



MINUTES
TOWN OF AMHERST
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION MEETING
August 9, 2022
7:00 PM

7:00 PM Meeting called to order on August 9, 2022 at Amherst Municipal Building, 5583 Main Street, Williamsville, NY.

ROLL CALL

Attendee Name	Organization	Title	Status	Arrived
Susan M. Palmer	Town of Amherst	Chairman	Present	
Catherine Waterman-Kulpa	Town of Amherst	Vice Chairman	Present	
Jennifer D. Kensy	Town of Amherst	Member	Present	
Paul F. Redding	Town of Amherst	Member	Absent	
Mary Lou Mancuso	Town of Amherst	Member	Present	
Brian Swartz	Town of Amherst	Member	Present	
Norman J. Hirschey	Town of Amherst	Member	Late	7:03 PM
Carrie Stiver	Town of Amherst	Resource Personnell	Present	
Deborah Bruch Bucki	Town of Amherst	Councilmember	Present	
Bryan Fadel	Town of Amherst	Sr. Clerk Typist	Present	
James Quinn	Town of Amherst	Assistant Planner	Present	
Ann Demopoulos	Town of Amherst	Deputy Town Attorney	Present	
Dan Howard	Town of Amherst	Planning Director	Present	

MINUTES APPROVALJune 14, 2022

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Catherine Waterman-Kulpa, Vice Chairman
SECONDER:	Mary Lou Mancuso, Member
AYES:	Palmer, Waterman-Kulpa, Kensy, Mancuso, Swartz
ABSENT:	Redding, Hirschey

NEW BUSINESS1. 145 BURBANK - DEMOLITION APPROVAL APPLICATION

William Klaus, AAA Trash, represented the homeowner in the proposed demolition of a garage at 145 Burbank Drive located within a historic district. He said that the garage is in poor shape and leaning to the side. Mr. Klaus said they plan to remove the garage, plant grass, and they would not do anything to build a new garage without Committee's approval.

The homeowner, Jennifer Lamb, reiterated that the garage is in rough shape and that it is a hazard in its current state. She also said that they hope to eventually build a new garage and would build it in the same location. Ms. Palmer noted that the property is part of a proposed Audubon Terrace Historic District, but is not individually listed as blue-rated.

Ms. Waterman-Kulpa made a motion to approve the demolition with the condition that any new garage be built in the same location with the same dimensions as the old one. The motion was seconded by Ms. Mancuso and carried. Ayes 6, Noes 0, Absent 1 (Redding).

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Catherine Waterman-Kulpa, Vice Chairman
SECONDER:	Mary Lou Mancuso, Member
AYES:	Palmer, Waterman-Kulpa, Kensy, Mancuso, Swartz, Hirschey
ABSENT:	Redding

2. PRESERVATION DAY

Ms. Palmer thanked the Commission, Ms. Bucki, Ms. Stiver and Christiana Limniatis (Preservation Buffalo Niagara) for all of their work to make Preservation Day a success. Ms. Mancuso thanked Ms. Palmer and Ms. Waterman-Kulpa for their work in the event and also wondered if there could be anything else done to improve community outreach. Ms. Stiver noted that despite the weather and this being only the second year of the event, attendance had increased from 200 to roughly 350-400 visitors. She also said that they already had some ideas for changes to continue to grow and enhance the event.

Ms. Palmer presented two invoices for Preservation Day; one for \$231 from the Copy Store for banners and refreshments, and one for reimbursement to Ms. Palmer for a Balloon Masters invoice of \$310. Ms. Palmer made a motion to authorize the payment of both invoices out of the HPC budget. The motion was seconded by Ms. Waterman-Kulpa and carried. Ayes 6, Noes 0, Absent 1 (Redding).

OLD BUSINESS3. HISTORIC DESIGNATION NOTIFICATION - CPI

Mr. Quinn updated the Commission on the efforts to help residents be more aware of their property's landmark or blue-rated status. He had verified the list of blue-rated properties in the Town, confirming a total of 1309, and was forwarding the information to IT so they can add the information to CPI and to the Historic Preservation webpage. Mr. Howard asked the Commission to provide thoughts on how to title and annotate the information on CPI and the website.

4. UPDATE ON CLG GRANT SUBMISSION / PRESERVATION DAY

Ms. Waterman-Kulpa said she recently forwarded the SHPO contact information to Mr. Quinn. Mr. Quinn said he would reach out to them to obtain a signature on the contract.

5. MAIN STREET & SMALLWOOD DRIVE HISTORIC GATEWAY REPAIRS

Mr. Quinn said they have a scope of work from Morris Masonry, that the damage is just under \$20,000, and that they are working with the Attorney's office to collect money from the insurance company. Mr. Swartz recommended that the Town allocate money for the repairs as soon as possible to prevent more damage from weather. He also noted that there is generally an expiration date for bids. Ms. Demopoulos said that the Attorney's Office is restricted on getting the money until the case is resolved, which can often take some time. She said that they will explore other areas to make sure the work can be completed and said that they may need to go to the Town Board to get the funds sooner. Mr. Howard said that he will discuss options with Ms. Bucki.

6. PROPOSAL FOR REVISION OF THE HISTORIC PRESERVATION LAW OF THE TOWN OF AMHERST

Ms. Demopoulos said she had sent revisions to the working group and that she would like them to review the changes and let her know if there are any other additions or changes they think might be important. Ms. Palmer said that she will send out communication to see what dates might work to review the information.

7. BNHV PROPERTIES - UPDATE ON RESEARCH FOR POSSIBLE LANDMARKING

No update.

8. WESTWOOD - POSSIBLE LANDMARK

No update.

9. HARLEM ROAD COMMUNITY CENTER - POSSIBLE LANDMARK

Ms. Palmer said she plans to have information to present to the Commission at the next meeting. She also noted that she is doing research on the Amherst School District, specifically Amherst High School.

10. EDUCATION PLAN - WEBSITE PLAN, PRESENTATIONS

Ms. Palmer asked everyone to submit any pictures they might have from Preservation Day to add to the website. She said they have completed one of the four requiring training sessions and she would like to have the next one in September. She also mentioned the possibility of having a ceremony for the plaque they had received and Ms. Bucki suggested the possibility of having it at an upcoming Town Board meeting.

11. ST. PAULS & ST. BENEDICTS - POSSIBLE LANDMARK

No update.

12. HISTORIC ENTRANCEWAY AT MAIN AND LAMARCK

No update.

MISCELLANEOUS

Ms. Palmer noted that the term of both Ms. Mancuso and Mr. Redding expire in the coming months, so they should let Ms. Bucki know if they are interested in staying in their positions. She also said that they still need a new member and proposed the possibility of posting another ad. She also mentioned monies the Commission has to spend before the end of the year and Ms. Waterman-Kulpa brought up the possibility of attending a conference in Syracuse for any interested members. Mr. Howard thanked the Commission for the information they provided the Zoning Board of Appeals in regards to St. Benedicts and St. Pauls.

ADJOURNMENT

The Historic Preservation Commission meeting of August 9, 2022 was adjourned at 8:00 pm.