

THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION OF THE VILLAGE OF MONTEBELLO WAS HELD ON WEDNESDAY APRIL 13, 2011 AT THE MONTEBELLO VILLAGE HALL. THE MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER AT 7:35 PM FOLLOWED BY THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

Roll call.

Members Present: Josephine Bracken-Chairperson
Lisa Levin
Hannelore Renud
Kathryn Cupak
Lois Williams-Ad Hoc

Others Present: Warren E. Berbit, Village Attorney

Others Absent: Craig Long-Village Historian

Shelly Flanagan-Ramos-Transcriber of Minutes

Resolution: 11-005

Village of Montebello

Title: Approval of Minutes

BE IT RESOLVED, the Minutes of the Meeting of the Historic Preservation Commission of February 23, 2011 be and are hereby approved.

Motion: Member Williams

Abstained: Josephine Bracken
Lisa Levin

Second: Member Renud

Upon vote, the resolution carried, all in favor

The next topic of discussion consisted of the designation of the Bayard Lane District Neighborhood. At the previous meeting of the historic Preservation Commission, members were considering three "Requests for Evaluation" applications that were submitted by residents of that area who wanted to deem their homes historic. Two of the

three applications contained insufficient information, and one was rescinded by the applicant because they became concerned about too many restrictions placed on the property once the historic status was designated. Thus, there are no applications pending and members recollected that the historical architect comment that most of the Bayard structures were gone.

It was concluded that at the meeting in May members would bring their Reconnaissance Level Historic Resource Survey Booklet and choose several properties for potential designation, and also for a possible house tour.

Members discussed the historical district aspect of designation opposed to single home designation. The village has two "Estate Overlay Districts", Fant Farm and the Ryan Mansion properties.

Board members were very impressed with the article in the Journal newspaper on March 20 regarding the Fant Farm home on 253 Spook Rock Road. Chairperson Bracken thought it was very good publicity for the neighborhood.

Discussion on our Village Historian Craig Long being named the Rockland County Historian. Members are very proud of him and the work he is doing and has done for Montebello. They are impressed with the book that he has recently published on the history of Suffern.

Chairperson Bracken stated that she and Mr. Long will be speaking at the Garden Club in September about historic preservation. She also noted that she was inducted on April 12 as their new Chairman along with Montebello's former Mayor, Kathy Gorman serving as her co-chair.

Chairperson Bracken is very interested in putting together a Garden Tour in Montebello, and noted a home she recently visited that had a wonderful garden with bridges and a pond in the back yard. She would like the Commission to possibly partner with the Garden Club and set up a Garden Tour, possibly splitting the proceeds 50/50. Members spoke about possibly coordinating a tour next Spring. This was prompted because, as reported by Member Levin, the Rockland County Historical Society apparently is unable to assume primary responsibility for putting together the House Tour, which was discussed at a prior meeting. Marianne Leese and other members of the Society would still help out. The Society no longer having the funding or manpower to do more.

Chairperson Bracken will speak with Kathryn Gorman of the Garden Club to see what the possibilities may be with respect to a joint venture.

At 8:04 p.m. Member Renud made a motion to close the meeting, seconded by Member Cupak, motion carried by all.