



**Village of Williamsville  
Historic Preservation Commission  
Meeting Minutes --- September 25, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.**

Present: Kate Waterman-Kulpa, Chairman  
Wes Stone, Vice-Chairman  
Mary Lowther, Member  
Dr. Stephen Dyson, Member  
Susan Palmer, Member  
Chuck Akers, Member

Also present: Deborah A. Habes, Deputy Clerk  
Matthew Etu, Trustee Liaison  
Charles Grieco, Village Attorney

Absent: Anthony Bannon, Member

Ms. Waterman-Kulpa opened the meeting at 7:05 p.m.

**ON MOTION** by Ms. Lowther, seconded by Stone, it was moved to approve the minutes of the August 28, 2018 meeting, as submitted.

Motion carried. 6 – 0. (Akers abstained.)

**Lehigh Valley Train Depot - State & National Nomination** - Ms. Waterman-Kulpa stated she has spoken to Tom Stackhouse and they are totally going forward with this. Jen from State Preservation Office gave Kate a long list of requirements needed. Funding? Need about \$10,000 for hiring somebody. HPC should do the gathering of the history for this. Is a RFP needed? Mr. Grieco did not think that an RFP was necessary for a \$10,000 to \$12,000 job, but suggested they should do RFP anyway. Preservation Studios? Flynn – Battaglia? (Kate would recuse herself if FB were chosen. If funding comes through for the Section House rehab, maybe some dollars could come from that. HPC is requesting WNYRHS to join HPC at a comprehensive meeting. Trustee Etu suggested he could seek out some companies. Kate will send him some guidelines of what HPC needs.

**CLG Conference** – **October 23<sup>rd</sup>**. We host this one. Clarence will host a meeting in the spring. Kate spoke to Christiana but won't go with her. Maybe James? She doesn't want any cities but maybe the City of Tonawanda, since they were good. Kate will invite them.

**LeeLee's Carriage House, 5444 Main St** – HPC members have looked at the site. It is in rough shape. It has been modified a lot over the years. Kate does not think it is worth saving. Suggested that the structure's stone blocks be re-used in some way in the new structure if it is ever demolished. Wes will bring up this idea at a Planning Board meeting once it comes before them for review.

**Status of Brewery Hill** (34 & 42 W. Spring St.) – Our code is limited to the outside for nominations. The 'caves' are underground. It's on the north side of W. Spring St. Matt will look for the nomination of the Brewery Hill. Is it exterior as well? Also will check ownership. Brewery Hill was nominated. Kate wants a HPC member at the Village Board meeting on October 9<sup>th</sup> to talk about the history of this site. There was discussion regarding if the public hearing for it was closed or not. Chip will check with Lynda. He suggested the Village should notify any new owner if a closed public hearing is ever re-opened.

### **HPC Educational Piece**

Sue Palmer and Chuck Akers have done research and explained why HPC needs this. Created a working document. It all concerns the importance of preserving our historic assets and teaching the public why it is important. Want to see more historic info added to the Village website and social media. Trustee Etu stated there will be a special Village Board work session on October 16<sup>th</sup> to discuss the new sign code. HPC members will be invited to attend. Kate believes that HPC is a relevant and vibrant commission. Its mission is to build relationships. The Village Board needs to be on board with this. Sue wants to sit down with Keaton DePriest to discuss the Village's "stories" of residents in our past to feature on our media. History of Village street names and who they are named after, for example. Village businesses...old ones that are still around and vibrant? Like Youngs, Bissells, Bronkies, etc. Mr. Dyson wants to see the Historical Society investing in this as well. Sue believes this is the role of the HPC. It is in the CLG – Education. Unless the community cares about its history, the HPC cannot do its job.

Dr. Dyson – Believes that our area does not possess the strong sense of history that New England does. How to get the word out to the community? Kate believes the Village Board must tell HPC what it wants from HPC. Have to focus on certain points of education.

Trustee Etu – Keaton can do a post on Facebook. How will stories reach the public? Cannot be only by Facebook. Trustee Etu wondered if some funds from the Arts & Culture Committee line might be used for this. Maybe \$500 could go towards this.

Sue is definite in wanting to highlight S. Cayuga Corridor and its history regardless of what the Village Board wants HPC to do.

**Historic Plaques** – Mary wants to know if there is any funding budgeted for purchasing these historic plaques. She said the Village used to buy them in the old days. They are for placement on all the 100+ year old houses in the Village. Trustee Etu said there is no funding in the budget for this. Mary said each plaque costs about \$500. Maybe we could

do 4 or 5 a year? Any funding from grants or foundations? Matt – the Historical Society is a 501c3. Maybe package it all in and sell it. He will try to put in \$2,500 in the budget a year for plaques.

Model Law Update - Mr. Grieco continues to work on it.

Sign Code Meeting - October 16<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm at Village Hall. Village Board is holding a special work session for the various other stakeholders. HPC is encouraged to attend.

CLG Conference – October 23<sup>rd</sup> – What to serve? Water bottles? Pitchers of water was decided upon. Kate asked the HPC members to bring trays of cookies to serve. Kate will do pitchers of water and plastic cups. Set up in the auditorium. No tables are needed. Just set up the chairs in a circle.

**ON MOTION** by Ms. Lowther, seconded by Mr. Stone, it was moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:40 p.m. Motion carried. 6 – 0.

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Deborah A. Habes,  
Deputy Clerk

**Next HPC meeting will be held on October 23, 2018**  
**HPC members please arrive at 6:00pm to help set up**  
**for the CLG Conference**  
**being held here that evening at 6:30pm**