

Town of New Paltz Historic Preservation Commission Meeting

Wednesday September 21st 2016 7:00PM - 9:00PM at the Community Center

Commissioners attending: John Orfitelli (Chair), Helen Christie (vice Chair), Caryn Sobel, Dawn Elliott, and Susan DeMark along with Town Board Liaison Julie Seyfert Lillis.

Agenda

1. Public Comment
2. Historic Landmark Signage: South Putt Corners Cemetery
3. Gateway Moratorium Update
4. Presentation to Town Board: Need for Incentives
5. Review/Approve August Minutes

Minutes

Meeting was called to order at 7:05pm by motion from Caryn Sobel, seconded by Helen Christie, motion carried.

Pledge of Allegiance

1. **Public Comment:** No public comments were received. Since Stacy Delarede was not able to attend, the topic of Public Hearing Guidelines will be discussed at a future meeting.
2. **Historic Landmark Signage at South Putt Corners Cemetery**
 - A) **Road Visible Sign:** Susan DeMark provided results from her discussion with Catskill Castings for a roadside historical marker design as defined from [our meeting in August](#). The plan is to create a generic marker design for the Town HPC that will be used first for the [South Putt Corners Burial Ground](#) and later for other special Town HPC designated local landmarks. Typically, these landmarks will be non-residential properties such as cemeteries, major private areas (Mohonk Preserve), commercial buildings (Empire Bank), and historic districts. Here is a summary of her findings:

Marker: \$1,025 plus \$30 UPS shipping, for a standard marker

Mounting Pole: \$114 plus \$25 UPS shipping for aluminum or galvanized steel. Both types are the same quality but the New York State DOT requires aluminum along a state route right-of-way since it will break away if struck by a vehicle (not sure if Ulster County requires this as well...item for follow-up).

Lettering and letter limits: The pricing page on the Catskill site (<http://www.catskillcastings.com/pricing.htm>) specifies the logo size and letter limits for the logo, title line, body lines, and credit line.

Colors: We had discussed the white background for the historical marker with maroon lettering, logo, and border trim. According to the company, we can choose any Rust-Oleum color or Benjamin Moore color, and either is included in the cost.

Font: Standard, as shown on the Riley Tavern historical marker on the Web site.

Logo: If we choose a custom logo that replicates the outline of the Mohonk Tower, the company has a one-time charge for its casting: between \$300-\$650. The logo could then be reused on all of the Town HPC markers. Otherwise, the company has stock logos, which have no charge: <http://www.catskillcastings.com/stockindex.htm>

Guarantee: The Company does not have a specified guarantee, unless something improper happens with the original casting. The casting should last a long time, the company representative said. The painting, however, wears due to the effects of acid rain, road salt, and weather and the marker would probably **need to be repainted within 5 years or so**. The company can provide info on best ways to repaint and the site provides info on the number of coatings.

QR Code: The company representative wasn't familiar with QR codes.

Schedule for orders: Typically the company completes an order in 10-12 weeks, depending on any backlog at that time. There is a space on the order form for "date required," and Catskill Castings will try its best to get the order to the customer by that time, but it depends on what backlog exists at the time.

Contact: Nicole, 800-214-9572 or 607-538-1160, e-mail:catskillcastings@hotmail.com

The Commission discussed the recurring process and cost of repainting the marker every 5 years. Other materials such as enameled porcelain, if available, may be a better alternative. Caryn Sobel and Susan DeMark agreed to research alternative materials.

Susan DeMark also found a [grant program for historical markers by the William G. Pomeroy Foundation](#). The tight deadline for submission of a grant application (10/3) along with the design limitations imposed by the grant made this option not viable.

Helen Christie agreed to check with the Town on any signage restrictions that may require special considerations for implementation of a roadside historic marker.

John Orfitelli pointed out that the Empire Bank failed to obtain a CoA for the attorney sign posted on the southeast corner along Rt 299. The sign itself appears very acceptable; however, the failure for the property owner to follow the process is indicative of a lack of understanding of the local landmark law and requires a follow-up meeting to educate the owner on their responsibility. The new historic marker, once adopted, will give the HPC a good opportunity to discuss both the local law and suggest having one installed on the site as well.

- B) Interpretive Sign:** Susan DeMark and Caryn Sobel agreed to collaborate on the text and image(s) for the interpretive sign that will be on display at the South Putt Corners Burial Ground. The basic design preferred by the Commission is that used by Mohonk Preserve as described in our [August meeting minutes](#).

Process and timeline: Complete the research by our next meeting in October and assemble all the materials into a package for presentation to Hampton Inn owner, Jay Modwadiya, in November for his consideration and action.

- 3. Gateway Moratorium Update:** Town Board Liaison, Julie Seyfert Lillis, provided a summary of the current status.
 - A draft law to support a moratorium has been created for review by the Town Board.
 - Town Board votes Thursday, 9/22, to approve the draft law language and discuss the boundaries for the area under consideration.
 - An addendum has been added to the presentation provided to the Town Board by the Ad Hoc Committee on June 16th that clarifies what specifically is not being addressed by the current zoning law.
 - The moratorium process will involve a planning consultant who will work with a citizen committee appointed by the Town Board.
- 4. Presentation to Town Board:** John Orfitelli prepared a draft PowerPoint presentation intended for the Town Board (target: November-December) that will describe the importance and need for

incentives to encourage property owners to designate their properties as local historic landmarks. Commission members provided a number of excellent suggestions that will be used to modify the presentation. An updated version will be provided by John Orfitelli for review at our next meeting in November.

Caryn Sobel suggested establishment of a trust or fund as an additional alternative to the various tax incentives highlighted in the presentation. Caryn agreed to provide material from her prior research for inclusion to the presentation and review at our next meeting.

5. **Review/Approve Minutes from June 2016:** A motion to approve the meeting minutes from August 2016 was made by Helen Christie and Seconded by Susan DeMark. Motion carried. John Orfitelli agreed to post the minutes on our site.

Motion to adjourn was made by Caryn Sobel and seconded by Helen Christie. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 9:38pm.

Next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday October 19th at 7:00pm at the Town Community Center.