

Historic Hudson-Hoosic Rivers Partnership

Board Meeting Minutes

August 27, 2018

Corinth Firehouse, 16 Saratoga Ave., Corinth, NY

Board Members Attending:

Tom Richardson, City of Mechanicville
Tom Wood, Town of Saratoga
Maria Trabka, Saratoga PLAN
Kay Tomasi, Senate Appointee
Julie Stokes, Governor Appointee
Teri Ptachek, ASA, Governor Appointee
Joe Durkin, Rensselaer Land Trust

Also Attending:

Andrew Alberti, Flatley Read, LL
David Woodin, Town of Waterford
David Bullard, Marshall House, Inc
Joe Finan, HHHRP
Dennis Morreri, Village of Corinth
Lorraine Merghart, Battenkill Conservancy
Mo Kelly, Corinth Village Board
Edward C. Byrnes, Town of Corinth
Richard Lucia, Town of Corinth
Arthur Lozier III, Village of Corinth
Matthew Rogers, Laberge Group
Tracey Clothier, LA Group
John Sherman, Village of Schuylerville
Tim Holmes, Friends of Saratoga Battlefield

Chairman Richardson called the meeting to order at 10:05 am. All introduced themselves. A quorum was present.

Secretary's Minutes

- Julie Stokes made the motion, seconded by Tom Wood, to accept the minutes as presented. Motion carried.

Financial Report

- Drew Alberti reported that the insurance audit will take place on January 1, 2019. IPFS is the company covering liability. Rose & Kiernan Insurance Agency is the broker.

- Tom Wood reported that the Town of Saratoga audit, including the Partnership account, has been completed for 2017.
- Billing procedures were discussed. Joe Finan receives invoices. He forwards them to Drew who gives them to Tom Wood. The Town of Saratoga then pays the bill from the Partnership account.

Champlain Canalway Trail

- Supervisor Tom Wood gave a power point presentation about the trail designed by the LA Group. The trail runs from Waterford to Whitehall and runs through the Visitor Center's 2 acres of land owned by the Partnership.
- The Town of Saratoga received a NYS grant to construct a footbridge south of the Post Office to Red Road in the Village of Schuylerville. There are issues with parking, the post office, and Visitors Center. Easement issues will be addressed in the future. \$140,000 will still be needed to complete the project.
- Julie Stokes made a motion, seconded by Teri Ptacek, to approve the attached resolution which authorizes the Town of Saratoga to use Partnership property between the Visitor Center and the original Champlain Canal for the designed trail. Motion carried.

Grants Update – Drew Alberti

- DASNY grant will be used to complete the functional operation of the 1st floor. The grant needs to go before the Ways and Means Committee. HHHRP should receive information about its status by next month. According to Ways and Means, monies used now can be reimbursed by the grant, but we should wait until we are certain that the monies will be forthcoming.
- Grant applications have been made to Canal Corp (\$150,000) and NYSCA (\$50,000).
- Drew has requested an application from Alfred Z. Solomon Charitable Trust. The request is to be for \$40,000.

Visitors Center – Joe Finan

- Siding, which came in last week, will be stored by Curtis Lumber. A lift will be needed for the installation. Consensus chose the darker grey sample for color. At this time, construction will stop after the siding application and drainage are completed. Future projects will be considered when the money is available.

Flatley Read Contract

- The Executive Committee will work with Flatley Read in finalizing the contract.

Purchasing and Procurement Policy

- The Executive Committee will address the policy and take into consideration the level that requires approval by the Board. State and municipal regulations cover purchasing with governmental funds.

Sword Surrender Site

- Phase I and Phase II archeology studies are done. Work is done according to the Preservation Act. Next step is to draft RFPs for contract bids. The projected opening date is October 17, 2019.

Village of Corinth Renewal – Dennis Morrerle

- Water and Sewage improvements have been done with grant money. The Laberge Group added additional items and still came under budget. The village partnered with the Town as they sought to improve the quality of life in their community.
- Matt Rogers of the Laberge Group stressed the importance of having an infrastructure plan and continued maintenance. A proactive approach saves money over time. They started with a \$300,000 grant to work with water issues which have been brought up to date. Additional grants included community recreational programs such as hiking trails, hunting and fishing, improved streetscapes and parks. All was done without bonding. According to Mr. Rogers, costs for projects go up 8 to 10% each year and must be considered when working with a plan. Contingency funds are an essential part of the planning process.
- The Town of Corinth is celebrating its Bicentennial this year. All were invited to come and join in the special events.

All thanked Dennis and the Village of Corinth for the hospitality. Kudos went to the community for all that they have accomplished.

The next meeting will be held at Hudson Crossing Park on September 24th at 10 am. The address is 5149 County Route 113. If traveling west, take Rt. 29 toward Schuylerville - at the bottom of Schuylerville Hill turn right onto Co Rt. 113. If traveling east from Schuylerville on Rt. 29, take a left on Co Rt. 113. Stay on 113 to Hollingsworth and Vose, go over the bridge. About 1/4 mile after the bridge, Rt. 113 turns sharply to the left, stay on that road for 1/2 to 3/4 of a mile. The property is on the left but cannot be seen from the road. I will have a sign and balloons at the top of the driveway.

Other upcoming meetings were announced: a Board meeting on October 29th and the Annual Meeting on December 3rd.

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

Respectfully submitted,
Katharine Tomasi