

THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE HISTORIC PRESERVATION AND PARKS COMMISSION OF THE VILLAGE OF MONTEBELLO WAS HELD ON WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2019 AT THE VILLAGE HALL. THE MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER AT 7:45 P.M. FOLLOWED BY THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

Present:	Lisa Levin	Co-Chairperson
	Amy Rapoport	Co-Chairperson
	Rosemary Mocio	Member
	Maureen Danzig	Member
	Bill Ellsworth	Member
	Dorice Madronero	Member
	Tony Piazza	Member
	Josh Goldstein	Ad Hoc
	Howard Hochberg	Member
Craig Long	Village Historian/HPPC Advisor	
Absent	Matt Moetzing	Member
	Robert J. Israel	Member
	Warren Berbit	Village Attorney

Co-chair Levin opened the meeting with discussion and approval of the July 24, 2019 meeting minutes. Motion made to approve July 24, 2019 minutes by Member Ellsworth and seconded by Member Piazza. Motion carried.

Parks Update:

Co-chair Rapoport stated that she had attended the most recent Village Board meeting and found out that they are replacing trees around the Village within the shade tree easement areas where trees have either died or have been removed by the homeowner due to damage. She indicated that she was a little disturbed that the HPPC was not consulted about this. She indicated that the Parks Commission had sent the Village a list of addresses where this should be done, however, apparently, many of the locations that they have addressed are not on the list. She has also proposed to the Mayor that the Village plant shade trees on the grounds of Village Hall, which he agreed would be a good idea. Members discussed appropriate trees including Linden, Elm (a cultivar that is not susceptible to disease), and Sugar Maple. She will do a little more research for a final recommendation.

Co-chair Rapoport moved on to an update on the Eagle Scout KGPP project. She has not had a response from his mother. Member Piazza stated that he should be getting ready to start. It appears that all of the paperwork is in.

Member Piazza addressed the condition of the ponds in KGPP. He acknowledged that they are a mess, however, he is reluctant to spend the money on an additional treatment because as soon as the temperature drops below 50 degrees, the algae will die and disappear and the ponds will be clear.

Historic Preservation Update:

Co-chair Levin asked Mr. Long for an update on the W3R signs. She also mentioned that the HPPC had discussed adding "Historic and Scenic Road District" signs to the appropriate roads throughout the Village to boost awareness of the roads as such. Mr. Long distributed W3R pamphlets and updated members regarding the signage. The sign that had been discussed in past meetings is actually the sign produced by

The National Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route Association, Inc. (a private 501(c)3 organization that is contracted by the National Park Service) and the emblem they use is recognized and displayed sporadically in areas along the trail but is actually not the standard NY state sign. He then presented the sign that is the standard for New York State W3R routes, which the HPPC members agreed they liked better. He also stated that he thinks that the Village of Suffern might be using the NY state standard sign to mark the encampment location. The National Park Service has indicated that it would like all to adopt the sign so that the signage along the entire route is consistent. He mentioned that there was a meeting between the W3R group and the state tomorrow and that more information about signage and funding should be forthcoming after the meeting. Mr. Long said that Dr. Bob Seelig, the historian who works with the National Park Service and has done research on the W3R, was going to send him a copy of his PowerPoint presentation on the trail. Mr. Long will follow up with him and bring it to the HPPC. Mr. Long will price out the new sign. Mr. Long has been trying for some time to get a meeting with the Skip Vezetti at County Highway department regarding approval of the sign placement along Viola Road. He will also discuss scenic and historic road sign placement when he connects with Mr. Vezetti.

Member Madronero asked if there is State funding available for the sign production/installation since it is recommending the use of this standard sign. Mr. Long said that there should be, however, it is a question about how the funds would be allocated, etc. Member Goldstein suggested that funding might be secured using the State Rails to Trails program. He will contact Daniel Wood at the NYS Department of Transportation (which works in conjunction with NYS Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation).

Co-chair Levin moved on to discussion about interior access to the Blind Players Club for a condition assessment. She indicated that that it is now bank owned and the Village is having no luck finding out who to contact regarding access. Member Ellsworth offered to do a title search to find out where we go from here.

Discussion moved to updated condition reports for the four local landmark properties. All but Fant Farm are in compliance with the Village. Fant Farm continues to be a major problem regarding addressing repairs. The Village Enforcement Officer has been advised by the Building Inspector to issue an Appearance Ticket to Mr. Amona to address the concerns of the HPPC for continued non-compliance with the mandates regarding the condition of the historic property. Members discussed what other options the Village might have if Mr. Amona continues to ignore the violation notices and repair mandates. Member Piazza thought that the Village could put a lien on the property if he is in violation. Building inspector will update HPPC regarding when appearance is scheduled. Co-chair Rapoport inquired whether the Village can hold back any additional building permits until the repairs on Fant Farm are completed to the satisfaction of the HPPC.

Discussion moved on to the revision of the pamphlet. Co-chair Levin recommended using a combination of historic sites and historic roads map from the updated Comprehensive Plan and add other things. Members will discuss further at next meeting regarding exactly what photos, copy, etc. to feature.

Co-chair Levin indicated the need to update the HPPC statement of purpose on the Village website.

Member Mocio suggested that the HPPC consider supplying some sort of historic welcome information about the history of the Village for new home owners.

With no further discussion, motion to close meeting was made by Member Madronero, seconded by Member Piazza. Meeting adjourned at 8:50pm.