

Town of Marbletown

Historic Preservation Commission

Town Hall
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Rich Parete, Town Supervisor
Tim Hunt, Town Liaison



Bill Merchant, Chair
Laura Shaine Cunningham, Vice Chair
John P. Harrington, Secretary
Doug Adams, Treasurer
Laura Anker, Commissioner
Bill Brinnier, Commissioner
Scott Davis, Commissioner

MINUTES

Historic Preservation Commission

July 11, 2023

Canal House, High Falls

Present: Doug Adams, Commissioner
Bill Brinnier, Commissioner
Laura Shaine Cunningham, Vice Chair
Scott Davis, Commissioner
John Harrington, Secretary
Bill Merchant, Chair
Tim Hunt, Town Board Liaison

Absent: Laura Anker, Commissioner

1. Meeting called to order at 6:08pm; quorum noted.
2. Review of Agenda
3. Approval of minutes.

Motion: To approve the minutes of the meeting of June 13, 2023; moved by Bill Brinnier; seconded by Laura Shaine Cunningham; motion approved unanimously.

4. Marbletown Community Center

In further discussion of a Preliminary Application for local designation of the Marbletown Community Center, it was noted that there are new developing complications on the future of the Center. These include water damage to the oldest structure of the building that will require new roofing immediately. In addition, spokespeople at a Town Board meeting proposed moving the veterans memorials in

front of the building. That proposal raised several issues about ownership of the building as well as stewardship of the monuments.

In light of these factors, the Commission will seek consultation with both legal advisors and SHPO before considering a Preliminary Application for designation.

5. Commission schedule will omit an August, 2023, meeting to allow for vacations. The next regular meeting of the Commission will be September 12, 7:00pm.

6. A press release for the town public is being redrafted to update its information. The draft will be sent to Bill Merchant by Laura Shaine Cunningham.

7. Update on Town-related Business

Tim Hunt updated Commission on the progress of the town purchase of the Osterhoudt Flats property and the status of the cemetery bordering it. Additionally, a county grant to the town may allow resumption of improvements to the Grady Park area in High Falls.

6. New Business

A Preliminary Application for designation has been received from owners of the Hardenbergh-Davenport home at 3 Mill Dam Road. The application was very focused and detailed on the criteria for designation defined in local law.

Motion: To accept the Preliminary Application for designation of the Hardenbergh-Davenport home at 3 Mill Dam Road. Moved by Scott Davis; seconded by Cunningham; approved unanimously.

Chair will consult with the owners of the home.

Concern continues on the failing retaining wall of the North Marbletown cemetery that could allow erosion and shifting of gravestones and graves to toward US Rte. 209. Scott has been in contact with a representative of the group maintaining the cemetery. A site visit will be arranged of Commissioners with that group to discuss needs and possible sources of support.

Meeting adjourned at 7:16pm.

The next regular meeting of the Historic Preservation Commission is Tuesday, September 12, 2023, 6:00pm, at the D&H Canal Museum in High Falls.

Recorded by HPC Secretary, John Harrington.