

Town of Marbletown

Historic Preservation Commission

Town Hall
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Stone Ridge, New York
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Michael Warren, Town Supervisor
Doug Adams, Town Board Liaison



Commissioners:
Timothy Hunt, Co-Chair
Anthony DiGuiseppe, Co-Chair
Marian McCorkle-Beckerman, Vice Chair
Claudine Brenner
Brook Garrett
Harry Hansen
Susan Sprachman
Bent L. Thomsen
Kathy Schulz, Associate Commissioner
Corey Cavallaro, Associate Commissioner

Marbletown Historic Preservation Commission

Minutes of the Meeting held at Marbletown Town Hall,

February 13, 2016

Present: Anthony DiGuiseppe, Tim Hunt, Chairpersons; Marian McCorkle-Beckerman, Vice-Chair; Claudine Brenner, Secretary; Brook Garrett, Bent Thomsen, Commissioners; Cory Cavallaro, Associate Commissioner; Doug Adams, Town Board Liaison

Excused: Harry Hansen, Susan Sprachman, Kathy Schulz.

Tim Hunt called the meeting to order. The minutes were reviewed with one edit recommended. Anthony DiGuiseppe motioned to approve, Bent Thomsen seconded, and all approved.

The agenda was reviewed.

Town Hall News: Doug Adams will pursue the whereabouts of the original Piwonka Survey with the town hall. Hunt reported that Ruth Piwonka had stated by email that the original survey had been given to the town upon completion. In the meantime, DiGuiseppe will send the link to a scanned version of the survey, map and the Particular List from 1791 to Brenner, who will forward it to the Stone Ridge Library's Director. Adams did find a copy of Marpletowns' Family Names. Brenner will inquire with Library to make sure they have a copy and if not, request a copy from Marbletown Town Hall (*Heather*) to give to the Library (they have 10 copies.)

Town Supervisor is considering a part-time person to work on the Town's website.

Adams reminded the commission that the ECC meeting is next Wednesday Feb 17th with a zoning update. Marian McCorkle offered to attend, if Harry Hansen is unable to.

Designations: Hunt gave an update on the Oliver House as he works with owner McNamara on the application. It was built in 1861 by a NYC architect and was one of the first houses in Ulster County to use a professional architect. (DiGuiseppe offered to research the architect's name.) It is supposedly one of the first houses in the county to have flowing water with a built-in cistern system; it has not been altered or changed. Renovations made by the current owner, have returned the interior to its original plan. The out-buildings and the large dairy barn were built in 1910. Three of the buildings will be included in the application. Brenner reminded the commission of the other Oliver House, across the street, for which the HPC did receive a preliminary application.

Hunt proposed digitizing the application forms for ease of use electronically. DiGuiseppe said he'd look into digitizing the application forms.

Lyonsville Church: DiGuiseppe expressed some concern about the church's maintenance. The commission discussed our role as broadly to make sure landmarked properties do not fall into a "serious state of disrepair so as to result in the deterioration of any exterior architectural feature which would, in the judgment of the Commission, produce a detrimental effect upon the character of a landmark". This includes "significant" points of neglect: 128-8 Chapter 128 Historic Preservation Law.

Kripplebush School House: HPC to suggest Gayle Many take the lead on designating the school house so that a grant can be requested. DiGuiseppe suggested a fundraiser for the Kripplebush School House.

Schoonmaker House fire: Hunt led a discussion regarding the HPC's role in supporting the protection of the Van Aken Farm/Schoonmaker House (ca 1785) recently ravaged by a fire. Thomsen shared with the commission an email describing the interest of one of the owners and most recent inhabitant, Ken Kauffman, in potential local landmarking. This could aid in future grant applications and urgent preservation funds. Commissioners were interested in reaching out to ask what support may be offered and Hunt volunteered to follow up.

Brochure: Hunt reported that the Town Historian, Gale Many, reviewed and approved the brochure with minor edits. She stated her appreciation for such a useful product for the town and suggested distribution in local businesses. Members agreed to print a limited amount to allow for future additions. Further edits suggested: O&W spell out Ontario and Western. Capitalize R in Route 209. Delaware & Hudson Canal (D&H). Brook Garrett suggested making note of the source of the original map. McCorkle will make the edits proposed, and send to the printer.

Thomsen reminded members of HPC's initial thought of producing individual brochures highlighting individual historical districts and contributing properties. This could be a work in progress.

Founder's Day Celebrations: Saturday, October 1st.

Workshop seminars proposed:

- A Geological History of Ulster County by John Titus (Adams to inquire.)
- Evan Prichard (Cory Cavallaro to inquire)
- Primitive American Native Tools (Hunt will inquire) & Tin Smithery (potentially these two topics combined as one booth)
- D&H Canal: A talk by Bill Merchant about its history and plans for the new D&H Canal museum. (Brook Garrett to approach Merchant).

OTHER:

Commissioner Training: Brenner to forward 2015 training record to McCorkle for inclusion in annual report.

Inventory document(s): Hunt suggested we begin a shared site to collect research and inventory lists and content for commissioners to access. Hunt will share the current Piwonka inventory list as a Google document. Commissioners will be given permission so they may draft and input information, e.g. the current Oliver House application. This is to be a working document and folder not for wide distribution, until documents have been thoroughly vetted. The survey and narrative for all historic districts conducted for the national landmarking may be integrated into our working inventory document. The Stone Ridge Library Director would like to know whether there is a digital copy for Stone Ridge, and whether it can be updated. Brenner volunteered to ask Hansen who led the research for this landmarking process about the availability of such documents.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10.45 a.m. The next meeting will be held March 12, 2016 at the new Town Hall, in Rosendale, at 09.00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Claudine Brenner