motion. There were no comments on the minutes. The motion to approve the minutes was passed unanimously, 4-0.

2) Historical Markers/Committee Update: Alba had researched the Pomeroy Foundation's scope of their grant-awarding system. She did not believe the application would be as easy as initially described. She asked whether there was a map of the Village that she could use so as to not do anything within the confines of the Village. Susan thought the building department or the tax assessor's office would have one. John said that Frank Orlando was the Town assessor, and he provided a link in the applicable Zoom section.

Alba asked Audrey where the other markers in the Town had come from. Audrey said that it was from the State Department of Education in the 1930s. Audrey thought the Pomeroy Foundation likely awarded Patrick Landewe a historic marker. Alba asked whether the State Department provided funding anymore, or if the only avenue to get a marker was either private funding or Pomeroy Foundation. Jeremy and Audrey both thought that was most likely the case. Audrey thought Marion Freeman would be the person that knew the most about the historic markers, and that Audrey has a list compiled in the library. Alba asked if the library was open, and Audrey said it was by appointment. Susan asked Audrey if she'd be able to make copies of the list if she goes to the library.

Jeremy indicated he'd already created a list, and that Ken had been working off of it. He said Wikipedia has a mostly-complete list of existing markers in Ulster County. Ken thought there were more than the 23 that Jeremy had provided. Alba said she'd do more investigating.

Jeremy asked whether Village residents paid Town taxes, and John said yes. He then asked if Village residents get any sort of discount for paying Town taxes, and John said no, he didn't believe so. Jeremy said he was bothered that residents of the Village seem not to be able, despite paying full Town taxes, to employ the resources of the Town. John said that the Town generally doesn't have the authority to do anything within the Village without the Village's consent. Susan thought it most judicious to just keep everyone apprised of any future actions.

Alba believed that the Pomeroy Foundation was not likely a place to receive funding for a project of the magnitude Jeremy had proposed in the last meeting. Alba suggested that Jeremy reach out to other municipalities and historical societies to see whether they receive funding in other ways for markers. Susan, having served on a similar historical commission in Poughkeepsie, said that property owners were sometimes willing to pay for their own small plaques that they could purchase once their properties were locally designated. Susan asked if anyone knew exactly what the cost was. Ken said he'd try to look into it.

Many of the members remembered that Catskill Castings was a company that provided this signage for organizations. Audrey believed the company was located near Cooperstown. Ken thought it'd be interesting if some of the companies still had the tooling. Susan thought there was a lot of footwork to be done.

NEW BUSINESS

1) HPC Budget: A draft budget request of the Commission for 2021 had been circulated earlier that day, as the Town was in the later stages of the preparation of the Town Budget. Stefan had prepared it initially, and Jeremy had updated. Jeremy added close to \$10,000 to Stefan's original request to account for an additional project. John did not think the Town would approve the requested budget as it was. He did not feel comfortable increasing funding considering the increase it had recently received, the uncertainty caused by the year, and the fact the Commission still had funds remaining from this year.

Susan thought that the Commission hadn't been funded adequately in the past, and now that the Commission had created momentum with projects and was becoming more active, it was justified to try to maintain the momentum. She said she, and probably everyone, understood how constrained the board was. Susan asked if there was to be a Town Board meeting, and John announced an upcoming workshop that would be open to the public.

Susan made a motion to vote on the approval of the HPC budget. Alba seconded the motion. Susan asked for comments. Alba, Jason and Ken were not comfortable approving the motion given the timeframe. The motion was tabled to allow Stefan and Peigi to comment, and everyone to give the budget more consideration.

Alba asked whether the unspent money from this current year could be added to the request next year, keeping the budget over the past two years essentially the same. John said that during budget talks, the Town tends to cut spending if a department does not spend money in a given year, and not reward a department for not spending. He understood that it was tough to justify knowing that grants have or would offset the total spending and that some planned events/projects were cancelled. John said that the Town is lucky to be healthy, and the Town is trying hard to hold current lines.

John expected that the budget would be finalized by the second meeting of November, and that the budget request should be submitted well before that. Susan asked for a continuation of the meeting for October 26th to address the budget proposal.

2) Preservation 2020 Conference: (An e-mail was circulated earlier in the month stating that the Preservation Conference, rescheduled to December, has now become a virtual event, and would cost only \$25.) Susan asked if everyone would like to attend given the price and not having to travel. Everyone nodded in approval. Jeremy said that he and Ken had initially won a scholarship for the live event, and that he would like to see if that could be applied for everyone's attendance. Susan directed him to follow up on this. Ken and Jeremy thought everyone might have to register individually.

3) Secretary Assistant: Jeremy had asked Susan if she had any contacts at the high school so as to provide interested students with a way to receive credit for helping out with the Commission. Susan called the Key Club, and their new President was not looking to get involved in any projects at the time, but they would consider it in the future.

OLD BUSINESS

3) Map and Ramble Update: Jeremy acquired a hard drive of Myles Putman's work, but did not find a base map in the material. Stefan had not found it in Myles's archived material at that point. Jeremy had found Michael S. Smith's History Atlas archives, and will go combing through that for material. Jeremy had uploaded all this material to a Mega.nz account, and created a Dropbox account, as some members were not able to access this.

4) Designation Status of Local Landmarks Update: Jeremy had spoken to a person in the recording office in Ulster County. She'd conveyed that the Commission would be able to file a prior designation with the County for free, and then file it as a cross-referenced recording later, so as to not be forced to pay fees on every designated property all at once. The two properties that are currently shown as designated according to the County have

different costs. Susan thought it best to table the discussion on having the two current properties cross-referenced in the Book of Deeds.

5) Winston Farm Update: Susan thought Stefan might be able to comment on this at the continuation of the meeting.

6) Cemetery Update: Audrey hadn't moved forward with the marker or signage for Henry Barclay's grave. She'd spoken to the Friends of Asbury Cemetery, and they would like to get their own sign. She and Ken had been working on signage. Alba thought that Trinity Cemetery signage would be the most likely to be approved by the Pomeroy Foundation. Steven Shaffer had spoken to Audrey and would love to see a sign in the area.

7) Historic Alliance of Kingston Update: Jeremy had no updates.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

2) Secretarial/Financial Report: There were no spending updates from the time of the last meeting. Jeremy had received Neil's bill that day. He wanted to look into the grant requirements to make sure it was approved for reimbursement before sending the check. Jeremy had visited the Town Hall to look at the filing cabinet, but it was locked, and no one in the Hall had a key. He asked if anyone had one. Susan and Ken said that most likely, it can be drilled out and get a new lock on it anyway.

1) Town Board Liaison's Report: John said the Eco-Harvester had been pulled from the water for the season, and the Town and Village would be assessing the situation of the aquatic weeds in the Esopus Creek. John also reported that the Town had appointed a ten-member police reform commission. The last order of business was that the Town and Village were finalizing a comprehensive plan, which is required every five years. He would send it along to the Commission once it was received.

Susan asked when John was going to be appointed as the formal liaison. John said he'd already been appointed. Jeremy apologized for his misunderstanding and subsequent listing of John as "acting-liaison". John then reported there were a few more applicants to interview for the replacement on the Town Board of Paul Andreasson, who had resigned.

3) Town Historian's Report: Audrey did not have any new information to report.

At 7:02 p.m., the meeting was subsequently postponed, and it resumed on Oct. 26, at 5:42 p.m. Stefan, Susan, Alba, Ken, Peigi, Jason, Audrey and Jeremy were present.

Budget Proposal Continuation:

Stefan had sent out a new budget proposal, in consideration of John's advice. The final number was set at \$15,675.00. He detailed each line item change in expense. He thought that the Secretary's salary could be reasonably set at \$2,400, though the Commission might also have to consider that work on grants may not be applicable. Other changes included the following: He'd delayed work with the archivist on Myles's materials and he had applied the grant scholarships and early payments schedule to the ongoing project costs of the Ramble and

the Asbury District Nomination. He thought it would be important to move forward on an inventory of the historic structures in Malden. He then asked if there were any comments.

Susan asked what the current budget was at. At the moment, it was still at \$12,749.81. Jeremy's estimate, considering Secretary payment for four months, attendance at the Preservation Conference, all of Neil Larson's payment, a book of stamps, and Snyder Farm designation cross-referencing, would bring the amount remaining to \$6,082.81.

John reported that during the budget hearing, it was agreed upon that the Committee would likely be holding the line at \$14,000. Town Supervisor Fred Costello reported that if a project came up that seemed meritorious, the Town could potentially provide additional funding.

Jeremy asked what the process of submitting the HPC's revised budget request was – John said that Jeremy should send it to Terri, and include the Town Board. Stefan said this was all good news, and that he looks forward to sending the request on.

Susan made a motion to accept the Budget Proposal as revised, and Peigi seconded the motion. It was passed unanimously, 5-0.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Alba, and seconded by Ken. It passed, and the meeting was adjourned at 5:53 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jeremy Russell
Secretary, Town of Saugerties Historic Preservation Commission

TOWN OF SAUGERTIES HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

Supervisor - Fred Costello
Town Board Liaison - John Schoonmaker

Contact

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Members

Stefan Yarabek - Chair
Susan Puretz - Vice-Chair
Alba LaFiandra
Ken Myer, Jr.
Peigi Mulligan
Jason Nelson (alternate)
Audrey Klinkenberg -
Town Historian, ex officio

Covid19 Web-Meeting, October 19th, 2020 at 5:30 pm Agenda

Zoom info: Link - <https://uso2web.zoom.us/j/9699878583>

Room ID: 969-987-8583

Phone Number to call: 646-558-8656 then dial Room ID

Call to Order

Minutes

Approval of September 21, 2020 Minutes.

Welcome Guests

Old Business:

1. Asbury District Update/Neil Larson:
2. Historical Markers Committee Update:
3. Map and Ramble Update:
4. Designation Status of Local Landmarks Update:
5. Winston Farm Update:
6. Cemetery Update:
7. *Historic Alliance of Kingston* Update:

New Business:

1. HPC Budget:
2. Preservation 2020 Conference:
3. Secretary Assistant:

Miscellaneous Business:

1. Town Board Liaison's Report
2. Secretarial/Financial Report
3. Town Historian's Report (Other than Ramble)

October 19th & 26th, 2020 Minutes of the Historic Preservation Commission of the Town of Saugerties

TOWN OF SAUGERTIES HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

Supervisor - Fred Costello
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Contact

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Financial Report 2020

Beginning Budget - \$15,000.00

2-24-20: Voucher for Secretary Pay and Conference Costs - \$940.74

Remaining budget = \$14,059.26

3-10-20: Voucher for Neil Larson, Asbury Nomination Project - \$1,500.00

Remaining budget = \$12,559.26

5-1-20: Jeremy Russell & Ken Meyer Jr. returned conference booking funds + \$592.73

Remaining budget = \$13,151.99

6-5-20: Voucher for 2 bundles of paper and 1 notebook - \$12.77

6-5-20: Voucher for 3 acid-free flat file boxes, Hollinger Metal Edge (online) - \$66.91

6-5-20: Voucher for Secretarial work, February through Beginning June - \$322.50

Remaining budget = \$12,749.81