

**HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES**

**March 1, 2011
Delancey Hall**

MEMBERS PRESENT: **Bruce Buchholtz
Debby Moore
Steve LaRocca
Francis Tuoti, Chairman**

MEMBERS ABSENT: **David Talbot
Gail Pantezzi
Marcia Rockwood**

ALSO PRESENT: **Susie Thompson, Town Historian
Amy Rosmarin, Town Board Member/2 Great Oaks Lane
Janice Will, Recording Secretary**

Chairman Tuoti opened the meeting, inviting Amy Rosmarin to bring the HPC up to date re her work on the historic designation of Mills Road.

Mills Road

Amy Rosmarin stated that Susie Thompson provided her with information about both Mills Road and the historic designation of Baxter Road. Ms. Rosmarin and Ginny Gerardi conducted an interview with Ms. Thompson, Debby Moore and Tim Purdy to further discuss the history of Mills Road and she is are organizing all their information now. Ms. Rosmarin offered to try and have a first draft of the Mills Road proposal for the HPC's April meeting, and she passed around copies of the list of all the residents who signed the petition several years ago.

Chairman Tuoti asked what percentage of residents signed the petition.

Ms. Rosmarin replied that she thought at least 60%/maybe more. She added that she could have gotten even more signatures, but what she had was enough at the time.

Ms. Rosmarin said she found some old e-mails when she was looking for contacts at the DEP. One person was Jeff Graff, who provided her with the linear footage of the DEP's portions of Mills Road. Ms. Rosmarin said she had asked for the DEP attorney's contact information so that Roland Baroni could get in touch with him about putting together a proposal for Mills Road that would be agreeable to the DEP. Ms. Rosmarin also sent the Zoning Code section that describes possible exemption from historic road designations, which may be granted by the Town Board. She offered to write the exemption request for the DEP, but the discussions never progressed any further.

The Chairman asked how the HPC will know who to call at the DEP now.

Ms. Thompson reminded him that Martin Aronchick provided some names/contact information and that would be a good place to start.

Ms. Rosmarin said 2 to 3 phone calls will get you to the right person, and then she offered to make the calls herself.

Chairman Tuoti said he will prepare a letter similar to the one sent to the DEP by Ms. Rosmarin in the past. (*Ms. Rosmarin provided a copy of her letter.*)

Ms. Rosmarin said that once she has all the historic information together, she will contact people on Mills Road.

Ms. Thompson pointed out that the designation of Baxter Road several years ago should help people realize that property-owners on an historic road do not experience problems because of it.

Debby Moore said she could help with the names of the owners of some of the properties on the Mills Road list.

Bruce Buchholtz wondered how close to Mills Road one needs to be to participate. He explained that although his address is Wheeler Road, one side of his property is on Mills Road.

Ms. Moore said she thought everybody will like the idea of designating Mills Road, in part so the road will never be widened, which invites more traffic.

Chairman Tuoti invited Ms. Rosmarin to stay on for the rest of the meeting if she wished to.

Mahoney House/Brockmeyer Certificate of Appropriateness

The members discussed the addendum to the C of A application, including provision of wood samples.

Mr. Buchholtz said he had worked on the addendum so the HPC will have more information about the addition of railings to the front and back porches of the Mahoney House.

Chairman Tuoti asked for a motion.

To approve the Certificate of Appropriateness for the new porch railings on the Mahoney House.

Motion by: **Debby Moore**
Seconded by: **Steve LaRocca**
All in favor.

Purdys Cental High School

Mr. Buchholtz said he met with Supervisor Warren Lucas who approved the estimate for purchase of a plaque and liked the plaque's layout and size. The supervisor suggested addition of a third date (that of the vote to approve formation of the school district), but Mr. Buchholtz said he would prefer the plaque without the additional date.

The members present agreed with Mr. Buchholtz.

Ms. Thompson commented that the \$800 + cost of the plaque will use up most of the HPC's \$1000 budget for 2011.

The Chairman noted that the Town Board wanted the larger plaque and said he thought they could request additional funds if needed later in the year. He asked the others if they wanted to approve the plaque with the 2 dates originally proposed.

Ms. Thompson suggested they vote to approve the plaque, but she thought they should also ask David Talbot to e-mail everyone the latest mock-up so they may see the wording/lettering sizes again.

To approve the plaque for Purdys Central High School per the proof examined at the January 4, 2011 meeting, with the exception of a change in letter-size for "Central High School" and the dates.

Motion: *Debby Moore*
Seconded by: *Bruce Buchholtz*
All in favor.

O'Donohue Barn

Chairman Tuoti explained that Laura O'Donohue has had a barn built to the specifications of an antique barn she intended to have re-constructed but found she could not use safely. He noted that the C of A application and a photograph of the antique barn are both missing.

Ms. Thompson said perhaps Deanna Mulligan (former co-chairperson of the HPC) has the photo.

The Chairman explained that Mrs. O'Donohue needs to close out the Building Permit for the barn, but the Building Inspector needs the HPC's approval first. Chairman Tuoti commented that although the building permit will expire on March 10, the HPC has not had much notice about the barn. He stated that the wood from the old barn was in poor condition, so the O'Donohues had a new barn built. The Chairman commented that he would like to see the plans for the new barn, but he did wonder what to compare them to.

Ms. Moore said the HPC should make a site inspection. She added that only the barn's location matters, as it is within the protected perimeter of the Keeler Homestead; the barn is not a landmark.

Ms. Thompson suggested they look at the Building Department file and also call Deanna Mulligan to see if she has the C of A application and/or the photo of the antique barn that was approved. She also said they should ask the Building Inspector to extend the Building Permit to give the HPC more time. Ms. Thompson felt they were bound by the letter from Deanna Mulligan to Laura O'Donohue with regard to the size and appearance of the barn.

Mr. LaRocca felt they should just look at the barn in relation to the Keeler Homestead.

The secretary said she would call the Chairman to let him know what kind of information/ drawings are available in the Building Department file.

Chairman Tuoti said the Building Permit will need to be extended so the HPC may discuss/vote on the barn at their April meeting. He suggested they try to go to Snow Hill Farm as a group on the coming Saturday, adding that he would contact Ms. O'Donohue.

Purdys Historic District

Mr. Buchholtz said he is willing to go door-to-door to speak to people who did not return the survey about the proposed historic district. He stated that Supervisor Lucas suggested using the Lions Club as a venue for meeting with people in the hamlet. Mr. Buchholtz commented that the HPC first needs something concrete to present to people, and he would like time to talk to those with negative reactions to the historic district. He added that the Bartsches and Chris Brockmeyer offered to help out. Mr. Buchholtz asked the HPC members whether they preferred the idea of taking the survey door-to-door or holding a meeting.

Ms. Thompson commented that until they have something specific to present, there would be no point in hosting another meeting.

Mr. Buchholtz said they need to decide whether to restrict just front facades or all street-facing sides of properties. He said he will draft something for the April meeting based on the survey results received so far.

Individual Lists of Potential Landmarks

(Chairman Tuoti and Susie Thompson provided their lists via e-mail prior to the meeting.)
Mr. LaRocca had left his list at home, and Ms. Moore said her suggestions are all in the photos taken while doing research for the Comprehensive Plan Committee.

Ms. Thompson invited Ms. Moore to come in to the office to review her work and trim it down to a list of 10.

Next Meeting: April 5

Agreed.

January Meeting Minutes

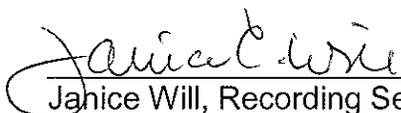
Motion to approve: Bruce Buchholtz

Seconded by: Steve LaRocca

All in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Janice Will, Recording Secretary