

Town of New Paltz Historic Preservation Commission Meeting

Wednesday June 20th 2018 7:00PM - 9:00PM in the Community Center

Commissioners attending: John Orfitelli (Chair), Susan DeMark, Kate Brodowska, and Dawn Elliott

Also attending (by phone): Matt Maley, Local Artist and Owner of [Visual Stuff Studio](#)

Agenda

1. Public Comment
2. Review/Approve May Minutes
3. Incentives for Historic Preservation
4. Historic Landmark Signage for Put Corners Cemetery
 - a. Interpretive Plaque Design
 - b. Tri-Fold Brochure
 - c. Aurasma Technology
5. Resignation of Caryn Sobel and Replacement
6. Annual CLG Report for 2017

Minutes

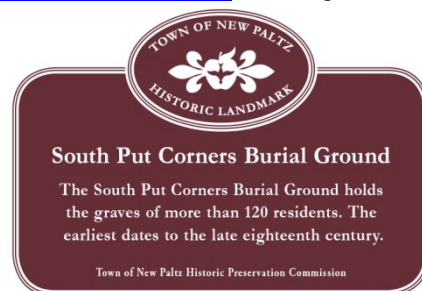
The meeting was called to order at 7:08 pm with a motion from Susan DeMark and seconded by Kate Brodowska. Motion carried.

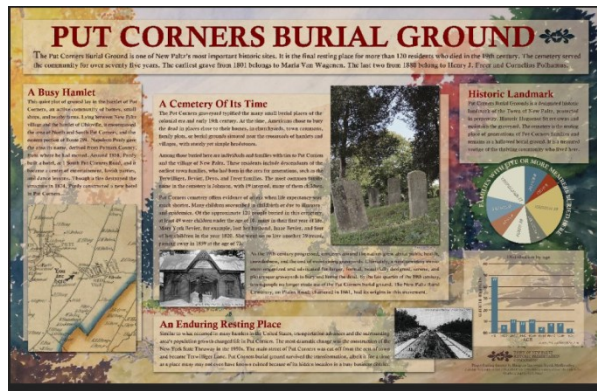
Pledge of Allegiance

1. **Public Comment:** No public comments were received.
2. **Review/Approve May Minutes:** Motion to approve [minutes from our meeting on May 16th](#) was made by Susan DeMark and seconded by Kate Brodowska. Motion carried.
3. **Incentives for Historic Preservation:** John Orfitelli reviewed his efforts to create a Not-for-Profit Corporation as a 501c3 Foundation. Contributions from donors (which would be 100% tax deductible) would be used to build a self-sustaining fund. Money from the fund would be distributed to assist only owners of properties designated as historic landmarks, thereby, creating an incentive for owners to have their properties designated by the Commission.

John [presented his proposal to the Town Board on May 17th](#) for using the HPC budget to cover the \$885 expense associated with application fees and an attorney to complete the application process. Reaction from Board members was positive and encouraging. [A New Paltz Times article about the meeting](#) captures key points from the presentation. The Board agreed to contact Town Attorney, Joe Moriello, to obtain his position regarding the legality for the Town to allow the HPC to utilize their budget to fund creation of the foundation.

4. **Historic Landmark Signage:** A reception hosted by Hampton Inn owner, Jay Modhwadiya, was held on June 13th at the Hampton Inn and well attended by members of the Village HPC, management and staff of Historic Huguenot Street, the Town Board, and family and friends of the Commission. John Orfitelli provided a brief overview of the Put Corner burial site restoration and signage project and presented a [certificate of recognition to Jay Modhwadiya](#) for his generous and civic minded contributions. The custom designed road side marker which will be installed in the Fall due to road construction and a mockup of the interpretive plaque with stand created by Matt Maley were on display and received high praise for details and content.





[A New Paltz Times article by Frances Marion Platt was featured in the June 21st publication and summarizes the event nicely.](#)

Since Jay could not attend due to a family emergency, the Commission agreed to arrange a meeting in the Fall when the signage will be installed to thank Jay personally for his contributions.

- a) **Interpretive Plaque Design:** Final edits to the text and content provided by Susan DeMark will be incorporated by Matt Maley. The delivery of the plaque and stand will be scheduled to coincide with the installation of the road side marker in the Fall.
 - b) **Tri-Fold Brochure:** Kate Brodowska agreed to create a tri-fold brochure for distribution at the hotel.
 - c) **Aurasma Technology:** The Commission discussed the use of Aurasma, now [HP Reveal](#), augmented reality technology to enhance visitor experience at this and other landmark sites. Dawn Elliott was familiar with applications of Aurasma and after looking at a brief demo each of the Commissioners agreed to explore further.
5. **Resignation of Caryn Sobel and Replacement:** A letter of resignation from Caryn Sobel was provided to John Orfitelli on 6/5/2018 and read in part: *'It is with regret that I must resign my seat on the Commission, effective immediately, due to increasing family obligations. It has been both an honor and a pleasure to serve with you and our team.'* Caryn's skills and dedication to the Commission will surely be missed.
- John Orfitelli reached out to Matt Maley to fill the position left by Caryn. Matt, who has been working with the Commission on the Interpretive Plaque, has been a resident of New Paltz for 21 years and has contributed to several projects within the community. Matt accepted the unanimous approval by the Commission of his nomination by Kate Brodowska which was seconded by Susan DeMark. John Orfitelli will submit Matt's nomination to the Town Board for their approval.
6. **Annual CLG Report for 2017:** The annual CLG Report for 2017 was submitted to SHPO by John Orfitelli on March 12th. Since this item had not been covered in our meeting this month, the Commission will address any questions/comments at our next meeting in July.

Motion to adjourn was made by Kate Brodowska and seconded by Dawn Elliott. Motion carried.
Meeting adjourned at 8:53pm.

Next Meeting will be held on Wednesday, July 18th 2018.