

Town of New Paltz Historic Preservation Commission Meeting

Wednesday April 10th 2013 7:30PM - 9:30PM at the Community Center

Commissioners attending: John Orfitelli (Chair), Caryn Sobel, Helen Christie (Vice Chair), and (newly appointed) Stephen Warren. Commissioner Dave Gilmour was not able to attend due to a business obligation and provided his status on the Photo Morphing grant via e-mail.

Agenda

1. Public Comment
2. Review/Approve Minutes from February
3. 2012 Grant: Photo Morphing Project
 - Library Fees
 - Rules of Copyright
 - Grant Status
4. Mohonk Project: Gatehouse Designation Material
5. Landmark Designation Signage
6. HPC Web
 - Google API Upgrade
 - Map Site Editor
 - WebMaster
7. Outreach Initiative
 - HPC DVD Cover and Insert
 - PowerPoint Presentation
 - List of Venues

Minutes

Meeting was called to order at 7:39pm by motion from John Orfitelli and seconded by Caryn Sobel. Motion carried.

1. Public Comment: No public comments were received.

2. Review/Approve Minutes for February 2013: Motion to approval meeting minutes made by Helen Christie, seconded by Caryn Sobel. Motion carried.

3. 2012 Grant: Photo Morphing Project

- **Library Fees:** John Orfitelli met with Library Board President, Richard Heyl de Ortiz, to discuss the digital copy fee schedule currently in place at the Library. John provided an overview of the various HPC projects currently underway and planned and how the fee would significantly impact the ability for the HPC to complete grant projects.

The Library Board met in April and considered the image use policy as it relates to the town and village governments. They agreed to waive fees for any town or village project, provided the project is not revenue-generating.

- **Rules of Copyright:** Carol Johnson provided John Orfitelli with an excellent overview entitled [Rules of Copyright](#). According to Carol, this largely comes into play with images from the second half of the 20th century – those that are less than 73 years old. In some cases, the Library has copies of images from this time period that have been given to the collection without a release to re-distribute for publication. However, Carol knows the owner/copyright holder and can provide the contact information for us to secure permissions. Once the owner signs off on the release provided by Carol, she will be able to let us use the image.

Richard highlighted that this is federal law and Carol has to follow these rules for any of her work as well. All other images owned by Elting or for which Elting has permission to distribute are available without restriction for use as part of the project.

Dave Gilmour and Caryn Sobel would like to understand more about how federal copyright law frames the topic. Dave stated 'as we have discussed, there are many other locations available to secure images, like SUNY Library, so we should know when and how constraints may arise.' John Orfitelli agreed to review this topic with Town attorney, Joe Moriello, and obtain an approved release form for use by the Commission.

- **Grant Status:**(as reported by Dave Gilmour) Dave Gilmour contacted Village Commissioner Agnes Deveraux, who indicated the building block on the west side of Plattekill Ave/ Main Street has undergone interesting transformations. The Village Commission researched this site, and accessed photos (not sure if these are only in the form of postcards from specific collection) at SUNY New Paltz, showing structural change. The Village Commission, at its last meeting, discussed this grant-assisted project, but did not take any formal action, although they may discuss it more at their meeting Monday (I may attend). My recommendation to Ms Deveraux is to review the photos of that site (she volunteered an e-link which is forthcoming), as well as, the research she performed to date, with my request to use that building as the 1st site to attempt a prototype run-through of the photo morphing process with the student at CRREO (I can also examine the H-H collection for data).

Agnes offered that the Village Commission can discuss if there are other specific sites of interest. Not knowing whether there may be terms or stipulations for use of SUNY data, I will also attempt to research that; however, with SUNY as project partner, I envision ready feasibility to use that data.

With that framework, and a meeting of Town Preservation Commission again in two weeks, we should over the fortnight:

- 1) Identify the next two to three priority sites (maybe Gilmour and Orfitelli can work on this);
- 2) Prepare to review prototype site #1 as it is advanced by CRREO (Mr. Orfitelli will contact Mr. Josh);
- 3) plus quickly make a survey to identify another three to five or seven sites and prioritize these in order to follow-on with research and advance the top five to data development over the remainder of spring, when the student is available.

Finally, it would probably be good to request CRREO participation at May T-Commission meeting, maybe also April, unless they can provide product #1 in advance, in which case we can consider it at late-April meeting. This is fast paced, but with luck, effort and communication, maybe we can hit it.

Also, from our meeting...

John Orfitelli met with Carol Johnson at the Library on the day of our meeting to examine material that was available from the archives. Carol was very gracious and spent almost three hours helping to sort through photos that might be useful. Copies of 13 photos using the library copier were reviewed by the Commission. Actual high resolution digital copies would be used for the project.

The Commission discussed several other possible sources for photos including those from families. John agreed to contact Fawn Tantillo who may have a number of photos from her private collection. Vivian Wadlin who publishes About Town may have material we can borrow. Material from currently designated landmarks by the Town and Village should be examined along with properties that are candidates for designation.

4. Mohonk Project: Gatehouse Designation Material (as reported by Carol Sobel)

Glenn Hoagland updated us on the management plans for the Testimonial Gateway property. The Preserve will begin working with a landscape architect and other professionals on the walking trails for the parcel, as well as the trailhead design. The fountains in the ponds are probably not restorable and have not been functional for over sixty years, but the ponds themselves are going to be restored and "civilized." The remains of the original carriage road are two ruts, so restoration prospects are dim. The pin oak allée will not only be maintained, but the Preserve wants to have a tree nursery on the property that will provide replacements of the pin oaks with younger specimens as they are needed. The Lenape bridge may not need to be raised as much as originally estimated, and the decking will be replaced but the rest may be restored.

The Commission will apply for the land marking of the property consistent with the 108-acre parcel designated in the LAMP plan (map on p.100 of plan). Caryn Sobel and Steve Warren will be visiting the site in the near future to see these features. Glenn said he will be planning a walking tour for the Commission, so that we can all see what is being planned.

Also, Paul Huth and I will be meeting soon for me to go out measuring with them at the other farm sites (the rest of the Project!)

5. Landmark Designation Signage: Dave Gilmour contacted Ms Devereaux asking if there was a local landmark medallion for us use until the one on order (per Mr. Orfitelli) arrives.

4/18/2013 Update: The medallion has been procured and will be delivered on the date requested. The folks at the Village HPC have been notified that we no longer will need to borrow one from them.

6. HPC Web

- **Google API Upgrade:** Josh Simons agreed to provide an estimate for this work that is required to allow our map site to function once the upgraded Google API is released.
- **Map Site Editor:** Josh agreed to attend our next meeting on April 24th to provide instruction on how to use the new map editor.
- **WebMaster:** John Orfitelli has been working with Carol Connelly to recruit a webmaster to help restore the Town site and possibly rebuild the site from scratch. The current site has proven to be difficult to use and a secure documents upload process needs to be created to facilitate updates by committees. The Town has selected [Virtual Town's and School's](#) to create a new site. All of today's HPC data will be ported over to the new site. At some point in the future, the Commission will obtain instruction and guidance for making updates.

7. Outreach Initiative

- **HPC DVD Cover and Insert:** John Orfitelli completed the edits requested at our last meeting and has made copies of both the cover and insert and packaged 100 DVDs for distribution at various venues. A copy of the DVD was provided to USIA Video, Bob Fagan, and has been shown on public access just prior to or following public meetings.

- **PowerPoint Presentation:** John Orfitelli continues to work on a short PowerPoint presentation for use at meetings with various organizations. The slides will provide an overview of the Town and Village HPCs, recent grant activities, and introduce the map video.
- **List of Venues:** The following list represents the current set of venues for presentations of our Interactive On-Line Map Video (not in order of priority).
 - Retired Men of New Paltz
 - Woodland Pond
 - ROTARY INTERNATIONAL
 - NEW PALTZ CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
 - St Josephs Church
 - DUBOIS FAMILY ASSOCIATION
 - Elting Memorial Library
 - HASBROUCK FAMILY ASSOCIATION INC
 - HUGUENOT HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEW PALTZ N Y INC
 - INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF LIONS CLUBS
 - KIWANIS INTERNATIONAL INC
 - MOHONK PRESERVE INC
 - MOUNTAIN LAUREL WALDORF SCHOOL INC
 - NEW PALTZ CENTRAL FOUNDATION FOR STUDENT ENHANCEMENT
 - NEW PALTZ DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
 - REDEEMER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
 - REFORMED CHURCH
 - SONS OF ITALY IN AMERICA
 - SUNY NEW PALTZ ALUMNI ASSOC INC
 - UNISON LEARNING CENTER INC
 - VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS
 - WALLKILL VALLEY LAND TRUST INC

Also,

- Stephen Warren was unanimously approved by the Town Board as Commissioner.
- Commissioners were reminded to complete and submit Annual Financial Disclosure forms to the Town Clerk.
- David Gilmour, requested a Commission vote to approve a budget expenditure of \$35 for renewal of an individual membership in Preservation League of New York. Motion to approve was made by Steve Warren, seconded by Caryn Sobel, Motion passed.

Motion to adjourn was made by Helen Christie and seconded by Caryn Sobel. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30.