

**HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION  
MEETING MINUTES**

February 2, 2010, 7:30 p.m.  
Delancey Hall

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Bruce Buchholtz  
David Talbot  
Debby Moore  
Gail Pantezzi  
Steve LaRocca  
Susie Thompson  
Francis Tuoti, Chairman

**MEMBER ABSENT:** Marcia Rockwood

**ALSO PRESENT:** Janice Will, Recording Secretary

Holt House, 680 Titicus Road

Chairman Francis Tuoti called the meeting to order. He said he recently had a telephone call from Jill Holt of 680 Titicus Road. Mrs. Holt was upset about preparations being made by State employees to remove a very large tree, and the Chairman went to see what he could do. The foreman of the tree-cutting crew agreed that the tree does not need to be removed yet, but safety must always be considered first. Mrs. Holt had a copy of NYS law about trees, and it contains a paragraph regarding historic site and districts. It seems that the State has to go through numerous steps before they may remove a tree in an historic site or district.

Mrs. Holt showed the Chairman her house, which may date back to the 1700's, and she told the Chairman that she and her husband are both interested in history. Chairman Tuoti suggested to Mrs. Holt that she consider applying to have her home designated an historic landmark, as the State might try harder to save the tree if it is on an historic site.

Those familiar with the site agreed that the tree might be in the State right-of-way and not solely on the Holt property.

The Chairman said he would like someone to help Mrs. Holt with the Historic Resource Inventory Form, and Ms. Pantezzi said she would assist Mrs. Holt.

Stone Chamber Landmark

Chairman Tuoti said he also spoke to a woman who has a stone chamber on her property. Kay Spear and Valentin Godinez live at 955 Peach Lake Road.

Ms. Pantezzi commented that there is a wonderful white barn on one of the Spear/Godinez properties. *(955, 991 and 993 Peach Lake Road are all owned by Ms. Spear.)*

Susie Thompson said she and a friend are going there to take photographs, so she will speak to the owners. She suggested they may want to have the entire property designated.

Chairman Tuoti commended Ms. Thompson for a recent program on stone chambers, adding that it was well done and very well attended.

Ms. Pantezzi said the Highway Superintendent, Ward Hanaburgh, has a lot of knowledge about historic properties in Town. He is interested in being kept informed of the HPC's search for and desire to designate stone chambers.

Approve January 5, 2010 meeting minutes with requested changes.

**Motion by: David Talbot**  
**Seconded by: Bruce Buchholtz**  
**All in favor.**

Next Meeting: Tuesday, March 2, 2010.

**All in favor.**

Most Recent Mike Bonelli drawings to be put on Town website.

Chairman Tuoti said Cynthia Curtis will scan the 2 new drawings of local historic landmarks so they may be included with the others on the website, and credit will be given to the artist.

Mr. Talbot commented that there are now drawings of all the Town's historic landmarks.

Ms. Pantezzi mentioned that she had not realized the HPC applications are not on the website.

Ms. Thompson said they will be put on shortly. She commented that not enough people are aware of the Town website. She said the Historical Society has a site of its own: [www.nshs.info](http://www.nshs.info).

White Elephant

Chairman Tuoti stated that the HPC approved a replacement chimney on the White Elephant in the past, but the chimney was not replaced after all. He explained that someone decided to leave the old chimney in place with a brace, and now it is leaking. A roofer has examined the job and informed the Chairman that there is no flashing as indicated in the plans. Another possible cause of the leaking could be that the chimney was moved, loosening the flashing. Chairman Tuoti said the chimney is in bad shape and needs to be pointed by a mason. With the old chimney to be left in place, the HPC will not need to approve the repairs.

Changes to Historic preservation law

Chairman Tuoti said he has not reached Chris Brockmeyer yet, but he will make a better effort to do so.

Ms. Thompson suggested that if Mr. Brockmeyer is invited to the next HPC meeting, he will do some research and prepare something to bring to the meeting.

#### Cell Tower in Purdys

Ms. Thompson said the property-owners have appeared before the Planning Board, and the meeting minutes are on the Town website. There will be a balloon test next, and Cynthia Curtis will let the HPC know when it is scheduled for. Ms. Thompson said the HPC members may also attend the Board of Appeals hearing of the variance application that will be necessitated by the proposed cell tower.

Ms. Pantezzi stated that telecommunications law gives precedence to establishment of cell towers

#### Storage of drawings/booklets

Ms. Pantezzi said there is good space available at the Highway Department vault but there is no de-humidifier, and she wondered if Highway would consider putting a de-humidifier in the vault.

Ms. Thompson said she has 1800 documents stored at the Highway vault, and they are all fine.

Ms. Pantezzi said the structure is built into the side of a hill and must get humid in the summer. She asked what other storage space is available.

Ms. Thompson said she can keep things locked in the file cabinet in her office, but Ms. Pantezzi said there would not be room for 2 boxes of booklets in a file cabinet.

Ms. Thompson said she thought the booklets would be safe in her office even if they are not in a locked cabinet.

Ms. Pantezzi said she knew of too many instances of things gone wrong in the past.

Chairman Tuoti asked if they could deal with the drawings first.

Ms. Pantezzi said the drawings are in an archival box with acid-free tissue, and Ms. Thompson said the box will fit in either the file cabinet or the closet, which locks.

Ms. Pantezzi handed in the bill for the archival box and papers to be submitted for reimbursement.

Ms. Pantezzi said that with a 60% off sale at Michael's, the drawings could be framed for approximately \$100 each.

The Chairman thanked Ms. Pantezzi for the information.

Ms. Pantezzi suggested speaking to Ward Hanaburgh about putting a de-humidifier in the storage vault, even offering to donate one she has.

Ms. Thompson said all the Town budgets have been cut, so it might be too expensive for Highway to pay to run a dehumidifier.

Debby Moore agreed, saying they use a lot of electricity.

The Chairman said it would be alright for Ms Pantezzi to speak to Mr. Hanaburgh about using a de-humidifier in the Highway vault, and the drawings will be stored in Ms. Thompson's office.

Ms. Thompson said the booklets do not sell, and they are also out of date now.

Ms. Pantezzi suggested lowering the price of the booklets from \$10 to \$5 each. She added that the HPC could look into ways of adding properties to the booklet to bring it up to date.

Lower the price of the historic landmarks booklet to \$5

**Motion by: Gail Pantezzi**

**Seconded by: Steve LaRocca**

**All in favor.**

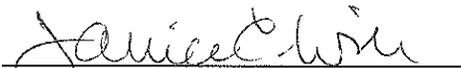
Bruce Buchholtz asked if the booklets are free to prospective landmark owners, and Ms. Pantezzi said they are.

Motion to adjourn at approximately 8:20 p.m.

**Motion by: Bruce Buchholtz**

**All in favor.**

Respectfully submitted,

  
Janice Will, Recording Secretary