

Town of New Paltz Historic Preservation Commission Meeting  
Monday February 2nd 7:30PM - 9:30PM at the Town Hall

Attendees: Town HPC Commissioners John Orfitelli, David Gilmour, and Kathleen Interrante along with Town Board Liaison, Kitty Brown and previous Commissioner Mary Ann Colopy.

Agenda

- 1) Review/Approve Minutes from the January meeting
- 2) Follow-ups from Prior Meetings
- 3) New Business

**Minutes**

Meeting opened for public comment at 7:40 with motion from Dave Gilmour and seconded by Kathleen Interrante. No public comment was received.

**1) Review/Approve Minutes from the January Meeting**

The Commission reviewed meeting minutes from the January meeting. Several changes to the text were suggested by Dave Gilmour. Minutes will be modified per these suggestions and presented to the Commission for approval at our March meeting.

Note that the Commission discussed improving our meeting process and agreed that agenda items be solicited one week prior to each meeting and distributed a few days before the meeting.

**2) Follow-ups from Prior Meetings**

*a) Master Plan:* John Orfitelli provided Eve Holberg, Senior Economic Planner with Peter J. Smith & Company, with references to materials created by the HPC that will enable her team to become familiar with the Town of New Paltz historic regions and assets (see attached doc HPC2Holberg).

In addition, John Orfitelli requested that Eve Holberg invite all members of the Commission along with Mary Ann Colopy, Al Marks, and Kitty Brown to the Master Plan focus meeting scheduled for February 6th. Her response was that attendance was being limited to only those invited which included only the chairman.

The Commission discussed the importance of the focus groups and agreed that those who were interested in attending should simply attend regardless of the formal invitation process. Several Commissioners are expected to attend the HPC focus group.

In addition, Dave Gilmour stated his willingness to represent the Commission on the Master Plan Committee. A motion was made by Kathleen Interrante for Dave

Gilmour to serve as the Commission representative on the Master Plan Committee. Motion was seconded by Helen Christie. Motion carried.

**b) HHS Cemetery Designation:** Eric Roth informed John Orfitelli that the designation nomination form would be delivered this week. John will provide a PDF of the document to the Commission via e-mail for review prior to our next meeting.

**c) Re-appointment of Dave Gilmour:** The Town Board voted to approve Dave Gilmour for a second term which will run through December 31, 2013 (see attached letter dated 1/16/09).

**d) Membership to Preservation League of New York:** A voucher was submitted and approved for the membership fee of \$100 to Preservation League of New York.

**e) The annual report for 2008** was submitted by John Orfitelli (see attached doc AR2008 for information the was submitted on-line to SHPO)

**f) Strategic initiatives aimed at the 'bigger picture':** Our role as advocates for historic preservation is key to the process for setting guidelines and creating incentives. As part of a 'visioning process', the Commission outlined a number of value statements aimed at supporting the preservation of historic features within the Town that captures the character of our community.

- Improve access to information via our Web site to allow for an active and engaged public in the affairs of Historic Preservation. Publish design and re-hab guidelines for physical development and enhanced design.

- Provide better municipal information, encourage cross department utilization of HPC data through easy access and on-line tools. Consider and highlight the benefits of Town/Village HPC consolidation.

- Enhance the definition of this areas which highlight the character and features of the community.

- Understand the impacts on these areas of development... enhance zoning through changes to the Comprehensive Plan to mitigate the impacts.

- Examine tax incentives for Historic Preservation efforts by property owners.

- Explore creation of a Historic Preservation Trust Fund which would apply money from fines to advancing preservation initiatives.

- Pursue study and partnership funds via SHPO grants for a) establishment of historic landscapes (transfer of development rights) and b) implementation of the scenic byway historic areas.

### **3) New Business**

No new business was discussed.

Meeting adjourned at 9:25 with motion from Kathleen Interrante and seconded by Dave Gilmour.