

# Minutes of the Town of Vestal Historic Preservation Commission

## 10 October 2011

**Attendees:** Margaret Hadsell, Susan Halpern, Janice Mangan, Jeffery Smith, Nina Versaggi

The meeting of the Commission was called to order at 7:11p.m. by Chairperson J. Smith.

### New Business

- **Flood Damage to Historic Buildings** – M. Hadsell reported that the condition of our three buildings and one historic district was reported to SHPO, the Preservation League of NYS, and PAST. The Vestal Central High School did not sustain any flood damage. Both the Drovers Inn and Rounds House had water in the basement and both have been cleaned. The Rivercrest Historic District did not sustain any damage. Two other historic buildings, as yet not designated at any level, were the Mersereau House which had no damage and Cold Spring Farm that sustained 32” of water on the first floor. The owner has retained a professional cleaning service and is in the process of restoring the building.

Damage to other historic buildings such as Washingtonian Hall in Endwell was discussed.

- **Rivercrest Historic District** – S. Halpern reported that care and maintenance of some homes in Rivercrest is not being done. According to the historic preservation law, owners are expected to maintain these properties. We should meet with the Code department to ask what can be done.

As of October 10<sup>th</sup>, Judge Tait had not rendered his decision about whether the Town of Vestal had the right to remove the local historic designation for Rivercrest.

- **Review of Historic Resource Survey Final Report** – Commission members were given copies of the “Eligibility Considerations and Recommendations” section of the report to review for compiling a list of those properties to be designated.

The first three sections of the report will be sent to each member online. A hardcopy of the report is being circulated.

The plan is to compile the list after which we will seek a meeting with the Code department, Planning Committee, and ZBA Committee to inform them of our proposed designations.

Members should bring their list of recommendations to the November meeting.

### Old Business

- **Rounds Cemetery Restoration** – J. Mangan reported work is progressing. The stone for the walls has been delivered. Construction of the wall will be done by stone mason, Larry Guidici from Binghamton, and a “wrought iron” gate will be fabricated by Al Chapin.

Motion to adjourn made by S. Halpern, seconded by M. Hadsell. Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

**Next meeting:** November 14, 2011, 7 p.m. at the Vestal Public Library