

Vestal Historic Preservation Commission Meeting Minutes from July 11, 2016

Attendees: M. Hadsell, M. Supa, N. Versaggi

Absent: P. Deeley, B. Weisse

Meeting called to order at 5:35 pm

Meeting adjourned at 6:35 pm

Old Business:

- Rivercrest – Up to 16 acres of the Rivercrest property is now for sale. The sign notes highway and river frontage. The agenda for the Town of Vestal Work Meeting (July 11, 2016) included an item under Planning & Zoning:

“Request authorization for the Town Attorney to draft a local law to rezone 4629 – 4729 Vestal Parkway E from Residential Area-2 family (RA-2) to Transitional Neighborhood (TN) with publication on July 27, 2016 for a Public Hearing to be held on August 10, 2016. The applicant is the Northstar Group, LLC.”

In response to this item, the Commission discussed language for a letter to the Town Board objecting to the rezoning. As a commission, we wanted to stress that the neighborhood retains its designation as “historic” and the deeds of said properties contain the specification for “single family dwellings only” for this tract of land. In addition, the Chenango Canal Extension prism and tow path are part of these properties and are eligible for the National Register. The letter expresses our concerns about the status change to a transitional neighborhood and its effects on the district as a whole and the preservation of the Canal. As it is our duty to support preservation and protection of local landmarks as part of Vestal history, we are not in favor of the appeal for change in zoning.

The finalized letter was approved and will be sent to the Town Board prior to their next regular meeting.

- The Commission completed edits requested by the William G. Pomeroy Foundation for the Vestal Park Cemetery text. More details were provided on the graves of two Revolutionary War soldiers: William Weston and John Rush, and their roles in Sullivan-Clinton Campaign.
- Update on Ken Wilson Dealership – the hyperbolic paraboloid structure (“potato chip” building) has been demolished and construction of the new commercial building is underway.
- Oath of Office Reminder – members of the Commission who have not already signed their Oaths of Office, were reminded to do so.

New Business:

- Canal – Roger Luther is writing an article on the historic importance of the canal.

Next Meeting

- Monday, August 8, 2016 at 5:30 pm.