

MINUTES

Durham Historic Preservation Committee

February 23, 2021

Patrick Ciccone officially called the meeting to order at 4:03pm.

Members in Attendance via Conference Call:

Patrick Ciccone, Chair	Ken Mabey
Cydney Cornell	Mary Lou Nahas
Ellen Fried	Rosemary O'Brien

OLD BUSINESS

1. **Minutes of the November 19, 2020 meeting.** Motion was made by Ellen Fried to accept the minutes as written. Motion carried unanimously.
2. **Historic Resources Survey/Inventory (HRSI).** Mr. Ciccone estimates the cost of this project will be approximately \$10,000. He also expects that the DHPC may be able to secure funding to cover 80% of the cost from Preserve New York, provided DHPC has the balance of needed funds on hand. The next PNY funding cycle has an April 2021 deadline. He noted that the DHPC only has \$500 in the current Durham budget. To make application this year, the group will need to raise an additional \$1500, or wait until 2022 when the remaining 20% of funding needed can be secured from a second organization. A discussion ensued regarding ways to raise the needed \$1500 from other Durham organizations, area businesses and possibly private donors. As next steps so that DHPC can make application this year, group consensus encouraged Mr. Ciccone to engage in conversations with Preserve New York, and also provide a draft statement that can be used to solicit donations. Mr. Ciccone immediately circulated his original document and promised an updated draft by end of this week after he has spoken with Preserve New York once again. Next steps will be solidified following everyone's review of the draft.

NEW BUSINESS

3. **2928 Rt. 20, Cornwallville, Certificate of Appropriateness Application.** There was a review of the plans for renovation of this derelict property to make it liveable once again. Motion to approve the plans as presented was made by Mr. Ciccone. Seconded by Ms. O'Brien. Motion carried.
4. **1299 Cornwallville Road, Certificate of Appropriateness Application.** There was a review of the owner's plans to salvage historic components of the old, small barn and replace it with a new heated barn-like structure to be used as an art studio. Motion to approve this application was approved unanimously.

5. **Strong Road subdivision - Historic Impact Statement.** Mr. Ciccone recounted his discussion with the Town Supervisor regarding the status of this copy of the Statement. He reported that at a later date this document along with others will be formally submitted to DHPC in pursuit of the Commission's analysis and conclusions regarding historic appropriateness. The group discussed some of the findings in the report and the process for CoA review. There was consensus that, among other things, a fact check was in order. To that end, in advance of providing any feedback to the Town, and to avoid any duplication of effort, Mr. Mabey will report back to DHPC about any efforts already being undertaken by other groups, such as the Durham Land Trust (Scenic Byways). Next steps will be determined after Mr. Mabey reports back to DHPC.

There being no other new business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 4:50pm.