

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

June 13, 2023

Canal House, High Falls

Present: Laura Anker, Commissioner
Bill Brinnier, Commissioner
Laura Shaine Cunningham, Vice Chair
Scott Davis, Commissioner
Bill Merchant, Chair
Tim Hunt, Town Liaison via zoom

Absent: Doug Adams, Commissioner
John Harrington, Secretary

Guest: None

1. Meeting called to order at 6:02pm; quorum noted. Laura Anker was introduced as a new commissioner.

2. Review of Agenda

3. Approval of minutes.

Motion: To approve the minutes of the meeting of May 9, 2023; moved by Bill Brinnier; seconded by Laura Shaine Cunningham; motion approved unanimously. Commissioners Anker and Davis abstained.

4. Press Release- The public announcement is being worked on and will be modified to mention that Laura Anker is now a new Commissioner.

5. Update on Town-related Business

Tim Hunt discussed town discussions that have HPC relevance, including the Town is in the process of doing zoning revisions that can affect historic issues that the commission should pay attention to. Some of the items being looked at include cell towers, view sheds and changes in technology. Tim suggested the commission keep attentive to the proposed changes.

Tim also discussed the importance of training and the need to re-instate orientation to new Commissioners.

6. New Business

The commission was updated on the designation of the Marbletown Community Center building. Research has been led by Laura Shaine Cunningham, who is working to draft a Preliminary Application for landmark designation. There was a discussion about designation of properties based on individuals vs. architectural. Laura indicated that the role of the Community Center was to be considered. Tim Hunt discussed general criteria and standards for deserving of designation. Discussions took place about different designation types and the fact there are no easy answers.

Bill Merchant offered to help Laura with the Preliminary Application process. It was decided that the Commission would allow the Town to fix the leaking roof on the Community Center building prior to moving forward because no work can be done to the building once the application process begins. The Commissioners present agreed this would prevent further water damage from happening.

Scott Davis mentioned that the North Marbletown Cemetery has a failed retaining wall along US Rt 209 that is allowing gravestones and graves to shift down the embankment towards the road. Scott suggested that as a Historic Preservation Commission perhaps the MHPC could assist and help preserve the wall. It was discussed that possibly a 'grant' could be applied for. The Commissioners present expressed an interest in helping.

Meeting adjourned at 6:57

The next regular meeting of the Historic Preservation Commission is Tuesday, July 11, 2023, 6:00pm, at the D&H Canal Museum in High Falls.

Recorded by HPC Commissioner, Scott Davis