

Historic Hudson - Hoosic Rivers Partnership

September 26, 2016
Meeting Minutes
Saratoga Town Hall, 12 Spring Street, Schuylerville, NY

In Attendance

Joe Finan, Hudson Hoosic Partnership
Ed Kinowski, Town of Stillwater
Brian Mumford, Friends of Saratoga Battlefield
Julie Stokes, Gov. Appointee
Amy Bracewell, Saratoga NHP
Kay Tomasi, Senate Appointee
Paul Marlon, Town of Halfmoon
Chuck Vanderi, NYSDEC – Lands and Forests
Sara Idleman, Town of Greenwich
Dennis Morreale, Village of Corinth
John Sherman, Village of Schuylerville
Dan Shaw, Town of Easton
Drew Alberti, Lakes to Locks Passage
Bill Reynolds, Senate Appointee
J. Bert Mahoney, Village of Waterford
Michelle DeGarmo, Flatley Read
Frank Rooney, NYS Dept of Ag & Markets
Joe Durkin, Rensselaer Land Trust
Lauren Stevens, HooRWA
Tom Wood, Town of Saratoga

Sara Idleman opened the meeting at 10:05am with welcome and introductions..

1. Previous Meeting Notes

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

2. Thank You

Sara Idleman extended thank yous on behalf of the Partnership to those groups and individuals who assisted with the Timber Framers Guild workshop

3. Gateway Visitors Center (GVC) Update

Joe reported that the Timber Framers Guild (TFG) 10-day workshop was a success and that they were able to complete the cutting of all the timbers. Due to ongoing delays, the raising event is going to be put off until June 2017. He is currently preparing the change order with the TFG for that event.

4. Carrie Woerner

Assemblywoman Carrie Woerner came to the meeting and announced to the group that she has secured an additional \$250,000 toward the development of the Gateway Visitors Center, which brings the total line item funds to \$500,000. She then thanked the Partnership for the work accomplished.

5. Financial Update

Michelle distributed a funding summary and expenses to date for the GVC project. She reported that there is a question regarding the retainage of 10% on the \$441,541 from OPRHP, but the \$191,000 from Canal Corp is now working capital. The addition of the \$250,000 from Carrie Woerner helps close the budget gap and the remainder will hopefully be filled with CFA funding.

6. Bylaws Update

Sara reported that there was a Bylaws Committee formed to review the existing bylaws. During an initial meeting, Brian Mumford suggested that the existing bylaws are not compatible with the existing legislation and require an update. The update will address questions, such as who are voting members, what constitutes a quorum, and liability of debts. The committee will prepare an update to the bylaws for review by the members.

7. OGS Contaminated Lands

Amy reported that OGS conducted a study of contaminated lands just south of the Schuyler House, where a part of the Champlain Canalway Trail is being constructed. The study found that there was nothing toxic, but there was the presence of asbestos and lead pollutants. There is currently a proposal to do selective excavating or capping, which would allow for the passage of the trail.

8. Other Announcements

Julie reported that landowners will begin receiving letters regarding the testing for PCBs on private lands. She suggested that the testing is not mandatory, but that homeowners run a risk for future real estate transactions. She added that there is a new Community Advisory Group (CAG) forming, and she hopes to get knowledgeable locals on the committee.

Chuck Vanderi reported that it has been discovered that the memorial planned for the Saratoga Surrender site was found to be on a pre-contact archeological site. Site plans are now being revised to address the issue.

Drew reported that the Champlain Canalway Trail Working Group will be holding its Supervisors and Mayors Meeting Thursday 9/29 at the Canal Street Marketplace in Fort Edward from 11am-2pm.

Next Meeting

Monday, October 31, 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

**Hudson Hoosic Partnership
Visitors Center Project Funding Summary
September 2016**

<u>Available Funding</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Remaining Funds</u>
OPRHP / Member Items (PKS-07-SC-904/PKS-14-SC-901)	\$441,541	\$0
Pending OPRHP Reimbursement:		\$140,628
• Final Payment*		\$44,538
Canal Corp:	\$191,000	\$191,000
New Member Item:	\$250,000	\$250,000
Saratoga County Loan:	\$200,000	\$13,768.27

**The final OPRHP reimbursement will be released upon review of grant close-out documents.*