

THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION OF THE VILLAGE OF MONTEBELLO WAS HELD ON WEDNESDAY, JULY 23, 2014 AT THE MONTEBELLO VILLAGE HALL. THE MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER AT 8:15 PM, FOLLOWED BY THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE, ROLL CALL WAS TAKEN.

Roll call.

Members Present: Lisa Levin – Chairman
Rosemary Mocio
Matt Moetzinger
William Ellsworth
Dorice Madronero
William Smith

Others Absent: Craig Long-Village Historian
Warren E. Berbit, Village Attorney

Shelly Flanagan-Ramos-Deputy Village Clerk -Transcriber of Minutes

Old Business:

Due to the fact that Historian Craig Long is not in attendance, once again, the discussion on the historical marker was tabled. Member Mocio stated it has been so long she forgets what was talked about regarding the marker verbiage. Ms. Levin recalled that the approval needed to go before the village board to get approved. There is money earmarked for this marker. The placement will be near the entrance to village hall, so as they pull in they can read it.

Members all felt it would be a great idea to unveil it on Montebello Day, but wondered if 6-8 weeks would be enough time to craft it. Probably not.

Member Moetzinger wrote the memo regarding the Fant Farm barns. He forwarded it to Ms. Levin and she sent it to the Building Inspector Larry Picarello, and copied Attorney Berbit. She has not heard back from anyone of them yet. Mr. Moetzinger stated the barns are still in the same state it has been, he has not taken any photos yet, he was hoping to hear back from village officials soon. He felt that if the barn was not immediately tended to, it's going to be irreparable. After speaking Mr. Amona he was given the impression that he was more interested in selling his homes in the subdivision, and not so much maintaining the historic structures at this time.

Discussion on zoning ordinances, abandoned properties, imminent domain and homeowner responsibilities for making sure these properties are remedied of these eye sore situations.

Member Ellsworth asked Member Moetzingler to take photos of the barn. This way the Commission will be able to gage the timeline of disrepair. All agreed that Mr. Amona must maintain this barn because of its historic designation.

Member Smith arrived at the meeting. He gave a brief summary of the demolition of the Montebello Road Bridge. He stated he removed the dated stone and was approached by the Ramapo Police. He told them he wanted to take the stone because he knew the Commission wanted it. The piece was taken out of his possession by the County.

Member Ellsworth asked Mr. Smith if he had the schematic of the bridge. He had said he would make a smaller version of it. He did not have it, but will make a copy off the internet.

A copy was posted at village hall of the bridge design.

Member Mocio touched base on the rock wall preservation, being so many of them were on private property it may be difficult to enforce preservation through designation. Further discussion on this topic will ensue when Attorney Berbit is present.

Members had an idea to display a large rendering of the bridge design at Montebello Day. They would also like to ask residents to bring artifacts they may have found in their yards. Member Madronero suggested putting the items in the case at the Montebello Community Center, or Village Hall. Another idea was to have homeowners submit photos of their homes 60-70 years ago, and what the home looks like today, a comparison. Members will go through the survey booklet and ask Craig Long if he has any photos.

Members discussed the five year update of the Historic Reconnaissance Survey that was done by Larsen Fisher Associates. They would like to have this done to include all the new construction from the last five years. Discussion ensued with the process to get this done.

Discussion on how large the property is and how beautiful the structure is on the Archdiocese property. Members would like information added to the historic survey review update regarding the recent fire at the Camp Montebello property located at 105 Montebello Road.

Member Moetzingler would like to have a meeting solely to go through, line-by-line, each home in the survey booklet, and how it should be updated. Members concurred.

They are intrigued by how many homes are for sale on Viola Road and Spook Rock Road, and wondered why everyone may be selling.

Member discussed other village's historic preservation organizations.

Chairman Levin would like to add more historic information to the HPC section of the Village website. Photos and articles would be great, along with possibly broadcasting on Facebook. Member Ellsworth mentioned a "now and then" area, with photos. All agreed that people like

seeing old and new photos. Member Smith found that the library is a great source of history, a lot of the information is from before the time of the N.Y.S. thruway.

Members discussed the talents of Boy Scout Daniel Beard and the exhibit at Bear Mountain in his honor. Mr. Beard lived in the Bayard Lane area of Montebello. Member Madronero wondered if Craig Long had any criminal stories of interest that took place on any properties in Montebello. Something “factoid” is always interesting, maybe setting up a story board. Everyone hoped Mr. Long would be able to attend the next meeting. They would like to speak to him about showcasing something.

Member Ellsworth asked about finding out Boy Scout information. Ms. Madronero stated to speak to Ed McGowan at Bear Mountain; he is the director of the museum. He has a lot of artifacts. Mr. Ellsworth is interested in the camp that was in Montebello.

A motion was made by Member Mocio and seconded by Member Madronero to adjourn the meeting, all were in favor.

The meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.