

**Town of New Paltz Historic Preservation Commission Meeting**  
**Wednesday January 15<sup>th</sup> 2020 7:00PM - 9:00PM in the Community Center**

**Commissioners attending:** John Orfitelli (Chair), Susan DeMark, Matt Maley, and Dawn Elliott

**Agenda**

1. Public Comment
2. Review/Approve December Minutes
3. Community Preservation Referendum
4. Road Side Markers: Riverside Bank
5. Social Media for New Paltz HPC

**Minutes**

The meeting was called to order at 7:20pm with a motion from Susan DeMark and seconded by Matt Maley. Motion carried.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

1. **Public Comment:** No public comments were received.
2. **Review/Approve November Minutes:** The Commission reviewed and approved [minutes from our meeting on December 18<sup>th</sup>](#) and John Orfitelli agreed to post.
3. **Community Preservation Referendum:** Matt Maley and Susan DeMark attended the CP Committee meeting on January 8<sup>th</sup> which was aimed at addressing several questions raised at the first meeting in December as outlined in the [agenda provided by Ingrid Haeckel](#). Town Supervisor, Neil Bettez, provided the following summary and recommendations from his notes:

*In general I think it would be useful for everyone to at least read Ingrid's summary of the Red Hook plan and if possible to read or at least skim the full plan. Then go through the Towns plans in google drive (Comprehensive Plan, OSP, Farmland Plan, and Historic Preservation Plan) to extract the relevant recommendations. Finally, if you are really motivated maybe read through the other Towns Community preservation plans (CPP).*

*Other specific assignments we discussed are:*

1. *Lynn Bowdery to summarize the other CPP examples in the Dropbox similar to what Ingrid did for Red Hook.*
2. *The HPC members will get Ingrid info to add to the GIS on historic sites.*
3. *Ingrid will track down additional GIS data and get everything organized, possibly even start the parcel database with presence/absence of features*
4. *'Alternatives Analysis' that must be included according to the law: Red Hook's plan basically summarized ~20 sections of town code that could be applied to conserving resources identified in the plan. Neil will discuss this with Stacy and see if she can come up with the list of which sections of code should be included.*
5. *Christie DeBoer will reach out to a local farmer to see if they would be willing to be part of this effort.*

Two groups have been created to address Planning and Outreach. The Planning group will meet at 6:00pm on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday each month. The Outreach group will meet at 7:00pm on the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday each month. Dawn Elliott agreed to serve on the Outreach Group along with Matt Maley and Susan DeMark. John Orfitelli will participate in the Planning Group.

Ingrid Haeckel provided an [outline from the Red Hook plan](#) as a means to start getting an idea for the shape/contents of the plan we are writing, and also to see what components Red Hook used in their prioritization.

Ingrid suggested that an additional task that a volunteer could undertake in preparation for the next meeting is to distill the relevant recommendations contained in our comp plan, open space plan, farmland plan, and any other formally adopted relevant plans.

In addition, Matt Maley and Susan DeMark provided the following observations from the meeting.

- The group discussed the need for a consultant with experience in preparing plans for other communities such as Red Hook to help in creating the plan for New Paltz. Ingrid Haeckel agreed to prepare an RFQ. The total estimated expense for bringing the referendum to the public for a vote in November is \$10K.
- The CP Plan must be adopted by the Town Board by August in order to be included as a referendum on the November ballot. John agreed to check with Neil if public hearings would be required prior to the action by the Town Board.
- Ingrid requested a copy of the Stone House survey materials. John Orfitelli will post to the Google Drive along with the Excel spreadsheet that contains the GIS data for all properties surveyed by Neil Larsen and incorporated into the [Interactive Online Historic Map](#).
- The Clean Water and Open Space Commission is preparing to resubmit their grant application to the New York State Hudson River Valley Greenway.

As part of the HPC plan, Matt Maley agreed to develop a cost comparison of repair items between an average house vs historic landmark. These costs will serve to support the grant rationale, process, and specifics such as the proposed contributions for various repairs. Members of the HPC will be in attendance at the next meeting on January 22nd which will focus on Outreach activities and in particular conducting a community survey.

4. **Road Side Markers:** John Orfitelli spoke with Dee Harnish, VP Project and Facilities Management at Riverside Bank, who is responsible for community relations, and was very positive about [our funding request for the Lent House marker](#). John agreed to follow-up with Dee to determine their position on funding.
5. **Social Media for New Paltz Preservation:** Matt Maley created a basic Facebook page for the HPC and assigned the Commissioners as admins. The use of Facebook, as well as, Instagram will prove very important to obtaining support within the community for passage of a referendum in 2020 for the preservation law.

Motion to adjourn was made by Susan DeMark and seconded by Matt Maley. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 9:00pm.

**There will be no meeting in February.**

**Next Meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 18<sup>th</sup> 2020.**