

TOWN OF POUGHKEEPSIE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
July 7, 2020

In attendance: Town Historian: John Pinna
Commissioners: Daniel Fannon and Lydia Higginson
Visitors: Stephanie Lewison and Ann Shershin

The teleconference meeting was called to order at 7:20 p.m. by Town Historian, John Pinna.

Minutes: June minutes were not read due to lack of a quorum.

Hudson River State Hospital: John Pinna and Yvonne Laube visited the Hudson River State Hospital site 2 ½ weeks ago and inspected the progress of the construction of the roof and floor in the administration building. A number of grills, the wind vane, and other items have disappeared from the site. Yvonne Laube found a number of the missing items on line and made Marty Berger aware of this. Marty Berger is going to follow up on this and may be able to get the items back. Cheney building is nearly down. There are some issues with the bricks in the Director's house that needs to be investigated. There will be a Hudson River State Hospital memorial meeting on July 14 at 6:00 pm. John Pinna wants to recognize outstanding contributions and efforts Yvonne Laube has made to this project.

New Hamburg: Daniel Fannon is reviewing the historic preservation designation applications for the houses in New Hamburg. One more signature from an owner is required. Once the applications have been completed, they will be emailed to the commissioners. We are hopeful that these applications will be ready to vote on at the next meeting and begin the process of mailing letters to the neighbors. Daniel Fannon has meet with contractor and architect for 2 Water Street.

Turner House: Turner House on New Hackensack Road is up for sale.

Fort House: No activity has occurred at the Fort House. We will contact John McKee again.

CAC: The CAC has received a grant to survey the natural resources of the Town of Poughkeepsie and will be hiring a consultant. Native American sites, cemeteries, and our historic resources survey will be included in their survey. John Pinna would like to provide them with a list of significant historic sites in the town of Poughkeepsie to be included in their survey. This needs to be completed by the CAC's September meeting.

Meeting in Person: Jay Baisley is considering opening up the town hall for meetings again. John Pinna will reach out to the other commissioners to determine their comfort level with meeting in person.

Website: John Pinna will meet with the Town's new IT person.

Demolition Permits: The idea of having demolition permits for older building reviewed by the Historic Preservation Commission before they are issued has been brought to the attention of the town planner and the comprehensive plan review commission. The Historic Preservation Commission is looking for input into the demolition permit and the opportunity to educate the owner about their building before it is torn down.

Arthur S. May School: The Arthur S. May School project is going before the planning board this month to change the 3 building on Raymond Avenue from 2 stories each to 3 stories. Stephanie Lewinson voiced a concern that the 3 story buildings will look out of place with the rest of the street. We decided this is not a concern of the commission and will not comment. Jacob Reckess has purchased the site. Daniel Fannon would like to have the name of the school removed from the site since the school is likely to be torn down.

William's Faculty Housing: Vassar College is planning to take down William's Faculty Housing starting on August 1.

Meeting adjourned at 8:21 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Ann Shershin.

Minutes read and approved on August 4, 2020.