

DRAFT

Town of Red Hook

ST. MARGARET'S HOME COMMITTEE

MINUTES: July 25, 2012

Members Present: Chairman Paul Fredricks, Kathy Douris, Linda Keeling, and Rosemarie Zengen

Absent: Patrick Hildenbrand, Secretary Lara Hart

Guests: Ralph Frisenda, Andrew Pope, Wint Aldrich (4:10 pm) John Kuhn (4:15 pm)

Chairman Fredricks opened the meeting at 4:10 pm.

1. **Minute Approval:** Rosemarie Zengen had taken the notes for absent Secretary Lara Hart due to her many family-related medical problems. Rosemarie presented the minutes to the Committee which was typed by her son, Eric Zengen. The Committee read the minutes.

***MOTION:** Kathy Douris motioned to accept the minutes from June 26, 2012, Linda Keeling seconded, all agreed.*

Rosemarie Zengen will need to give the minutes to Sue McCann to scan.

2. **Potential New Member:** Rosemarie Zengen introduced Ralph Frisenda who submitted a letter of interest to the Town Board. He has worked for Central Hudson for 40 years. He was a Foreman and Executive with IBW for 8 years and a Shop Steward. He has been and is still involved in local fundraisers for various community groups.

3. **Andrew Pope's Eagle Scout Project:** Andy, age 16, reported on his project. He apologized for his father who was on an emergency medical call. Andy brought a box of sample artifacts recovered for future display and a three inch notebook filled descriptions with about 80 photographs of the recovery and clean-up work of the fallen down small barn behind the St. Margaret's Home.

Wint Aldrich commented that archaeological results were initially done by Greenhouse Associates of Albany through the State Historic Preservation, State Museum and Egbert Benson Historical Society.

Rosemarie Zengen said she met with Andy for about 1.5 hours to discuss the potential monetary value of the artifacts recovered. Linda Keeling noted that while some of the artifacts may have

some commercial value, most are more important for their historically intrinsic value for the interpretation the St. Margaret's Home as it relates to the social life of the residents.

Andy found and presented old mid 19th to beginning 20th century bottles, mortise and tendon beam, square nails, canning jars, rack with sharp nails for hanging dead animals, etc. He had to raise money through car washes in order to satisfy the Health Department regarding respiratory and protective clothing against lead. The cost of his project was just over \$1,000.

Wint Aldrich felt that the building is probably from around the 1850's. He praised the work Andy did as it will add immensely to the knowledge and future use of the building for the local community and others. He congratulated the Committee on all their progress thus far with the buildings and grounds.

Andy will need the notebook in order to present for his Eagle Scout review. The SM Committee was very impressed with Andy's presentation, composure and thoroughness. The Committee suggested getting letters of recommendation from several members: Wint Aldrich, town historian and former NYSDEC Deputy Commissioner, John Kuhn, Rec Park liaison, and one from the Committee signed by all members.

4. St. Margaret's Home Building: Chairman Paul Fredricks contacted Erin O'Neil about grants from the Parks Department as Ron Rider is now retired. She sent a 22 page list of architects, etc. He forwarded the list to the Committee members. In order to do further restoration work, an architect will need to bid on the drawings for the outside and inside work so the Committee can best assess the needs of the project and the potential future use of the building.

Wint Aldrich would like to see the iron porch column support moved from the back to the front corner.

Rosemarie Zengen reminded Wint Aldrich about Hardscrabble Day on Sept. 22nd at Baright's old telephone company building in the Village.

John Kuhn indicated that we can now get into the building. The Southeast room still has bees in it. The chimney man will come back with a new cap. The west wall needs a vent for the fireplace register.

Chairman Paul Fredricks suggested that the artifacts in the garage be put in the basement. There is the possibility that the old sinks can be sold as a fundraiser.

Linda Keeling will contact the Egbert Benson Historical Society about reviewing and inputting about the historical artifacts found at the SM site.

Kathy Douris suggested we all make a date to get into the building to assess the inside. She needs measurements in order to give price estimates for the cisterns, caps, new septic, handicap bathroom. Hiring an architect can cost about \$200-\$300 per hour. Any work on the building must be approved by Stacey Matson Zubic of the NYS Historic Preservation Office. Former Supervisor Marirose Blum Bump signed off agreeing to 23 years approval by this office.

Chairman Paul Fredricks would like the group to look into applying for future grants. Rosemarie Zengen reminded the group that Linda Keeling is a grant writer and can provide her fee schedule.

There was a lengthy discussion on the St. Margaret's home Historic Designation and the fact that a non-profit can only use the facility as specified by Hannaford's deed agreement. Attorney to the Town, Christine Chale, is in negotiations with Hannaford on possibly lifting this requirement.

Linda Keeling reminded the Committee that a Structures Report should have been done for the building. Chairman Paul Fredricks will ask John Kuhn if one was done.

5. St. Margaret's Home Drawing Presentation: Rosemarie Zengen is presenting the Baxter Tree Wood Block Drawing to the Town board on August 14th for the Tree Commission. She suggested presenting a framed drawing done by local artist Dennis Griffin at the same meeting.

MOTION: *Rosemarie Zengen motioned that she be allowed \$25 for a frame and present the drawing of St. Margaret's Home to the Town Board on Aug. 14th, Kathy Douris seconded, all agreed.*

6. Adjournment:

MOTION: *Rosemarie Zengen motioned to adjourn the meeting, Kathy Douris seconded, all agreed.*

7. Concluded: The meeting adjourned at 5:17 pm.

8. Next Meeting: Wed., August 22, 2012

Submitted,

Linda J. Keeling
Substitute Secretary