

Town of New Paltz Historic Preservation Commission Meeting

Wednesday April 24th 2019 7:00PM - 9:00PM in the Community Center

Commissioners attending: John Orfitelli (Chair) and Susan DeMark

Commissioners Matt Maley, Dawn Elliott, Kate Brodowska were not able to attend due to unforeseen circumstances. Since we did not have a quorum, a work session was held in place of a formal meeting. The following notes along with material provided from emails sent prior to our meeting will serve to document the status for items listed below.

Agenda (Modified)

1. Historic Landmark Legislative Initiative
2. Put Corner Cemetery
 - a. Brochures for Hampton Inn
 - b. Plan for Installation for Marker and Plaque
3. William G. Pomeroy Foundation Grant
4. Social Media for New Paltz Preservation
5. May Meeting Date Change

Reference [Minutes from March](#) for background on these topics.

1. Historic Landmark Preservation Legislative Initiative:

A letter outlining our Legislative Initiative and requesting a meeting or call with [Assemblyman Kevin Cahill and State Senator Jen Metzger](#) to solicit their support will be provided by Susan DeMark to the Commission by email over the next day or so with feedback requested by 5/3. Updates will be incorporated into a second draft that will be provided to Daniel Torres, Deputy Town Supervisor, who agreed to review our letter and provide additional feedback. Also, the letter will be provided to Thomas Olsen, Chair of the Village HPC, for his comments.

Once finalized, the letter will be sent to Ian Donaldson, legislative director for Assemblyman Cahill and the corresponding administrator for State Senator Jen Metzger.

John Orfitelli agreed to contact Matt Maley regarding his follow-up with the Warwick Supervisor's office to obtain clarification on several questions raised by the Commission, namely,

- What kind of push back did the creators receive and how did they respond?
- What are the yearly proceeds collected from the 0.75% fee?
- Are there any exemptions?
- Have there been any changes in the fee or distribution process?
- How does the Town and Village of Warwick implement the collection and distribution of fees.

Based on the positive response and encouragement from our legislators, both Commissions would then address their respective local government bodies (Town Board and Village Trustees) to review the need for a preservation fund and proposed fee model based on Real Estate transactions. Agreement and support would be required to move forward with submission of a Home Rule Request.

2. Put Corner Cemetery

- a) **Brochures for Hampton Inn:** Kate used the images and text material from the Interpretive Plaque to create an [outstanding set of trifold brochures](#) which were provided to the Commission via email for review prior to our meeting. John Orfitelli and Susan DeMark agreed that the brochures could be very useful in promoting the Cemetery (and HPC) at locations other than the Hampton Inn. A 'location neutral' version would require removing the phrase 'Just a Few Steps Away' with the specific address of the Cemetery placed under the New Paltz Preservation

Commission logo located on the back. Susan will share this change with Kate and John will check with PDQ to obtain the cost for copies.

- b) **Date for Installation for Marker and Plaque:** John Orfitelli met with Town Highway Superintendent, Chris Marx, and Hampton Inn General Manager, Randy Nogueira and set May 23rd as the date for a meeting with members of the Commission to establish the exact location for both the road side marker and interpretive plaque. Both were very flexible and agreed to meet at 5:30pm at the Hampton Inn to accommodate the Commission work schedules.

The installation will be a few days later after the areas are marked out (checked for buried wires etc.). Once both are installed, we'll establish a date and time for meeting with Hampton Inn owner, Jayesh Modhwadiya, for the 'unveiling' along with folks from the press, the Town Board, Village HPC, and Historic Huguenot Street.

Susan DeMark agreed to invite Ulster Publishing (ref [article by Frances Marion Platt](#) published last June) and the Kingston Freeman to attend.

3. **William G. Pomeroy Foundation Grant:** As reported previously, the [William G. Pomeroy Foundation](#) grant provides funds for commemorative signage through its Legends & Lore roadside marker grant program. Glenn Hoagland, President and CEO of Mohonk Preserve, has graciously offered the services of Eric Roth, grant writer at Mohonk Preserve, to assist the Commission in submitting a grant for 2019. The grant proposal will cover the three markers for Mohonk Preserve along with a marker for the Lent House historic landmark (Riverside Bank) as described in our [September meeting](#).

Susan DeMark will create the text for the Wawarsing Turnpike marker from [reference material on our site](#) and provide to Kate to incorporate into a mock up image of the marker.

Susan recently reached out to Eric Roth to create a plan with a timeline for the 2019 grant cycle and to determine what materials the commission will need to complete the grant application. Susan also provided Eric with [2019 critical dates from the Pomeroy Foundation site](#). Ulster County lies in Region 4, for the Pomeroy Foundation. An update will be provided by Susan at our next meeting.

4. **Social Media for New Paltz Preservation:** Kate Brodowska agreed to organize and manage our social media which currently includes a [Twitter account](#) to facilitate our outreach efforts and, in particular, the promotion of the Historic Landmark Preservation Legislative Initiative. Kate will also create a Facebook page and provide an overview of her social media campaign suggestions at our next meeting. Susan DeMark will reach out to Kate to share her ideas for Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram.
5. **May Meeting Date Change:** The next meeting in May has been moved to Wednesday, 5/29. John Orfitelli contacted Town Clerk, Rosanna Mazzaccari Rosenkranse, to secure the Community room for that date and have the Town website updated accordingly.

Next Meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 29th 2019.