

Town of Marbletown

Historic Preservation Commission

Town Hall
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Rich Parete, Town Supervisor
Eric Stewart, Town Board Liaison



Commissioners:
Timothy Hunt, Co-Chair
Anthony DiGuiseppe, Co-Chair
Marian McCorkle-Beckerman, Vice Chair
Doug Adams
Claudine Brenner, Secretary
Harry Hansen
Kathy Schulz
Marjorie Shelley
Susan Sprachman

Marbletown Historic Preservation Commission Minutes 10 October 2018 Rondout Municipal Center

Present: Tim Hunt, Co-Chair
Claudine Brenner, Secretary
Doug Adams, Commissioner
Harry Hansen, Commissioner
Marjorie Shelley, Commissioner
Susan Sprachman, Commissioner
Eric Stewart, Town Board Liaison

Excused: Anthony DiGuiseppe, Kathy Schulz

Marian McCorkle-Beckerman present via cell phone

Tim Hunt called the meeting to order. A quorum was present. The minutes of September's HPC meeting were approved unanimously.

Update on revised orientation training for new commissioners.

The orientation package to be assembled will, by its nature, be an ongoing work in process. The orientation will include:

- Outlining the mission of the HPC and that of the SHPO and its oversight responsibilities,
- The role commissioners play in the community,
- Ethical expectations,
- Current and ongoing HPC project, and
- Ongoing continuing education requirements.

The initial orientation meeting was suggested for November.

Update on Final Draft of the Code of Ethics

With Kathy Schulz not in attendance, a discussion of her draft was tabled until the November meeting.

Update on the Historical Property Survey

Hunt reported that consultant Larson is behind on the planned launch of windshield survey in October and we are awaiting the final data indicators for review. Larson just recently presented his logistic plan to SHPO and had his training on the NYS Cultural Resource Information System (CRIS). The project will have 40 fields and will start updating files from the Piwonka survey files. Larson hired a field consultant for the project.

Discussion centered around the best way(s) to inform the community of the study to mitigate any surprise encounters with research access and uninformed property owners. A letter to targeted property owners on Town letterhead, an announcement on the Town website and articles on the project in the Blue Stone Press, Swaungunk Journal and the Daily Freeman became the informational tools of choice. Jay Blocher, a Town resident and publicist, was mentioned to do a press release. Hunt, Susan Sprachman and Marjorie Shelley will develop the letter and article.

More discussion centered around the group creating a drop box utility that would house in-progress work that could be edited and shared by the group.

Update on SHPO Performance Audit

Auditors from SHPO are to perform an audit of the group in accord with NYS laws sometime in the next several months. Hunt instructed commissioners to document any and all CE credit courses/lectures taken during the year.

Review of Associate Membership Application

Hunt reminded commissioners that Laura Shane Cunningham had submitted her CV and cover letter for the groups review in a formal application for the position of associate member of the Marbletown HPC. He reported on his individual interview that followed our commission interview in October. Sprachman advanced her application to the group and Marian McCorkle seconded the motion. The application was accepted by the group on a unanimous vote. Hunt will forward the recommendation to the Supervisor and Town Board.

The discussion focused around Laura's possible contributing role in exploration of Leggett Road as the Town's fifth federal historic district. The idea is to instruct Neil Larson to survey Leggett Road first as any historic designation project is a nine-month to one year project from start to finish. The current phase of the survey includes properties through the 19th century. Harry Hansen and McCorkle will head up a subcommittee to review properties that could make up the Leggett Road District.

Town News Update

Steward reported that the Planning & Zoning Committee (PZC) met at its regular meeting time on the second Wednesday of the month. The discussion bogged down on the topic of accessory apartments which consumed the entirety of the meeting.

Historic Marker Project Update

The inventory count is still outstanding and the availability/cost of the restoration process remains undetermined.

History of Marbletown Booklet Update

Originally conceived as a fundraiser for the SR Library, the digital update of the book could be expensive, labor intensive and largely recreated from scratch. The discussion turned to the needed funds to get the project off the ground. It was pointed out that banks often give money for such projects, but usually in the form of donations to non-profit organizations rather than Town commissions. Accordingly, including the SR Library and/or the Ulster County Historical Society in the fundraising effort was viewed as increasing the probability of obtaining local funding for the project.

Other Notes and Highlights

It was suggested that an invitation go out to Dave Allen, the Town Code Enforcement Officer, to attend a HPC meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Doug Adams

