



Vestal Historic Preservation Commission

605 Vestal Parkway West
Vestal • New York • 13850-1486
Telephone (607) 748-1514 / Fax (607) 786-3631

Vestal Historic Preservation Commission Meeting Minutes from June 9, 2014

Attendees: M. Hadsell, S. Halpern, J. Mangan
Christine Capella-Peters – SHPO Historic Sites Restoration Coordinator

Absent: N. Versaggi

Old Business:

- William G. Pomeroy Foundation Historic Markers
 - Chugnut – Approved and paperwork to accept grant was submitted
 - Rounds House – Additional information supporting dates was requested and submitted.
- Vestal Center United Methodist Church
Catherine Ellis asked whether a historic marker would be placed at the church and I indicated that a marker would be applied for in January 2015. They hope it will be in place for their anniversary in 2015.

New Business:

- CLG Audit by Christine Capella-Peters
The audit consisted of an interview to answer questions, a review of the files, and attendance at a Commission meeting. The audit was completed in 3.5 hours.
- Explanations and Comments by Peters
 - An audit is required every 4 years and includes an interview, review of the files and attendance at a Commission meeting.
 - A written report will be sent to the Town Supervisor under Julian Adam's signature in 2-3 weeks.
 - The municipality must respond within 120 days to indicate how they will correct any deficiencies. The corrective actions can take more than the 120 days.
 - With regard to CofAs, Peters cautioned that if verbal changes are made to the submitted CofA, those changes should be written out and agreement by the applicant documented. This will eliminate vulnerability and clarify the proceedings to other applicants.
 - Peters recommended having current color photos attached to the CofA.
 - In the CofA files, we need to attach the formal written decision to the application and any copies supplied. These files are open to the public and if they could be scanned and added to the Commission web pages that would be helpful.
 - In the Meeting Minutes, we should identify all CofA's clearly.



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- Peters cautioned that the Commission should not act on incomplete applications.
- Peters suggested we digitize the Reconnaissance Survey and make it available online.
- Peters felt we had very good information on the Commission's web pages and to add the survey if possible.
- Peters expressed that the Vestal Historic Preservation Commission is equal to the town ZBA and Planning Board.
- Peters recommends having an outreach by a third party which would help to advocate for historic preservation and raise awareness in the community.
- Peters recommends approaching owners whose properties are eligible for historic designation and encouraging them to apply for designation at Local, State, and National levels.

- Tax credits for State and Nationally designated properties covered by Peters.
 - A minimum of \$5000 must be spent.
 - Tax credits cover 20% of the cost of work. Up to 95% may be costs for the interior, but a minimum of 5% must be exterior costs.
 - The 20% is claimed on the owner's NYS income tax.
 - The tax credits may be annual and can be banked until the following year if the credit is greater than the taxed owed.
 - New construction, garages, and site work are not included.

Ms. Peters offered the names of those who could present this information if requested.

Ms. Peters also discussed possible grant funding for projects. CLG grants of up to \$20,000 are for anything except capital construction projects.

Meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

The next scheduled VHPC meeting is **Monday, July 14, 2014**, pending business actions.