

Rockland County Historic Preservation Board

February 26, 2024 Minutes

Rockland County Highway Department

26 Scotland Hill Road

Chestnut Ridge, NY 10977

Members Present: Stacy Alessio, Beth Brown, Mary Cardenas, Claudia Cooney, Marianne Leese, Craig Long, Peter Scheibner, Charles "Skip" Vezzetti

Members Absent: Gillian Ballard, Lisa Levin, Robert Masiello

Staff: Michael Kezner, Rockland County Planning Department

Others in attendance: Diane Buell

Call to Order: The meeting began at 4:15 PM.

- 1. Introductions:** Board Chair Craig Long welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked Skip, who had given everyone a tour of the new Highway Department facility prior to the start of the meeting.
- 2. Review of January 22, 2024 Draft Minutes:** On a motion made by Mary, and seconded by Skip, the minutes were unanimously approved.
- 3. Properties of Concern:** Mary noted that the property behind the Lowes located on Route 303 was being developed, but she did not know what was being constructed. She also stated that the barn and house located at the corner of Routes 303 and 340 have been torn down. They have started building a strip mall in its place.

Skip informed the Board that the house on Kings Highway in Tappan was moving along. Mary noted that the plot has three more houses coming in, as well.

Claudia stated that they are working to rebuild the west wall at the John Green house.

Beth thanked everyone who assisted with the Historic Driving Map, which was discussed at the previous meeting. Marianne will provide her with a list of updates to the Map.

- 4. Old Business:** Michael reminded everyone of his request for everyone to review the Historic Places in Rockland County page on the County website, and asked that they email him or bring any edits they have to the next meeting.
- 5. New Business:** Claudia mentioned an article in the newspaper that was written by Craig about the Lafayette Theater's 100th anniversary. The Board discussed the theater and the reasons why the owner chose not to apply for it to be included on the National Register of Historic Places.

Craig relayed a message from Robert, who was unable to attend the meeting due to a fire that broke out at his historic house in Garnerville. No one was injured.

Pete asked about the Antrim Playhouse in Spook Rock. Mary stated that it had moved to the Manse Barn in Tappan, of which she was recently given a tour. The Board discussed the redevelopment of the barn. Mary informed everyone that there would be a ribbon cutting in April, and the Playhouse would officially open in the fall.

Pete also asked about the Avon property in Suffern. Craig said that it had been sold to Regeneron. The Board hoped that it would bring more people to the Suffern downtown area.

Michael informed the Board that they had received a letter from the State Historic Preservation Office that they are performing an audit on the County Certified Local Government (CLG). Craig was going to reach out to the State for more information, but at this time everyone must send their resumes to Michael so he can provide it as part of the response.

- 6. Next Meeting Date:** The next meeting will be held on March 18, 2024 at 3:30 in the Building T conference room.

Adjournment: On a motion made by Skip, and seconded by Mary, the meeting was adjourned at 4:52 PM.