

Village of Palmyra Historic Preservation Commission
September 16, 2021
Village Hall, 7:00 pm

Present: C. Daly, co-chair; J. Elliott – co-chair; E. Drake, M. Haskins, L. Premylovsky

- I. Approval of June minutes with Peekskill spelling correction. – Motion to approve with corrections made by J. Elliott, seconded by C. Daly. Approved unanimously.
- II. Discussion with Code Enforcement Officer, Ron Hall – unable to attend, will reschedule
- III. Confirmation of receipt of Bicentennial information – received by all members
- IV. Presentation by C. Daly (training) – Discussion of “The Politics of Historic Districts” authored by William Schmickle, past chair of the Annapolis Historic Preservation Commission and was a cofounder of the Oak Ridge Historic District (North Carolina). Suggested reading time was 6 hours which C. Daly completed.

This book was well written, and focuses on owners (makers, breakers, takers, and shapers). When making preservation presentations each of one these groups it should have questions phrased/rephrased in different forms. These forms should focus on what each group would want to know and the why’s and how’s of their particular focus. Each group should be presented with the positive and negatives of their concerns, but always with the positives stressed. Commissions should stress that preservation is not like zoning.

Mr. Schmickle consistently stressed that questions should be rephrased to be presented in a positive manner, without denigrating either the question or the questioner.

Training was about 30 minutes long.

- V. Discussion of possible Alternate suggestions – will continue to discuss. C. Daly will follow up with the mayor on the protocol for presenting suggestions of possible alternates to the Village Board.
- VI. Future training presentations – E. Drake will do next month’s training from a Landmark Society videoconference of 1 hour fifteen minutes, entitled “From Grassroots Preservation to Neighborhood Revitalization” which happened at the December Conference 2020 of the Landmark society.
- VII. Other business – restart of spotlight houses and businesses, Griffith House, former Methodist Church. E. Drake to check with Village Clerk to see if Locally Designated Historic Property forms and procedures are available on the new website.

Respectfully submitted – E. Drake, secretary