



## **BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

Monday, October 28, 2019

Saratoga Town Hall, 12 Spring Street, Schuylerville, NY

### **MISSION STATEMENT**

The Partnership's mission is to preserve, enhance and develop historic, agricultural, scenic, natural and recreational resources and the significant waterways within the Partnership Region. Through the tradition of municipal home rule, the Partnership will foster collaborative projects with pertinent non-profit and governmental entities with an emphasis on both agricultural and open space protection, economic and tourism development and interpretation of our natural and cultural heritage.

#### **Board Members Attending:**

Tom Richardson, City of Mechanicville  
Tom Wood, Town of Saratoga  
Kay Tomasi, Senate Appointee  
Joe Durkin, Rensselaer Land Trust  
Bill Reynolds, Senate Appointee  
Teri Ptacek, ASA & Governor Appointee  
Sara Idleman, Town of Greenwich

#### **Also attending:**

Andrew Alberti, Flatley Read  
Dave Woodin, Town of Waterford

Chairman Tom Richardson called the meeting to order at 9:07 am. A quorum was present.

#### **Secretary's Report**

- **Bill Reynolds made the motion, seconded by Tom Wood, to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried.**

#### **Financial Report**

- Tom Wood reported a balance of \$17,196.61 in the account managed by the Town of Saratoga. A \$25,000 donation restricted for GVC hookup of utilities was made to the Chamber of Commerce. Consensus requested a copy of the expense sheet to be used for insurance purposes.

### **Chairman's Report**

- Tom Richardson reported that he, Joe Durkin, and Joe Finan had a positive meeting with representatives of DEC. Tom has not been able to reconnect with DEC since the October meeting. After he discussed the matter with Carrie Woerner, she talked with Katie McNamara of the Governor's office. Ms. McNamara will reach out to DEC.
- Tom has talked with Bill Peck, Tom Wood, and Ed Knowski about asking Saratoga County to loan the Partnership money for operating expenses while the relationship to the State and DEC is clarified. The Visitors' Gateway Visitors Center was added to the legislation that created the Partnership.
- Note: A Carrie Woerner legislative grant reduced the Partnership debt to Saratoga County by \$250,000.

### **Grants Update**

- Drew Alberti reported that the NY Economic Development grant of \$250,000 and the SAM grant of \$400,000 require an environmental review. Chuck Vandrei of DEC did one review. Drew will contact Chuck about the documentation. Carrie Woerner's office is following the process. The estimates for the GVC have been updated to meet requirements.

### **Stewardship Plan**

- An appropriation of \$7,000 to \$8,000 is on the table for approval by the Trails Committee of Saratoga County at its November meeting. This will be used as matching funds for a grant to update the Stewardship Plan.

### **Membership**

- More work needs to be done with membership.

### **Sword Surrender Site**

- The ribbon cutting ceremony was well attended. Officials attending included a representative of Congresswoman Stefanik's office, NYS Senator Daphne Jordan, and Assemblyman Steve Englebright. Remarks by Eric Schnitzer were well received. The cannon was fired, and the SAR presented the colors.
- Publicity included Channel 10 News and *The Troy Record*.
- Tom Wood was commended for his work in making the ceremony a success.
- The site is not open to the public until next year's season.

### **Future Programs**

- **The 2019 Annual Meeting will be held at the Saratoga Town Hall on Monday, November 25 at 10 am. Stephen Ramsey will do a presentation about the NYS Power Authority/ Canal Corp.**
- Waterford has invited the Partnership for the May2020 meeting.

### **Nominating Committee**

- Tom Wood will chair the Nominating Committee,

**New Business**

- Drew is seeking a refund for the 2019 payment overage to NYSIF. The general liability insurance will expire in January.
- **Tom Wood made the motion, seconded by Joe Durkin, to approve Saratoga Plan's use of GVC for Plein Air Painting Tour on June 20 or 27, 2020. Motion carried.**
- It was reported that the Zim Smith Trail should be completed by the end of the year.
- It was reported that the Champlain Canalway group has awarded \$300,000 to the River Side Park in Greenwich for adaptive reuse of the buildings on the property.

**Teri Ptacek made the motion, seconded by Tom Wood, to adjourn.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Katharine Tomasi

**The next Board meeting will be held in the Glass Room at the Saratoga Town Hall on Monday, November 25 at 9 am.**

**The 2019 Annual Meeting of the Partnership will be held at the Saratoga Town Hall in the courtroom/meeting room on the first floor on Monday, November 25 at 10 am. Stephen Ramsey, guest speaker, will discuss the NYS Power Authority/Canal Corp. The 3 Directors for the Class of 2022 will be elected by the general membership.**