

HERITAGE WORKING GROUP MEETING

SUMMARY NOTES

DATE: 20 April 2022 – 5.30pm –6.30pm

Attendees Invited: Tobi Farley, Shawn Jennings, Arthur King, Karen Davala (invited) - Sally Baker – PBI

SUMMARY NOTES of Agenda Items:

1. Comments on Draft of Summary Notes 3/16/22

No revision comments recorded.

2. Matt Kierstead - Heritage Consulting presentation – July 10th – Village Hall

a) *Arthur – report if Robina Ward can participate on July 10th for Matt's presentation.*

Arthur did reach out again – as yet has not been to re-connect with Robina. Sally/PBI will outreach to Town of Hillsdale as Robina is a Town Councilmember and PBI is working with the town on the watershed management plan project.

b) *What did folk think about Matt Kierstead's presentation from 2017? – link included in the 2/16/22 Summary Notes.*

Saved to discuss at a later meeting when full member group attending. Did discuss contacting property owners with watercourse historic artifacts located on their property to gain permission to include photos of the artifacts in Matt Kierstead presentation.

c) *Other speakers and or community-based conversation for Matt's presentation.*

Discussion again about potential speakers who can address the question “*will my property assessment go up if I renovate my house.*” Working Group is aware this is a concern expressed by property owners and needs to be addressed so folk get more fully informed that assessments for property taxes are not based on renovation of properties.

3. Discussion - PO event for dot survey held April 2

a) *Shawn to report about doing the dot survey*

Shawn spoke about his experience of doing the dot survey as being highly enjoyable and interesting hearing from villagers about how they feel about the village, their take on preservation, and their participation. All in all a good 2 hours spent outside the Post Office. 15 people participated in conversations, 11 people participated in the dot survey.

b) *Should we do more dates?*

Yes! Agreed this was a good start to getting folk informed and Heritage Working Group should stage more PO dates to carry on gathering dot survey participation. Next PO event – Saturday May 21st – 10am-12noon – Shawn & Sally will run it again – everyone encouraged to drop by!

c) Tobi – how many fliers have been done by Library patrons?

Tobi reported about 8 Library patrons have completed the paper survey. She will remind Library staff to point it out to patrons. Discussed to run the dot survey and paper survey until approx. 100 people have participated. Then design the next set of questions to roll out. Tobi asked about timing and deadlines for the survey. Group discussed the dates for the NR nomination – if all goes well – nomination will get funded to be authored by Jessie Rave with a target date of December 2023 to be submitted to the state and PARKS. Jan-March 2023 is when property owners will be mailed a questionnaire from PARKS asking if the property owner is in favor of the Village of Philmont Historic District. In essence, Dec 2023 is the hard date for the Heritage Working Group to have gained at least 60%-70% “in favor” traction in the community and from property owners in support of the nomination. An NR nomination requires at least that %range for a successful result to be approved for the Village Board to create the Historic District.

d) Other ideas – we need to get as many surveys done as possible.

Friday Night at the Co-op discussed, and decision to discuss again for other places to stage the dot survey in the village. Discussion about how many property owners there are in the village – approx. 426 properties, 50 properties owned by landlords owning more than one property, estimate about 350 property owners. Sally will check address registry to count how many property owners are out-of-village owners to evaluate how many property owners Heritage Working Group should aim for dot survey participation, and how many out-of-village property owners needed to be contacted by phone for the survey.

4. Update on Preserve New York grant application

- a) We submitted proposal 10 days before the deadline! We should expect to hear 2nd wk in July.

5. Schedule next meeting

May 25th – 5.30-6.30 scheduled.

Adjournment