

Town of Clifton Park
Historic Preservation Commission

Minutes June 18th 2026

PRESENT: Linda Seymour, Brian McGlinchey, Maureen O'Connor, Chyrsoula Highland, Nancy Kiyonaga, Deanna Rubinger, Paul Szczesny, Sue Thompson, Toby Watkins, John Scherer, Emad Andarawis, Nancy Bellamy, Agatha Reid

ABSENT: Art Bordeau, Andrew Gorman, Jennifer Jeram

GUESTS: Lin McGlinchey, Chris Nafis

HPC members met at 6:15 to tour the Blacksmith Shop, Grange and Palmer House. Linda called the business meeting to order at 7:45.

1. SECRETARY'S REPORT: Minutes of the May 21, 2026 meeting were reviewed and approved as submitted.

2. TREASURER'S REPORT: 2026 Budget:\$5685 (approved item: GPR for Garnsey Cemetery) No report.

3. NEW BUSINESS:

a. HPC member tour of Heritage Square Buildings: (6:15 to 7:00PM) See above the tour lasted until 7:30.

b. Girl Scout Presentation of DeGroff Cemetery Project: Due to Sophie's work schedule, the presentation took place at the end of the meeting. The presentation was well done and well received. Sophie will be giving the presentation to the Town Board at its July 7th meeting.

4, ANNOUNCEMENTS, UPDATES AND DISCUSSION

a. The passing of Dottie Bordeau: Linda has spoken with Art. He offered a recommendation for donations in Dottie's memory. Deanna suggested that since Art and Dottie have been involved in the community for years, HPC members could make individual contributions to be collected by Linda for a combined memorial donation on behalf of HPC.

b. Overview of Preservation Events to Date: John reported on his bike ride along the Erie Canal. There will be activities celebrating the 4th of July. He has submitted a list of activities for the Parks and Recreation bulletin.

- c. F/U on Celebrations Committee: Linda and John attended. The committee will follow up with staff from Saratoga 250 about advertising Clifton Park's events. The next meeting will be held June 29, 2026.
- d. F/U on status of concrete batch plant proposal: Linda attended meetings of the Town Board and Zoning Board. At the Zoning meeting, she spoke about HPC's letter to both boards outlining the potential damage to historic homes and structures in the vicinity of the proposed batch plant.
- e. Blacksmith Shop Structural Report: John is still waiting for the report from John G. Waite Associates. They will do a walkthrough of the Blacksmith Shop. John is hoping they'll also do a walkthrough of the Pomeroy House. John stressed that the Blacksmith must be emptied. Agatha expressed concern about the condition of the Grange. She will contact Town departments to inspect.
- f. Revolutionary War markers: Due to the activities scheduled for July 4th, marker dedications have been postponed and will be rescheduled.
- g. Status of damaged Jonesville Cemetery marker: No report.

5. SUB COMMITTEE REPORTS:

a. Heritage Square: Nancy, Chyrsoula, Toby and Brian met June 15th. They developed a list of ideas. However, the structural report for the Blacksmith and information about costs and potential funding are needed before ideas can be developed and prioritized.

b. Public Relations: Linda reported that Norah and Megan are regularly promoting HPC events. Deanna added that local radio and TV are useful tools and she's willing to make those contacts prior to events.

c. Town Register: No report.

d. Cemeteries: Gail has begun to visit cemeteries. She visited the Macintosh Grooms Cemetery, Jones Family Cemetery and Chadsey Cemetery and found all was well.

e. Commission website: Paul is waiting for more information on the historic markers. Since it's not easy to pull over and read markers at many sites, it's been suggested that QR codes to added to the interactive map.

f. Tax Easement: While at Home Depot, Linda met a representative of Rheem Manufacturing. The company is offering free estimates for heating and cooling systems. She explained the importance of chase placement on historic homes when installing heat pumps.

6. OLD BUSINESS:

a. Development Projects: Birch Tavern, CP Hotel, Main St. Project: No report.

b. Elnora School House (Rte 146A) There has been no response to John Scavo's letter from the owner. A school bus is still parked at the property. Linda will contact the town about this.

7. ANNUAL GOALS:

a. identify and preserve historic buildings, sites and heritage: Historic Register, "Heritage Square," add houses to the Historic Register

b. advise and consult with Town departments and property owners: COA's, tax easements

c. educate and involve individuals in the history of Clifton Park: Upcoming Celebrations and events

d. recognize individuals, businesses for outstanding efforts in preservation: annual Historic Preservation award(s)

8. OTHER:

Adjournment: Toby made a motion to adjourn. Sue seconded. The vote was unanimous. Meeting adjourned at 8:59 p.m.

The next meeting will be at Grooms Tavern on July 16, 2026.