

**THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION OF THE VILLAGE OF MONTEBELLO WAS HELD ON WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 2014 AT THE MONTEBELLO VILLAGE HALL. THE MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER AT 8:00 PM, FOLLOWED BY THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE, ROLL CALL WAS TAKEN.**

**Roll call.**

Members Present: Lisa Levin – Chairman  
Matt Moetzing  
William Ellsworth  
Dorice Madronero

Members Absent: Rosemary Mocio  
William Smith

Others Present: Warren E. Berbit, Village Attorney

Others Absent: Craig Long-Village Historian

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

Resolution: 14-005

Village of Montebello

Title: Approval of Minutes

BE IT RESOLVED, the Minutes of the Meeting of the Historic Preservation Commission of June 25, 2014, be and are hereby approved.

Motion: Member Ellsworth

Second: Member Madronero

Upon vote, the resolution carried.

Resolution: 14-006

Village of Montebello

Title: Approval of Minutes

BE IT RESOLVED, the Minutes of the Meeting of the Historic Preservation Commission of July 23, 2014, be and are hereby approved.

Motion: Member Ellsworth

Second: Member Madronero

Upon vote, the resolution carried.

The Chairman noted there was no progression with the historical marker for Village Hall. The Commission awaits further input from the Historian.

Montebello Day is approaching in approximately 2 weeks. The Commission is going to display old and new photos. Craig Long stated he had quite a few archival photos, but Ms. Levin was unable to connect with him so she visited the Suffern Library to see if they had anything on Montebello. They had photos, but nothing real compelling on Montebello. Member Ellsworth spoke with Mr. Long and asked him if he had any pictures of the Montebello Road Bridge, he did, and he also had pictures of the previous truss bridge that was there, also of the bridge that was further down. Mr. Ellsworth is going to obtain copies of the those, along with a copy of the bridge plan, He is unable to attend Montebello Day, but will make a display for presentation at that can be viewed. He will also try and bring the date stone that sat atop one of the pillars on the bridge.

Member Moetzinger will bring photos of the Fant Farm area. He will try and enlarge them, but felt he would only get them to an 8 X 10 size or they would be grainy.

Member Madronero asked if Craig Long had photos of Montebello homes, Ms. Levin stated he did, she just has to get a chance to go over to get them. Because he has so many to choose from, she has to specifically tell him what the commission would like. They are not digitized, so he will have to make copies. He had given the survey company, Larson Fisher Associates a bunch of them for the booklet, they may have them digitized, and be able to share them. Once received, they can be mounted on board to be stood up to view more easily.

Member Madronero stated that depending on the quality of the photos, the village may want to get have these photos printed in a better quality for future preservation. Mounting paper can be used and possibly put in the showcase at the community center.

The Chairman prefers the photos all a consistent size, all agreed on the 8 X 10 size. Members discussed the various ways photos can be displayed. Ms. Levin thought the commission should choose to feature a certain amount of photos. Member Ellsworth thought it would be good to have as many as possible and then choose which ones to display on Montebello Day, put the rest aside and archive them for future years. The then and now photos will be displayed side by side.

Member Madronero mentioned the update of the architectural survey booklet. It has been 5 years since it was last published.

Discussion on the display cabinets at the Montebello Community Center. Members would like to display the photos in the case in the foyer. There are a lot of people that use that facility that would probably enjoy looking at the “then and now” photos.

Ms. Levin will reach out to Craig Long to obtain the photos. She will match up them up to present day photos. She will also contact Larson Fisher Associates since they are already digitized. All members felt that Mr. Long is very hard to get in touch with lately.

New Business:

Members discussed the HPC 2015 budget, which needs to be submitted to the Village Clerk by the 15<sup>th</sup> of October.

The Chairperson asked Attorney Berbit about the village marker money. Would they be included in the budget, as this marker has been in the works for two years now. He stated money was earmarked for that purpose. The HPC had put a line item in their budget in past years and was told that money is unable to be carried over from year to year so if it is not used it reverts back to the general fund. Discussion on how money should be requested. Mr. Berbit stated to just ask. Ms. Levin would like to get two markers done by next year. In 2013 there was \$4000.00 in the budget for two markers, and as of January 2014, pricing was looked into and the markers were roughly \$1720.00, including the mounting post, but not including the installation. For advertising and reprinting of brochures there was \$500.00 last year, if the commission would like to create a new brochure, which all agreed it should be refreshed. Member Madronero suggested using Vista printing on line for the brochures, or Staples. The brochure was printed by the former Chairman, Josephine Bracken’s daughter; the informational file will be looked for at Village Hall. It would be a lot easier to use the same printer so to save on cost of type setting.

Discussion on the history on the Suffern Middle School. Members thought maybe that property warranted a historical marker. It was formerly the Suffern Senior High School. There is a cornerstone located on the property, and the architectural surveyor commented on the property in the survey booklet. It predates Montebello Elementary School.

Members discussed the Fant Farm developer and him having to put a historical marker on the property. Ms. Levin would like to know what the proper procedure may be to “jog” the developer’s memory on putting a marker on the property. Attorney Berbit stated he can check. Member Ellsworth spoke to Larry Picarello, the building inspector; he has made periodic inspections at the barns. Mr. Ellsworth asked Mr. Picarello to give the HPC copies of the inspection reports. He wondered if the HPC had a mailbox or slot at Village Hall so to receive mail and such. Attorney Berbit stated there are cubbies that house the mail/information.

The Chairman is putting together an inventory type of form that she would like the building inspector to use on a quarterly basis to give updates on the historic properties. She is hoping this form will help keep a better record on what is going on with the historic properties.

Ms. Madronero asked what the HPC has to do to initiate the survey booklet. Lisa Levin stated she would like to request a CLG grant as a means to update the architectural survey booklet. She asked Mr. Berbit about the matching grant funds aspect when the survey book was first done. Whether there was a specific amount of money they had to adhere to when asking the Village Board for approval.

(Mr. Berbit responded but the transcriber was unable to hear him.)

When the original survey was done in 2010 the cost was \$15,000.

Ms. Madronero strongly recommends updating the survey booklet every five years. In future years it will be a more in-depth update. It was requested to obtain fees for this update from Larson Fisher Associates.

Members felt that an entire meeting should be spent choosing which properties to update on the 2010 architectural survey.

Member Madronero thought it may make sense to study the rock walls in the village, especially trying to figure out how many miles of walls there are. Member Moetzinger noticed lately that there appears to be a lot of disrepair of these walls throughout the village. He wondered how protection could be given to them, is there something in our code to maintain them, could something be put in the code if there isn’t? There is massive collapse on the north corner of Montebello and Hemion road of the rock wall, by the school. This is very noticeable in many areas where the rocks start to crumble and they end up in a heap. It was noted that the area of maintaining rock walls is hard to enforce, but members recommended raising awareness.

The survey booklet, which sells for \$20.00 in Village Hall needs to be reprinted. There is only one copy left. There was \$250 budgeted for reprinting of this document. It was suggested to contact realtors in the area to buy this booklet and give out when selling homes in Montebello. A welcome packet is available to new residents. There was one booklet left, which the Chairman took to show and take orders at Montebello Day.

Discussion on CLG grants, and possibly using the monies awarded from the grant to pay for the update in the survey booklet.

The 2015 HPC budget get will be submitted to the Village Clerk.

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

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.