

Town of New Paltz Historic Preservation Commission Meeting
Monday March 30th 7:30PM - 9:30PM at the Town Hall

Attendees: Town HPC Commissioners John Orfitelli, David Gilmour, and Kathleen Interrante, Helen Christie, and Rita Toohey along with Town Board Liaison, Kitty Brown.

Agenda

- 1) Review/Approve Minutes from the January and February meetings
- 2) HHS Cemetery Application for Designation
- 3) Community Comprehensive Plan Status
- 4) Process to Advance Ohioville Area Study
- 5) New Business

Minutes

Meeting opened for public comment at 7:30 with motion from Dave Gilmour and seconded by Kathleen Interrante. No public comment was received.

1) Review/Approve Minutes from the January and February Meetings

The Commission reviewed the revised meeting minutes from the January meeting. Motion to approve was made by Helen Christie, Rita Toohey seconded. Minutes from the February meeting were review. Motion to approve was made by Rita Toohey, Kathleen Interrante seconded. Copies of both meeting minutes will be placed in the HPC file.

2) HHS Cemetery Application for Designation: The Commission reviewed the application for landmark designation of the HHS cemetery located on South Putt Corners road submitted by PJ Preuss of Historic Huguenot Street on February 10th. The data and accompanying material provided in the nomination form represents an excellent start in creating a solid set of records to document this historic landmark.

Dave Gilmour outlined a number of suggestions in his letter to the Commission dated February 27, 2009 (see attached). Commissioners Helen Christie and Kathleen Interrante agreed to contact PJ Preuss and Carol Johnson respectively to address certain items in Dave's letter which would further augment the material provided so far. Dave Gilmour agreed to photograph the site.

John Orfitelli agreed to invite PJ Preuss to the meeting on May 4th to participate in the review of his findings and any additional information obtained by the Commission. A public hearing will be held at our meeting on June 1st at which time the Commission will vote on the designation nomination.

3) Community Comprehensive Plan Status Dave Gilmour provided a section from the most recent Master Plan draft related to Historic and Cultural Resources. The primary focus of the material in section 8.2.4 centers on Mohonk Mountain House. John Orfitelli requested that additional data be added regarding the seven historic district areas cited in Niel Larsen's survey along with the five properties currently designated as historic landmarks in the Town. Dave agreed to take back requests from the Commission for this section to build out the periods and descriptions.. i.e. to drill down into the commercial, framing, and historic aspects so as to create guidelines that will help create designated districts that will be compatible with adjacent areas. The text leaves out the fact that Lenape Indians were first to settle in this area and there was a community of freed slaves in New Paltz at one time. Kitty suggested referencing a study of the pre-history of New Paltz by Margaret Wade Lewis.

4) Process to Advance Ohioville Area Study Fawn Tantillo and Kit French who are both residents of Ohioville have been provided copies of the National Register Nomination material created by Neil Larsen. John Orfitelli agreed to arrange a lunch meeting with them along with Dave Gilmour and Tom Olsen (Chair of the Village HPC) to discuss what the nomination means and how they feel about proceeding to promote the nomination -or- perhaps create an Ohioville Historic District within their neighborhood.

5) New Business

a) Community Center: Kitty suggested that the Commission anticipate providing materials for a display case that will be in the entrance of the community center to highlight the Town's Historic assets and preservation activities.

b) Length of Terms: The Town Board is working to standardize the terms of the various Town committees and commissions. One goal is to insure that the current Chair remains for some period after their term expires to enable the newly appointed Chair time to become familiar with the position. Dave suggested a procedure that the HPC approaches the Town Board every two years in January to request approval of the Chair appointment.

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