

MINUTES

181st MEETING

**NEW YORK STATE BOARD FOR HISTORIC
PRESERVATION**

September 10, 2020

**Meeting held by WebEx
Staff at Peebles Island
Waterford, New York**

Prior to the start of the meeting, Kathy Howe verified that people checking in remotely to the WebEx had access and reminded all to mute their microphones when not speaking.

The following staff of the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (OPRHP) participated in the WebEx remotely:

- Daniel Mackay, Deputy Commissioner for Historic Preservation
- Daniel Bagrow
- Virginia Bartos
- Jennifer Betsworth
- Daniel Boggs
- Erin Czernecki
- James Finelli
- Kathleen LaFrank
- Chelsea Towers
- Jennifer Walkowski
- Paige Barnum, OPRHP Planner, State Historic Preservation Plan

The following OPRHP staff participated in the WebEx from Peebles Island:

- Michael Lynch, Director, Division for Historic Preservation and board secretary
- Kathy Howe, Survey and National Register Unit Coordinator
- Daniel McEneny
- James Carter

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 10:05 a.m. by Chair Douglas Perrelli who offered the following opening comments:

- Thanked the members of the board for their participation, noting that this is a volunteer group that is asked to read a lot of nomination forms.
- Acknowledged that this is an important process and procedure that enables the public access to multiple programs that benefit historic properties.
- Thanked the staff and board secretary for getting the list of nominations out more than a month in advance and for distributing the draft nominations well in advance so that the members have time to read the nominations.
- Also thanked the board secretary for including summaries of each nomination in the cover e-mails, which allows the board members to identify which nominations they will read in depth in preparation for the meeting.
- Thanked Wint Aldrich for reading every nomination cover-to-cover every time and providing editorial comments to the staff.
- Thanked K. Herron, C. Clark, J. Lemak, W. Goodman, and W. Aldrich for agreeing to read carefully a few specific nominations of their interest in preparation for discussing them at the meeting today.

Roll Call

The roll was called, during which the following responded as present and briefly described their role or function as it relates to their service on this board:

SRB Members Present

- Doug Perrelli: Board Chair, Archaeologist, Assistant Clinical Professor for Anthropology, SUNY Buffalo
- Wint Aldrich: former Deputy Commissioner for Historic Preservation
- Carol Clark: Adjunct Professor in Historic Preservation at Columbia University, Pratt Institute, and the NYU School of Professional Studies
- Jay DiLorenzo: President, Preservation League of New York State
- Kristin Herron: Program Director for Architecture + Design | Museums, New York State Council on the Arts
- Erika Krieger, R. A.: Assistant Director of the Variance Unit, Division of Building Standards and Codes, New York Department of State
- Jennifer Lemak: Chief Curator of History, New York State Museum
- Wayne Goodman: Executive Director, Landmarks Society of Western New York
- Lucy Waletzky: Chair, New York State Council of Parks

Absent

- Paul Stewart
- Chuck Vandrei

There being nine members participating, a quorum was confirmed.

[Note, it was decided at a previous meeting that the voting method for on-line meetings would be as follows: following a motion and second, there would first be a call for any “opposed” or “abstaining” votes. If there are none, the motion would be carried by unanimous consent. If anyone objected or abstained, a roll call vote would then be taken and recorded.]

Approval of Past Minutes

Secretary Lynch noted that comments received on the draft minutes had been incorporated into the final draft circulated to the board prior to this meeting.

There were no corrections offered to the final draft minutes for the 180th meeting.

Motion to approve: ***K. Herron*** Second: ***J. DiLorenzo***

Vote: Opposed - none Abstaining - none

The minutes were approved by unanimous consent

Introduction of Guests

The following guests identified themselves and stated their interest in the proceedings:

- Amboy District No. 2 Schoolhouse
 - Deborah Kahkejian
- Frederick Law Olmsted Sr. Farmhouse
 - Eileen Monreale, President, Friends of the Olmsted-Beil Farmhouse
 - William Bell, Vice-President, Friends of the Olmsted-Beil Farmhouse
 - Dede Petri, President, National Association of Olmsted Parks
 - Maureen Marlow, Friends of the Olmsted-Beil Farmhouse
 - Jeff Tandul, Friends of the Olmsted-Beil Farmhouse

- Mary E. Bell House
 - Dr. Georgette Grier-Key, President, Long Island Historical Society
- Chenango Canal Prism and the Hildreth Homestead
 - Dr. Cynthia Falk, Cooperstown Graduate Program
- Pink House
 - Rich Shear
 - Scott Spears
- Greenwich District School No. 11
 - Jill [inaudible]

In addition to those named guests who spoke, approximately ten additional guests were noted as having followed all or part of the WebEx.

REPORTS

Daniel Mackay, Deputy Commissioner for Historic Preservation and Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

D. Mackay opened by thanking K. Howe and her staff for a full and robust group of nominations for this quarterly meeting that was completed under COVID conditions.

The ability to deliver this program under a virtual format is extending the reach and participation of the board members and the interested public. We hope that when we return to in-person meetings, we will be able to continue this virtual format as well so that more people can participate. Thank you to James Carter for technical assistance during this WebEx meeting.

Since June, OPRHP has seen record visitation at our parks and state historic sites. Despite initial concerns that our multi-year string of setting attendance records would be broken as a result of the pandemic, we are likely to set another attendance record this year as people flocked to our parks and historic sites. This is testimony to the agency staff who worked tirelessly to keep the parks and historic sites open to the public.

All state historic sites are now open, both grounds and interiors. Grant Cottage and Sackets Harbor were the first to open the interiors starting in June, but now all sites are open, each with a highly customized process for ensuring social distancing and other COVID recommendations.

During the national debate about public statues, who got them, and what they represented, OPRHP dedicated a new statue to Sojourner Truth, installed at the west end, the Ulster County side, of the Walkway Over the Hudson Historic Park. Sojourner was an extraordinary woman and the statue by Vinnie Bagwell tells her personal story as well as her cultural influence. I want to send a particular shout-out to the Interpretive Unit staff, led by Greg Smith, who did an extraordinary job delivering a final product on a tight timeframe that includes on-site and on-line interpretive material that accompanies the statue.

In related news, Greg Smith has been appointed the new director of the Bureau of Historic Sites and Parks, filling the vacancy created by the retirement of Christopher Flagg earlier this year. Coming out of years in the Interpretation Unit, Greg is ideally suited to the current challenges of who, what, and how we interpret New York's complicated history.

Our staff has been functioning under telecommuting status since mid-March, but we have started to return to the office at about 25-30 percent capacity on any given day. Work continues at a high pace, and telecommuting has not diminished our ability to service our programs.

The commercial tax credit program continues to be active. After one year falling from first place, we fully expect to regain the first-place title for federal Fiscal Year 2020 with between \$750 to \$800 million in private investment in certified rehabilitations. Since the state commercial tax credit was created in 2007, over \$10 billion in private investments have been made, \$7.5 billion of which has been under the enhanced program during Governor Andrew Cuomo's tenure.

It is worth noting that Cindy Falk has recently been appointed to the National Historic Landmarks Committee of the National Park Service. There are several other New Yorkers on that committee. The committee had been on a three-year-plus hiatus. The newly appointed committee met in August to hear several nominations that had been on hold, including the West Point Foundry site in Cold Spring, owned by the Scenic Hudson Land Trust, and our own Grant Cottage site in Saratoga County. Both were approved and recommended to the Secretary of the Interior for National Historic Landmark designation. I believe New York State leads the country in the number of NHLs. OPRHP now has forty-four parks and historic sites that have earned NHL designation.

I close by again thanking the staff of the division for continuing to handle the annual workload; we are meeting all our obligations, as well as handling several special assignments and requests from other portions of the agency. I appreciate the flexibility, adaptability, and commitment to problem solving that the staff continues to demonstrate on a regular basis.

Director's Report: Michael Lynch

The New York State Parks system celebrates its centennial in 2024. In preparation for that, we are undertaking a survey of all parks and historic sites within the agency's portfolio. Bill Krattinger, who many of you know from his years presenting National Register nominations before this board, is leading the survey as a special assignment.

Bill Krattinger is having great success using our mobile app TREKKER II and has completed ten state parks, eight state historic sites, and five boat launches in the Saratoga/Capital District Region.

At the same time as Bill is looking at built resources, Mike Schifferli of our Information Resources Unit, and Nancy Herter and Andy Farry of our Archaeology Unit are working on developing a sensitivity map for the parks to try and create a heat map: green for no concerns, yellow for possible concerns, and red for sensitive areas. We have over 200 parks and historic sites, so this is a significant effort to try and identify areas that might be sensitive for pre-historic and historic archaeology.

When we can, I like to bring to the attention of the board preservation successes that result from your work. At the March 2019 meeting Bill Krattinger presented the Winged Foot Golf Course in Mamaroneck for the National Register at the national level of significance. But Bill was only able to show you two-dimensional images. If you would like to see it in its full glory, the U.S. Open is being held there starting next Thursday, a week from today. You can watch it on TV and see how a Tillinghast masterpiece challenges the best golfers in the world.

State Preservation Plan Report: Dan McEneny, Coordinator, Community Engagement Unit

We are eight months into creating our next five-year preservation plan for 2021-2025. We are required to do this by the National Park Service as part of our Historic Preservation Fund grant for the operation of the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) functions. However, because the division also includes the state historic sites system, we are using this opportunity to do an assessment and planning for the sites as well, although that is not required by the NPS.

Progress to date:

We have completed our resource assessment, which is evaluating what resources we have and already know about, and we are wrapping up the data collection phase. New this time, we contracted for a general population survey of 3,500 responses to a questionnaire that we developed with our agency's planning bureau.

We received a very high rate of response in the Buffalo area, many thanks to Preservation Buffalo Niagara for pushing this effort. Comparing percentage of population in a REDC territory to the percentage of responses, we see that the western REDC has 7.1 percent of the population but over 20 percent of the responses. Although NYC has roughly 43 percent of the population, only 13 percent of the responses came from there. The Hudson Valley was pretty much even, with 11.9 percent of the population and 11.7 percent of the responses. We also sent a questionnaire to a targeted list of preservation colleagues.

A few broad themes appear in the survey results, some surprising, some pretty much as expected.

Priorities: There appears to be renewed interest in colonial architecture. This was a surprise as the last plan showed great interest in modern architecture, which fell far down the list this time.

All regions expressed interest in main streets and downtowns, but new this time was great interest in historic landscapes and archaeological sites.

Critical threats: Lack of awareness/interest/funding appeared across the state. Upstate listed demolition by neglect as a top concern, while downstate listed construction pressure.

Barriers to historic site visitation: Lack of awareness and interest, fueled in part because their history or culture is not represented. Sites and museums everywhere are looking at reinterpretation. We were pleased to see that because it is something the agency is already working aggressively on.

Communication: Everyone everywhere said social media is how they hear about or search for information. Web sites and e-mail are only OK, but social media rises to the top.

Historic topics that are a priority: Slavery, Abolition & Emancipation; Immigration; Civil Rights, and; Suffrage were identified as top priorities. We recognize that these reflect the times in which we are living, but this resonates with our staff who are already working in these areas. We are exploring old nominations to see where these can be added, and we are reevaluating the state historic sites to see where we have these stories that can be added.

Lack of funding and education: These issues have appeared in the previous three plans. People always want to know where the grant money is. Sadly, there are few grant programs, and none for private property owners, yet there is this persistent belief that there are grants, but people just don't know where they are.

The state of preservation in the state: Although very few communities feel that preservation is the best, there was, surprisingly, broad consensus that preservation is maturing in many communities across the state.

We also did a series of interviews with targeted groups.

- I did in-depth interviews with over twenty-five individuals, groups, and organizations.
- Nancy Herter and Tim Lloyd interviewed several Indian Tribes and Nations.
- Fran Stern interviewed over a dozen underrepresented groups, which was both challenging and enlightening during the Black Lives Matter protests.
- Travis Bowman has interviewed staff and Friends groups associated with many of our state historic sites.

Next Steps:

One of the new requirements for this plan is to address disaster preparedness and resiliency. As we have never done that before, our first task is to figure out who we should be talking to regarding this issue.

Now that we have collected so much data, we have to set goals and objectives. Our task is to set these not just for the functions of the SHPO but to define them for citizens and organizations interested in promoting the protection and preservation of our shared cultural heritage. In the previous plan, the goals were pretty generic. Working with Paige Barnum of our agency's planning bureau, we are tasked with setting SMART goals, that are Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, and Time-based.

In the course of our discussions about goals, Michael asked us a side-bar question that, although not required by the plan, appeared to him to be needed to underpin the work.

The agency has a Mission Statement, but Michael asked what is the mission and vision of the Division for Historic Preservation? What do we tell a new hire when we on-board them about what we do, whom we serve, and how we serve them? It's the "why are we here?" question.

A good vision statement:

- Outlines what an organization would like to achieve,
- Gives purpose to its existence,
- Is short, simple, and specific to the organization, and
- Is ambitious

We're working on answering those questions. We hope to have an early draft for Board review around the time of the December meeting, with a targeted release to the public in January.

Q&A

W. Aldrich commented that he was pleased to see landscapes appear in the general population survey. In the past the DHP has tried to nominate landscapes and farmland, only to run into opposition. He hopes that having this listed as a high priority will give support to continuing efforts to preserve these important resources.

Matt Schoen, a guest, from St. Lawrence County, asked if we had talked with any groups representing the Adirondacks or the St. Lawrence River Valley.

D. McEneny responded that we included AARCH in the targeted interviews and noted that the general population survey reached both those REDCs. [NB: North Country REDC represents 1.8 percent of the population and 3 percent of the responses; the Mohawk Valley REDC, which includes the southern Adirondacks, represents 3 percent of the population and 6.4 percent of the responses].

NOMINATION REVIEWS

Kathy Howe provided introductory remarks, thanked Virginia Bartos for assembling the PowerPoint presentations that will be shown today, and introduced new staff member Dan Boggs who will be presenting to the board for the first time today.

K. Howe then showed a map prepared by Matt Shepherd of our Information Resources Unit (thank you Matt) that showed the statewide distribution of the properties being presented today. The map shows good statewide distribution and that we are starting to see nominations from the Southern Tier.

1. Our Mother of Good Counsel Roman Catholic Church Complex, Blasdell, Erie County

Presenter: Jennifer Walkowski.

- Letters of support: none
- Letters of objection: none
- Financial incentive program: NA

Guest Speakers: none

Board Discussion:

W. Aldrich: asked where the term “triumphalism” came from

J. Walkowski: unsure, will research and get back to him

D. Perrelli: commented on how helpful the map was in the nomination showing the location and relationship of all the buildings on the site

Motion to approve: *E. Krieger* Second: *J. DiLorenzo*

Vote: Opposed - none Abstaining - none

The motion was approved by unanimous consent

2. Niagara Lithography Company, Buffalo, Erie County

Presenter: Jennifer Walkowski

- Letters of support: none
- Letters of objection: none
- Financial incentive program: PDIL Part 1 already approved by NPS for investment tax credit (ITC)

Guest Speaker: none

Board Discussion:

W. Aldrich: terrific account of a very important industry and wonderful that much of the information comes from a personal reminiscence of a long-time president of the company

D. Perrelli: the inclusion of historic photos allows the reader to understand the operations in the building. It’s a great adaptive reuse.

Motion to approve: *W. Aldrich* Second: *D. Perrelli*

Vote: Opposed - none Abstaining - none

The motion was approved by unanimous consent

3. Lafayette Flats, Buffalo, Erie County

Presenter: Jennifer Walkowski

- Letters of support: none
- Letters of objection: none
- Financial incentive program: ITC

Guest Speaker: none

Board Discussion:

J. DiLorenzo: this is a great project

D. Perrelli: what is the relevance of the ethnic neighborhood map to the nomination. What is the source of that?

J. Walkowski: I have seen several of these maps for Buffalo in the 1920 and 30s. Buffalo has always been a city of great ethnic diversity, and I think these were an attempt to quantify that.

Motion to approve: *J. DiLorenzo* Second: *W. Goodman*

Vote: Opposed - none Abstaining - none

The motion was approved by unanimous consent

4. Amboy District No. 2 Schoolhouse, East Amboy, Oswego County

Presenter: James Finelli

- Letters of support: none
- Letters of objection: none
- Financial incentive program: NA

Guest Speaker: *Deb Kahkejian* thanked James for assistance and support for this nomination. Her father-in-law saved the building and paid to have it moved to his farm and she wanted this National Register recognition to honor him. She and her husband were married on the schoolhouse steps thirty-three years ago, and her daughter was married there just a few weeks ago. The building offers a glimpse into rural education and is the only surviving intact example in the district. The surrounding 1,000 acres are under conservation easement with the Tug Hill Tomorrow Land Trust, including the parcel on which the schoolhouse sits.

Board Discussion:

J. Lemak: the social history was interesting, along with a description of the building.

J. Finelli: Deb did a lot of the research that made the social history come alive.

Motion to approve: *J. Lemak* Second: *K. Herron*

Vote: Opposed - none Abstaining - none

The motion was approved by unanimous consent

5. West Broadway Commercial Historic District, Fulton, Oswego County

Presenter: James Finelli

- Letters of support: none
- Letters of objection: none
- Financial incentive program: ITC

Guest Speaker: none

Board Discussion:

J. Lemak: appreciated the individual building histories

Motion to approve: *J. Lemak* Second: *W. Goodman*

Vote: Opposed - none Abstaining - none

The nomination was approved by unanimous consent

6. Foster-Hubbard House, Syracuse, Onondaga County

Presenter: James Finelli

- Letters of support: one: City of Syracuse, a Certified Local Government (CLG)
- Letters of objection: none
- Financial incentive program: ITC

Guest Speaker: none

Board Discussion:

D. Perrelli: how unusual is it for a municipality to prepare a nomination so they can try and sell the building to someone who will rehab it?

V. Bartos: the building is owned by the Syracuse Land Bank, and they have presented several properties for listing. They buy these properties to prevent them from being demolished, then search for a new owner to do the rehabilitation.

W. Aldrich: DeGraff's role building iron bridges, and later in the iron industry, I think itself bears further research. He sounds like a most interesting and pioneering figure in those fields.

Motion to approve: *D. Perrelli* Second: *J. DiLorenzo*

Vote: Opposed - none Abstaining - none

The motion was approved by unanimous consent

7. Oneida Community Limited Administration Building, Oneida, Madison County

Presenter: James Finelli

- Letters of support: none
- Letters of objection: none
- Financial incentive program: Applicant has approved Part 1 for ITC

Guest Speaker: none

Board Discussion:

W. Aldrich: the story of what they called “charitable capitalism” is wonderful and its origins in a rather unusual religious organization make it a tremendously interesting story, and that it went on to become a successful business.

Motion to approve: *W. Aldrich* Second: *C. Clark*

Vote: Opposed - none Abstaining - none

The motion was approved by unanimous consent

8. Hannah and George W. Jones House, Ovid, Seneca County

Presenter: Virginia Bartos

- Letters of support: none
- Letters of objection: none
- Financial incentive program: NA

Guest Speaker: none

Board Discussion:

W. Goodman: found this extremely interesting reading, especially the description of the connection between the publications of A. J. Downing as it relates to the Federal and the ornate Italianate style.

W. Aldrich: asked if it is typical that the cupola would be used to illuminate the stairs?

V. Bartos: this cupola is accessible via a stair from the second floor through the attic. The owner also says that the original finial from the cupola roof is stored in the barn and they hope to restore it someday.

M. Lynch: before air conditioning, the ability to open the windows in the cupola allowed for vertical circulation of air from opened windows on the lower floors to cool the house.

Motion to approve: *W. Goodman* Second: *K. Herron*

Vote: Opposed - none Abstaining - none

The motion was approved by unanimous consent

9. George and Addison Wheeler House Boundary Increase and Additional Documentation, East Bloomfield, Ontario County

Presenter: Virginia Bartos

- Letters of support: none
- Letters of objection: none
- Financial incentive program: Historic barns tax credit

Guest Speaker: none

Board Discussion:

W. Goodman: positive and logical to reunite the parcels. Looking at the condition of the barn, it is wonderful to learn that the owners want to take advantage of the tax credit program to rehabilitate the barn.

Motion to approve: *E. Krieger* Second: *D. Perrelli*

Vote: Opposed - none Abstaining – none

The motion was approved by unanimous consent

10. Frederick Law Olmsted Sr. Farmhouse, Staten Island, Richmond County

Presenter: Kathleen LaFrank

- Letters of support: seven: the owner, NYC Parks; New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission (NYC is a CLG); Friends of the Olmsted-Beil House; Justin Martin, an architect, author of a book on Olmsted, and member of the Board of the Friends of the Olmsted-Beil House; three sisters who grew up in the house who are daughters of the last private owners of the house; two historians; and State Senator Andrew Lanza
- Letters of objection: none
- Financial incentive program: preservation grants

Guest Speaker:

William Bell: thanked Kath and Glen Umberger of the New York Landmarks Conservancy for putting forth this application.

K. LaFrank: added her thanks to William Bell for getting the letters from the Beil sisters. Their reminiscences of growing up in the house were both enjoyable and informative.

Eileen Monreale: read the following statement into the record:

The house stands like an embodiment of the history and development of Staten Island. From a simple stone-walled room, later enlarged to a bigger house, to a building 2-1/2 stories on a wooded knoll, to a summer retreat for residents escaping the city. Fortunately, it escaped the last phase of change on Staten Island, its emergence as the suburb of the city within the city. It is a monument to all the changes in the history of not only Staten Island, but New York City, and even the country, since it was first constructed in the late 1600s.

Presently, on the property, but more-so during the time that Olmsted called it home in the 1850s, when you could stand on the porch of the house, you could see the curving drive, the hills and ponds, the land falling away to the waters of Raritan Bay, these all played a pivotal role in the formation and ideas and ideals Olmsted later employed in the green spaces he created.

This house is the place that gave us all so many other wonderful places. It certainly merits recognition on the Register of Historic Places. Thank you.

Olmsted, continued

Dede Petri: asked if the letter of support from Olmsted 200 was received. It was e-mailed to D. Mackay.

D. Mackay: acknowledged that he received the letter but had not yet forwarded it to K. LaFrank.

K. LaFrank: noted it is not too late to submit letters of support, and this one will be added to the package sent to the NPS

Board Discussion:

W. Aldrich: that Olmsted was a protean figure in our cultural history is very well expressed in this nomination. This property is certainly worthy of being recognized at the national level of significance.

D. Mackay: thanked Kath for her work in bringing this project to fruition and making it eligible for grants.

Motion to approve: *W. Aldrich* Second: *D. Perrelli*

Vote: Opposed - none Abstaining – none

The motion was approved by unanimous consent

11. Rhinebeck Village Historic District Boundary Increase, Dutchess County

Presenter: Jennifer Betsworth

- Letters of support: two: resolution of support from the village board and one property owner
- Letters of objection: two
- Financial incentive program: survey and nomination funded with Preserve NY grant from the Preservation League

Guest Speaker: none

Board Discussion:

W. Aldrich: offered that he has been involved with Rhinebeck for most of his life and was involved in getting the first Rhinebeck property, the Delamater House, listed in 1973 [NB: Mr. Aldrich is not a property owner in this district]. Commented that this is a terrific and important initiative, especially that the Oak Street area has been included and so well documented. Documenting properties, owners, and development like this is probably not very easy-this was very good research. All very interesting stories, and very well documented in the nomination.

W. Aldrich also offered some additional historical perspective on the Platt Avenue area, noting that the violet industry was an enormous boon to northern Dutchess County. As it has been described to him, the area was filled with enormous greenhouses all growing the same thing-sweet violets-on raised beds. The people picking the flowers would lie on horizontal boards suspended over the plants, picking the blossoms and tying them together in bouquets and corsages-despite what must have been severe stiff necks. It all ended very suddenly, for reasons he did not know.

Motion to approve: *W. Aldrich* Second: *C. Clark*

Vote: Opposed - none Abstaining - none

The motion was approved by unanimous consent

12. Mary E. Bell House, Center Moriches, Suffolk County

Presenter: Jennifer Betsworth

- Letters of support: four: Town of Brookhaven supervisor; Assemblymember Fred Thiele Jr.; Dr. Georgette Grier-Key; and Jennifer L. Martin, Chair, Town of Brookhaven Black History Commission.
- Letters of objection: none
- Financial incentive program: NA

Guest Speaker: Dr. Georgette Grier-Key

Dr. Grier-Key thanked Jennifer for an amazing job with the application. She contextualized the history very well. Agreed with comments by K. Herron that although a local story, this is part of a larger state and national conversation about how African American history is cataloged. The church is still there and is still active, just a few steps away.

This community, and Alice Bell herself, were concerned about preservation. We know this because the fact that the church went from non-denominational to AME, then to AME Zion shows they were concerned with the church having oversight and being a part of the future of that community. The Black History Commission is working with others, looking at ways the property is engaged by the community. We recently had a recording of Mrs. Bell's famous sweet potato pie. After services, they would come together, and there is a scripture they would always hear: "How sweet and how pleasant it is to dwell with brother and sister."

They did a lot of eating. The stove does work. I cooked, from the church's anniversary book, fried chicken with lard, and pies. The house has such a peace when you go inside. There are a lot of books, so we hope to have some plans for the house on the town level. The women were a matriarchal society in the community. When the house opened, a few of the sisters suddenly started to sing a hymn. Long Island has a long way to go but this does show some progress in the direction of including African American history in the American story.

Board Discussion:

K. Herron: acknowledged the great research into the census records and the discovery of the wonderful image of the women in front of the house. The history was contextualized well with the broader African American community. Appreciated the description of the building elements. Although this is a local story, it connects to a broader New York State and American history. It is important that we nominate this today.

Motion to approve: *K. Herron* Second: *C. Clark*

Vote: Opposed - none Abstaining - none

The motion was approved by unanimous consent

13. Chenango Canal Prism, Towpath and Lock 106, Chenango Forks and Fenton, Chenango and Broome Counties (part of the Chenango Canal Multiple Property Documentation Form)

Presenter: Daniel Boggs

- Letters of support: one: Susquehanna National Heritage Area
- Letters of objection: none
- Financial incentive program: NA

Guest Speaker: *Dr. Cynthia Falk-Cooperstown Graduate Program*

This was a group effort. Kath LaFrank initially brought this property to my attention. We benefited from survey work funded by the Preservation League, as well as the multiple property listing that Tony Opalka had done, and the fact that Lock 107, which is immediately to the south, was already listed on the National Register. It is located within a state park, so we had a lot of resources to work from. Cooperstown Graduate Program students worked on this for two years and were able to visit the site several times, including our last visit in late February. Also, a thank you to the New York State Archives that has digitized so much of the canal information for New York State that really allowed us to work remotely on this project.

Board Discussion: none

Motion to approve: *E. Krieger* Second: *J. DiLorenzo*

Vote: Opposed – none Abstaining - none

The motion was approved by unanimous consent

14. The Pink House, Wellsville, Allegany County

Presenter: Daniel Boggs

- Letters of support: none
- Letters of objection: none
- Financial incentive program: NA

Guest Speaker: none

Board Discussion:

K. Herron: do we know why it was painted pink?

D. Boggs: we do not know why. It was a color that was popular in Italianate styles at that time, but there are family rumors that it was based on houses they saw in Italy on their honeymoon, but nobody knows for sure.

W. Goodman: this building is so distinctive and defining for the community of Wellsville

W. Aldrich: someone should thank the family for five generations of caring for these buildings

Motion to approve: *K. Herron* Second: *W. Aldrich*

Vote: Opposed - none Abstaining - none

The motion was approved by unanimous consent

At 12:35 Chair D. Perrelli called for a five-minute break. K. Herron had to leave the meeting for another meeting.

The meeting was reconvened at 12:40, the roll was called, and the following members responded as “present.”

- Doug Perrelli
- Wint Aldrich
- Carol Clark
- Jay DiLorenzo
- Erika Krieger, R. A.
- Jennifer Lemak
- Wayne Goodman

There being seven members participating, a quorum was confirmed.

15. Hildreth Homestead, Herkimer, Herkimer County

Presenter: Erin Czernecki

- Letters of support: none
- Letters of objection: none
- Financial incentive program: NA

Guest Speaker: none

Board Discussion: none

Motion to approve: *W. Goodman* Second: *E. Krieger*

Vote: Opposed - none Abstaining - none

The motion was approved by unanimous consent

16. Zion Episcopal Church, Dobbs Ferry, Westchester County

Presenter: Chelsea Towers

- Letters of support: none
- Letters of objection: none
- Financial incentive program: NA

Guest Speaker: none

Board Discussion:

C. Clark: reinforced the cultural significance given the early congregants who are mentioned.

Motion to approve: *C. Clark* Second: *J. DiLorenzo*

Vote: Opposed - none Abstaining - none

The motion was approved by unanimous consent

17. Oval Wood Dish Factory, Tupper Lake, Franklin County

Presenter: Daniel Bagrow

- Letters of support: two: Tupper Lake Mayor, and chairman of the Joint Town/Village Planning Board
- Letters of objection: none
- Financial incentive program: ITC

Guest Speaker: none

Board Discussion:

W. Aldrich: like many members of the board I am fascinated by the scenery of the Adirondack and its historic functioning. This has been one of the more remarkable buildings, and very accessible from the state highway. I always wanted to know what an oval dish was, and now I know. Impressed by the very imaginative use of the processes to make tongue depressors, Popsicle sticks, and clothes pins. In the central Adirondacks, not many companies have left their buildings behind, and there are only two or three or four manufacturing complexes like this left standing. Great that we can be of assistance in seeing this adaptively reused.

D. Mackay: you failed to mention perhaps the most well-known of its products, the Hoodsie spoon found in every Dixie cup of ice cream.

E. Krieger: this might be the first nomination where every member of the board has used at least one product made in this building.

Oval Wood Dish Factory, continued

Motion to approve: *W. Aldrich* Second: *E. Krieger*

Vote: Opposed - none Abstaining - none

The motion was approved by unanimous consent

18. Greenwich District School No. 11, Greenwich, Washington County

Presenter: Daniel Bagrow

- Letters of support: none
- Letters of objection: none
- Financial incentive program: Part 3 for ITC approved by NPS

Guest Speaker: none

Board Discussion: none

Motion to approve: *W. Goodman* Second: *J. Lemak*

Vote: Opposed - none Abstaining - none

The motion was approved by unanimous consent

The Board was informed that the following nomination, which had appeared on earlier schedules, was later withdrawn due to owner objections:

Yaphank Main Street Historic District, Suffolk County

Staff discussion: Kathy Howe/Jennifer Betsworth/Daniel Mackay

- Letters of support: none
- Letters of objection: 78 letters of objection out of 115 property owners representing 68 percent.
- Financial incentive program: NA

Guest Speaker: none

Board Discussion:

D. Perrelli: what is the source of the objection? What are they objecting to?

J. Betsworth: the form letter that was used for these objections just says we oppose the designation of this district. We don't know what the person who solicited these objections told people when he went door-to-door.

W. Aldrich: can the draft NR nomination be shared with each objector? One of the things I was particularly impressed with, and I don't recall seeing this in other nominations, was the inclusion of research questions for future consideration. In terms of an academic or educational exercise, that is very forward-looking, although it may be alarming to some property owners. I would hope that all the good work that the consultant and the historical society has done will not languish.

J. Betsworth: the plan is for the historical society to do more outreach and sharing the nomination may be part of that. They have a goal of soliciting notarized letters rescinding the objections, so we will see. The research questions are a requirement of the archaeology consideration, Criterion D, which we don't see very often, and was a special feature of this district.

K. Howe: we are going to create a letter informing the property owners what the situation is, ask if they have any questions. It is important to follow up and let them know the nomination has not been progressed.

C. Clark: this is certainly a meritorious nomination, and it is a pity we cannot act on it today, and it is probably misinformation that is causing this.

D. Perrelli: how common is it that you share the nominations?

K. Howe: the nominations are posted on our website, although this one was not posted since we weren't presenting it for a decision today. When we send out the letters to the owners, we provide a link to the website where they can read the nomination. We can post this nomination now.

ADDITIONAL BOARD BUSINESS

Report from Daniel Mackay

In conjunction with Landmarks Society of Western New York, the State Preservation Office has secured a \$750,000 grant from the National Park Service to undertake a program to encourage building rehabilitation in the Genesee Valley Corridor, basically from Rochester, down to Letchworth and on to Cuba, New York. We are pleased to be partnering with the Landmarks Society, and a special shout-out to Dan McEneny, who heads the Community Engagement Unit, and Fran Stern on his staff who wrote the grant application.

W. Goodman agreed that it is exciting to obtain this funding. Landmarks is thrilled; they celebrated the whole day when they got word. Dan and Fran did an excellent job. And thanks to Caitlin Meives on the Landmarks staff for her role in the application.

Report from Chuck Vandrei

The following was reported out by Secretary Lynch at the request of C. Vandrei:

I have been working with the State Museum to recover the remains of U.S. Army personnel who died in the 1776 military hospital at Fort George in Lake George, Warren County. These were disturbed by construction in early 2019. Our goal has been to leave no one behind by recovering as much as possible. We are within days of completing this work. The developer has announced that next week, now that the summer tourist season is over, he intends to start up work on the site again that may impact an area that still contains yet-to-be-recovered remains. This work may take two to three days and Chuck is committed to making sure the archaeology gets done before the backhoes become active again this week.

In Memorium

Since the June meeting there have been two significant losses to report.

Board member Paul Stewart and his wife, Mary Liz, lost their son Daniel who was killed in a motorcycle accident in Forest Grove, Oregon, on July 12, 2020. Paul is not on the call today because they are still grieving that loss and dealing with fact that COVID prevents so much of the public grieving that would normally occur.

Gene Norman, who served as chair of the New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission from 1983 to 1988, died at the age of 85 on Aug. 30th at his home in the Bronx. Mr. Norman, an architect who graduated from the Pratt Institute, was instrumental in designating and protecting the Broadway theaters, St. Bartholomew's Church, which was threatened with the construction of a very high office tower on the site of its parish house, and even the Coney Island Cyclone. He also helped defeat the state legislation that would have exempted religious institutions from landmark designation. That effort on the part of those who opposed designation grew out of the battle over St. Bartholomew's Church, and without that victory in the state legislature, we would no longer be designating religious properties, nor would they be eligible for our EPF preservation grants.

C. Clark added: Gene Norman was absolutely the most endearing man and leaves a great legacy in terms of the work that he was able to accomplish when he was chair of the Landmarks Preservation Commission in New York City.

C. Clark moved, and *D. Perrelli seconded* that D. Perrelli send an acknowledgement of the death of Daniel Stewart and express the condolences of the full board. **Motion carried by unanimous consent.** D. Perrelli will draft a letter.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no additional action required of the board, a motion to adjourn was made by *C. Clark* and seconded by *D. Perrelli*.

**Voice vote with none opposed. Motion carried.
Meeting adjourned at 1:22 PM**

Prepared and submitted by board secretary Michael Lynch