

Town of Marbletown

Historic Preservation Commission

Town Hall
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Anthony DiGuiseppe, Chair
Laura Shaine Cunningham, Vice Chair
John P. Harrington, Secretary
Doug Adams, Treasurer
Paul Bogart, Commissioner
Scott Davis, Commissioner
Bill Merchant, Commissioner
John Roosa, Commissione

Rich Parete, Town Supervisor
Don LaFera, Town Board Liaison

MINUTES

Historic Preservation Commission

October 28, 2021

Virtual Meeting

Present: Anthony DiGuiseppe, Chair
Laura Shaine Cunningham, Vice Chair
Doug Adams, Treasurer
John Harrington, Secretary
Scott Davis, Commissioner
Bill Merchant, Commissioner
Don LaFera, Town Board Liaison

Absent: Paul Bogart, Commissioner
John Roosa, Commissioner
Marjorie Shelley, Associate Commissioner

1. Call to order: Chair Anthony DiGuiseppe called the meeting to order at 6:05pm.
2. Quorum noted; review of agenda, with October 28 replacing October 14 (cancelled).
3. Review of minutes.

Motion: To approve the minutes of the meeting of September 9, 2021; moved by Doug Adams; seconded by Bill Merchant; motion approved unanimously.

4. Monthly Press Release

The first MHPC press release (written by Laura Shaine Cunningham) appeared very visibly in Blue Stone Press and updated town readers on restoration of Marbletown historic markers. The Commission wishes to continue to provide Blue Stone Press with updates, and information for items should be sent to Cunningham. The program to restore historic markers is also continuing.

John Harrington will research the William G. Pomeroy Foundation historical markers program for marker support in the next round of grants.

5. Marbletown Designation Plaques

Discussions are continuing on the design of a proposed town designation marker; a design and criteria for awards will be considered at the MHPC November meeting.

6. Town-related business

Don LaFera reported that Town Board members wanted to know if MHPC would be interested in maintenance of historic town cemeteries. Harrington will research the surveyed town cemeteries and also any SHPO guidelines on restoration of cemeteries for further discussion.

7. MHPC Facebook page

Merchant is building an inventory of photographs and caption information for a new web page, and he will present material at the MHPC November meeting.

8. Renovation awards

Discussion continued on the logistics of a town historic renovation award. Plans are not yet finalized on eligibility or on the form of award.

In a related discussion, the Commission learned that there have been cases of conflicting information from the town on renovation on designated houses or on houses in historic districts. LaFera will report that to the Town Board for review.

9. Vote on Resolution revision to by-laws.

The Commission again considered an additional by-law that has been under discussion since the meeting of May 14 and has twice been forwarded to the Town Supervisor and attorney without.

The additional by-law text is:

"Any member who is absent from three consecutive meetings shall be recommended to the Town Board for removal, unless the HPC votes to the contrary. The HPC may recommend removal of a member to the Town Board, for cause, where the question of such removal has been set forth in the notice of such meeting."

Motion: To approve and adopt the proposed addition to MHPC By-laws; motion by Adams; seconded by Cunningham; approved unanimously.

Text will be sent again to Town Board.

10. New business

Discussions are continuing with the leadership of Leggett House on potential historic designation.

The Commission is concerned that the historic Van Aken property at Rte. 209 and Ulster Rte. 2 has been deteriorating since its fire several years ago. DiGuiseppe will explore potential resources from the Preservation Assistance Program of SHPO and inform the current Van Aken farm owners.

Next regular meeting (remote) of the Historic Preservation Commission is Wednesday, November 17, 2021, 6:00pm.

Recorded by HPC Secretary, John Harrington