

Minutes of the Town of Vestal Historic Preservation Commission

11 October 2010

Attendees: Margaret Hadsell, Janice Mangan, Jeffery Smith

Absent: Susan Halpern, Nina Versaggi

The meeting of the Commission was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by Chairperson J. Smith.

Old Business

- **Jeff's Reach Out to Code** – J. Smith contacted Mark Dedrick of the Vestal Code office to offer the Commission's assistance. It was decided a follow-up letter was not necessary. Jeff will also touch base with Lincoln Ellis from the Code office.
- **Drovers Inn Update** – Realtor Karen Klecar indicated to M. Hadsell that there is a contract on the Inn. A closing date is not known.
- **Preserve New York Grant Update** – M. Hadsell reported that she is working with consultant Jessie Ravage and Kathleen LaFrank from SHPO to revise the scope of work. The Vestal Historical Society has donated \$1000 toward the unfunded \$3150, leaving \$2150 to make up.
- **Rivercrest Update** – S. Halpern absent – no report.
- **Future Rivercrest Development – SHPO/DEC** – N. Versaggi absent – no report.
- **Certificate of Appropriateness Process Update** – The draft process was reviewed and modified.

Changes to Item 1:

1. URLs will be added to point to several sites for standards and guidelines.
2. The following statement will be added: "It is advisable to consult with the Planning Commission, Town Engineer, and Zoning Board at this time to determine their requirements for the project."

Change to Item 2: The applicant will be instructed to submit the completed application and fee to the Vestal Town Clerk who will forward it to the Vestal Historic Preservation Commission.

The following statement will be added as the last line: "Applicants should review Vestal's Historic Preservation Ordinance, Local Law 3 of 2010."

- **Certificate of Appropriateness Update** – The former law designation was updated to the new Ordinance. A checkbox in front of the following statement was added: "I am aware that Historic Preservation Commission members or Town Staff may enter upon private land at reasonable times to inspect the work or the site solely in performance of their duties."

The form will be made available from the Code office and from the Historic Commission area of the Town web site.

- **Rounds Fence Update** – J. Mangan sent a letter to the owner requesting a meeting to discuss what can be done to restore the fence to its former location.

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Livable Communities Alliance – J. Smith reported that a Livable Communities Alliance (LCA) has been meeting in Binghamton. The group is made up of public and private organizations, community groups and professionals. *Participating members of the Livable Communities Alliance (LCA) strongly believe that planning and development consistent with smart growth and livability principles will help our region achieve economic competitiveness and improve social and environmental health. An event on 23rd October will be held at Binghamton High School, Helen Foley Theatre from 1:00p-5:00p for the screening of ["Beyond the Motor City"](#) & Community Conversation that is to include the films producer.*

- On October 28th & 29th WSKG will present "Beyond the Motor City" & "Road to the Future".
- Rust to Green – Binghamton is participating in a partnership with Cornell University's Dept. of Landscape Architecture. Along with Utica these are the first two cities to participate. A goal of this project is to identify, document and facilitate trends and successes in redefining rust belt cities as potential green centers of vitality and livability. May 5th Seminar – The LCA is preliminarily planning a 5 May event/day long seminar on growth, livability and sustainability. The Owego Historic Preservation Commission has discussed a spring day-long event on preservation with several seminars to attract professionals, the public and government employees/officials. If we can somehow schedule/combine these to provide a much larger and attractive event for our area, this would be good.
- **Vestal's CLG Request** – M. Hadsell is working with Supervisor Pete Andreasen to prepare a formal request for recognition by SHPO as a Certified Local Government. A CLG grant for a cultural resource survey is available and Julian Adams will be contacted about the possibility of using a CLG grant to make up the \$2150 needed.
- **Vestal Historical Society Donation** – Covered under Old Business.

Motion to adjourn made by J. Mangan, seconded by M. Hadsell. Meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Next meeting: November 8, 2010, 7 p.m. at the Vestal Public Library