August 29, 2016 Meeting Minutes

Saratoga Town Hall, 12 Spring Street, Schuylerville, NY

In Attendance

Tom Richardson, City of Mechanicville

Joe Finan, Hudson Hoosic Partnership

Tim Holmes, Friends of Saratoga Battlefield

Tiara Brown, Town of Stillwater

Ed Kinowski, Town of Stillwater

Brian Mumford, Friends of Saratoga Battlefield

Julie Stokes, Gov. Appointee

Amy Bracewell, Saratoga NHP

Kay Tomasi, Senate Appointee

Lauren Stevens, HOOWRA

David Bullard, The Marshall House

Paul Marlon, Town of Halfmoon

David Pitlyk, OPRHP – Bennington

Jim Brangan, LCBP/CVNHP

Chuck Vanderi, NYSDEC – Lands and Forests

Sara Idleman, Town of Greenwich

Cindy Wian, Hudson Crossing Park

Teri Ptacek, ASA/Governor Appointee

Dennis Morreale, Village of Corinth

John Sherman, Village of Schuyerville

Dan Shaw, Town of Easton

Drew Alberti, Lakes to Locks Passage

Bill Reynolds, Senate Appointee

Stephen Lack, Battenkill Conservancy

J. Bert Mahoney, Village of Waterford

Michelle DeGarmo, Flatley Read

Tom Richardson opened the meeting at 10:00am with welcome and introductions.

1. **Previous Meeting Notes**

Ed Kinowski moved to accept the minutes, John Sherman seconded the motion and all were in favor.

1. **Gateway Visitors Center Update**

Joe reported that the contractor for the micropiles is moving forward and the contract for the foundation work is near complete, but the construction of the structure has been delayed until the first or second week of November. The Timber Frame Guild is still planning to hold their workshop on site from September 5-15 (10 days). The Partnership is responsible for providing lunch for fifty people each of those days, and Joe was looking for help securing funding donations, lunch options and/or individuals to help serve and be on site. A sign-up sheet went around and was given to Ed K.

The Timber Frame Guild did hold a workshop in the beginning of August where they cut some of the timbers. Those materials are now being stored at Curtis Lumber. The Partnership extended thanks to Curtis Lumber for the storage space.

1. **GVC Financials**

Michelle distributed two documents that illustrated the Visitors Center’s Project Funding and Billing summaries. See attached. Julie S. requested a document illustrating the project budgeted expenses.

1. **Post Star Articles**

Joe reported that there had been several articles in the Post Star newspaper that had several inaccuracies. In order to deliver a more consistent message it was asked that all media inquiries be referred to Tom Richardson. A listing of several articles can be found at <http://www.hudsonhoosicpartnership.org/?p=1214>.

1. **Ferry Street Acquisition Resolution (Resolution Number: 16-2)**

Resolution Number 16-2 *Affirmation of Determination of Historic Hudson-Hoosic Rivers Partnership to Acquire Title to 30 Ferry Street, Village of Schuylerville, Saratoga County,* was distributed to the Partnership by email and handed out during the meeting. It was pointed out by several members that there were a few communities missing from the list.

Ed moved to pass the resolution with missing communities added, John S. seconded the motion and all were in favor.

1. **Partnership Officers**

Hand-outs were distributed announcing the slate of officers. They were: Tom Richardson, President; Sara Idleman, Vice President; Kay Tomasi, Secretary; Bill Peck, Treasurer.

John S. moved to accept the slate of officers, the motion was seconded by Dan S. and all were in favor.

1. **Bylaws**

Kay T. proposed a committee be organized to create an updated draft of the bylaws to be reviewed at the next meeting and passed in October. Kay T., Teri P., Sara I., Dan S., and Brian M. all volunteered to be a part of that committee.

1. **Next Meeting**

The next Partnership meeting will be on August 29. There is no July meeting.

1. **Grants Update**

Tom R. reported that due to unexpected expenses related to the Visitors Center that there is not going to be a Partnership grant program this year.

1. **American Battlefield Protection Program**

Sara I. announced that they had a good turnout for Hartgen’s public meeting on the report of their study on the lands on the eastern shore of the Hudson River, near Hudson Crossing Park. There will be another meeting in November.

1. **Battenkill Conservancy**

At the previous meeting Lorraine Merghart Ballard delivered a presentation about the Battenkill Conservancy and formally requested membership to the Hudson-Hoosic Partnership. Battenkill Conservancy Board Member Stephen Lack gave a brief update on the activities of the Battenkill Conservancy before a vote was taken.

Julie S. moved to accept the Battenkill Conservancy as a member of the Partnership, Teri P. seconded the motion and all were in favor.

1. **Other Announcements**

Lauren Stevens reported that HooRWA did not receive the Brownsfield Grant for the riverfront property in Valley Falls. The EPA offered help if they could gain legal access to the site, but the county will not foreclose on the property until May 2017. HooRWA and the Rensselaer Land Trust will reapply for a Brownsfield grant in November.

Julie S. reported that there is going to be a review of work completed on the dredging in March. The old Champlain Canal will be sampled as well as the floodplain. Residents will be contacted if access to private property is necessary. She encouraged everyone to participate in the review.

Jim Brangan reported that the Champlain Valley NHP has two grant programs open. Each for up to $5,000. Details can be found at: <http://www.hudsonhoosicpartnership.org/?p=1224>

**Next Meeting**

Monday, September 26, 2016, 10am, Saratoga Town Hall

**Adjourn**

John S. moved to adjourn the meeting, Dennis M. seconded the motion and all were in favor. The meeting concluded at 11:15am.

*Respectful submitted by Drew Alberti*