

Town of Marbletown

Historic Preservation Commission

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

Anthony DiGuiseppe, Co-Chair
Harry Hansen
Timothy Hunt, Co-Chair
Marian McCorkle-Beckerman, Vice
Chair
Kathy Schulz
Marjorie Shelley
Susan Sprachman
Commissioners

Laura Shane Cunningham
Associate Commissioner

Claudine Brenner, Secretary
Doug Adams

Marbletown Historic Preservation Commission
September 14, 2019 Meeting,
Rondout Municipal Center

Present:

Tim Hunt, Co-Chair
Anthony DiGuiseppe, Co-Chair
Marian McCorkle-Beckerman, Vice Chair

Doug Adams, Commissioner
Harry Hansen, Commissioner
Kathy Schulz, Commissioner
Susan Sprachman, Commissioner
Laura Cunningham, Associate Commissioner
Eric Stewart, Town Board Liaison
Marjorie Shelley, Commissioner

Excused: Claudine Brenner, Secretary

Guest: Rich Parete, Town Supervisor (for portion noted)

1. Call to order, Quorum, Review of Agenda and Minutes. Mr. Hunt called the meeting to order at 9:30 AM, welcomed all attendees, noted the presence of a quorum and

reviewed the agenda. The Commission noted that the minutes of the last meeting had not been circulated. Mr. DiGuiseppe read them out loud and several corrections were noted. The corrected minutes will be presented to the next meeting of the Commission for approval.

2. Update on Town Business. Mr. Stewart updated the Commission on town business. He noted various actions including a town meeting on the park in High Falls and garbage issues and final approval to make Old Rt. 213 a one-way street. A number of issues relating to High Falls were discussed including developments involving Grady Park and the desirability for a liaison between the Commission and the High Falls Conservancy. Mr. Stewart discussed the High Falls Planning Group which consists of the Town, the Conservancy, the Civic Association, Riverkeeper and the Trails Committee; Mr. Hansen agreed to meet with this group, and Mr. Stewart agreed to try to formalize the relationship between the Group and the Commission. Ms. McCorkle agreed to invite a representative member of the Conservancy to a future meeting of the Commission.
3. Solar Arrays. Mr. DiGuiseppe discussed his research into other historic districts and commissions which seem to permit solar arrays due to energy conservation and related priorities. He was not sure as to the process used to arrive at such laws and noted inconsistencies among them. He noted most arrays are installed with sensitivity and not on the historic structures themselves. He noted that there is nothing on this subject on the SHPO website. Mr. DiGuiseppe agreed to research whether there are trainings available on this topic.
4. Affidavit Project. Ms. Schulz reported on her conversations with the town attorney and the current plan to meet on September 23rd with the town lawyer, Mr. Hansen and the County Clerk.
5. Insurance for Designated Properties. Ms. Schulz reported on her research to date regarding insurance matters.
6. Reconnaissance Survey. Mr. Hunt reported on discussions with SHPO regarding the commission's consultant and proper communications. SHPO cancelled access to the CRIS Tracker during an upgrade, and notified the Consultant, rather than the Commission, that all work had to be done by June 30th. During this period, the public-facing portion of CRIS was accessible but the database could not be accessed to make changes. The survey entries require additional work and data following the Commission's review of the draft survey. Given the filing deadline of draft by September 30th, it was suggested that the submission of a draft survey to SHPO be accompanied by a cover letter noting the access issues and the continued need for work. The draft must be accompanied by recommendations as to where to focus designation efforts and may be thematic; examples discussed included stone houses, frame houses, the presence of African American, etc. The draft survey report will be sent to Commissioners who volunteered for further proof-reading.

Supervisor Parete joined the meeting as an observer.

Mr. Hunt discussed the need for all invoices to be submitted for the Reconnaissance Survey Project by September 30th and noted that no charges may be allocated to the

grant after that date. A full reconciliation will be performed in November. The Commission agreed to hold the consultant's final check until the work was completed.

The survey may be presented to the Town Board on October 15th at a public meeting and then to the general community in an open meeting on October 26th. Mr. Hunt and Mr. DiGuseppe along with Mr. Larson will make the presentation.

Additional aspects of the survey were discussed by the Commission including the need for an historical narrative for the Van Aiken and Ridgley properties. The Commission discussed the appropriate contacts for the Van Aiken property. Ms. Cunningham described additional information she had obtained about the Ridgley Estate's history, all of which will assist in writing a historic narrative. The Ridgley board of trustees will discuss further in November the consideration of a landmark application.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10.55 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Schulz