

Historic Hudson-Hoosic Rivers Partnership

Board Meeting Minutes

February 25, 2019

Saratoga Town Hall, 12 Spring Street, Schuylerville, NY

Board Members Attending:

Tom Richardson, City of Mechanicville

Tom Wood, Town of Saratoga

Cindy Wian, Hudson Crossing Park

Kay Tomasi, Senate Appointee

Julie Stokes, Governor Appointee

Joe Durkin, Rensselaer Land Trust

Sara Idleman, Town of Greenwich

Also attending:

Joe Finan, HHHRP

Andrew Alberti, Flatley Read

Dave Woodin, Town of Waterford

Chairman Tom Richardson called the meeting to order at 9:01. A quorum was present.

Chairman's Report:

- Tom R is trying to arrange a meeting with the DEC and discuss the status of the Partnership.
- The Empire State Trail (EST) agreed to have the trail head and parking for 4-5 spots behind Champlain Canal Gateway Visitors Center (GVC) located on Partnership property. **Sara Idleman made the motion, seconded by Tom Wood, to approve a Letter of Understanding among the Partnership, the Village of Schuylerville, and the Hudson River Valley Greenway. Sara made the motion, seconded by Tom W., to include Attachment 1, a design plan illustrating the compromise of changing the parking site from the public parking lot to the trailhead behind the GVC. The amendment was approved unanimously. The original motion including the amendment was approved unanimously.**
- Sara Idleman reported that the Town of Greenwich would like to see the "Canal Mule" placed on the GVC site. Location of the mule needs to be determined and added to the site plan.

Secretary's Report:

- **Sara Idleman made the motion, seconded by Julie Stokes, to approve the January 28 minutes as presented. Motion approved.**

Treasurer's Report: Tom Wood

- There are \$28,550.32 in the Partnership account with the Town of Saratoga.

Grant Update: Drew Alberti

- The \$400,000 DASNY grant from former Sen. Marchione's is still viable but no progress has been made in administering the grant. Drew sent photos of current GVC progress and described the needs of interior interpretation.
- Tracey Clothier suggested writing an application for a Northern Border Regional Commission grant. The application is due in May, and the awards are announced in August. \$500,000 is needed to fund the GVC. A 50/50 match needs to be in place when making the application. In-kind services and the \$250,000 Woerner legislative grant, if finalized, can be used for a match. Other options for matching funds will be researched. DOT's landscaping at the intersection by the Town of Saratoga Office Building might be eligible for the match. Dave Roberts has offered to donate \$1500 for the writing of the grant.
- There will be continued investigation of the Woerner legislative grant. It needs to be approved by DASNY before it goes back to Assembly Ways and Means for final approval. Joe Durkin and Tom Richardson will continue to seek the final approval.
- The application to the Hudson River Valley Greenway for updating the Stewardship Plan is due on May 11. The Partnership needs a municipal sponsor for the application. The grant requires a 50/50 match which may include in-kind services.
- Approximately \$150,000 is left in the Lakes to Locks Passage grant for interior interpretation. Janet Kennedy has applied for an extension. Plans include a removable exhibit.

Julie Stokes made the motion, seconded by Sara Idleman, to approve the Purchasing and Procurement Policy as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Classification of the Partnership and its relationships to DEC have not been resolved. Legislation, enabling purchasing and owning property, referred to HHHRP as a public benefit corporation. Consensus indicated that a letter sent to DEC should precede making an appointment for a meeting with DEC.

The Executive Committee will meet on the 2nd Monday of the month.

The Board meeting adjourned to the General Membership meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Katharine Tomasi