



## BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Monday, June 24, 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 Wood, Town of Saratoga  
Kay Tomasi, Senate Appointee  
Julie Stokes, Governor Appointee  
Joe Durkin, Rensselaer Land Trust  
Bill Reynolds, Senate Appointee  
Cindy Wian, Hudson Crossing Park

#### Also attending:

Joe Finan, HHHRP  
Andrew Alberti, Flatley Read  
Dave Woodin, Town of Waterford  
Dave Roberts, Schuylerville Chamber  
Jeff Cleary, Waterford Harbor V.C.  
Tim Holmes, Friends of Saratoga Battlefield

Secretary Kay Tomasi called the meeting to order at 9:00 am. A quorum was present.

**Julie Stokes made the motion, seconded Cindy Wian, to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried.**

#### Financial Report

- Tom Wood reported a balance of \$18,306.24 in the account managed by the Town of Saratoga.

- Drew Alberti reported that there is a credit balance with New York State Insurance Fund following the completion of the audit. The credit balance is more than one year of premiums, and Drew recommended seeking a refund.

**Julie Stokes made the motion, seconded by Cindy Wian, for Drew Alberti to seek a refund from the New York State Insurance Fund for the credit balance remaining after annual premiums had been paid. Motion carried.**

Chairman’s Report – Joe Finan and Joe Durkin

- In Tom Richardson’s absence Joe Finan and Joe Durkin reported on the meeting with NYS Department of Environmental Conservation. They identified that they had a positive meeting. After discussion, and input from Jeff Cleary, it was recommended that there be a follow up with the Governor’s Counsel on Parks and/or Environmental Conservation including local Democratic officials Tom Richardson, Sara Idleman, and Dan Carpenter, with support of the Office of Assemblywoman Carrie Woerner. If that person was unavailable the alternative would be Kelly Cummings, Director of State Operations.

Grants Update – Drew Alberti

- Drew Alberti reported that he had followed up with DASNY regarding the \$250,000 Economic Development Grant sponsored by Assembly Woerner and the \$400,0000 SAM Grant sponsored by former Senator Kathy Marchione. The new grants administrator Rebecca Mohr indicated that she should complete her desk audit in the next week, and is waiting on environmental and financial review. Drew expressed frustration because the previous DASNY grants administrator Rebecca Lee indicated that only environmental review remained. Drew is to follow up with Emma Cohen at the office of Assemblywoman Carrie Woerner to update her on the status.

Gateway Visitors Center – Joe Finan

- Joe Finan reported that DEC does not recognize any ownership of the building or have any permitting requirements, which means that the local building inspector has jurisdiction over the building. This precludes the need for a fire suppression system and the 4 inch water main to service it. Instead Joe and Dave Roberts plan to move ahead with the ¾ inch line using the donation funds held by the Schuylerville Chamber of Commerce.
- Dave Roberts recommended moving forward with the water, then electric, and then sewer if adequate funds remain.

**Bill Reynolds made the motion, seconded by Julie Stokes, to move forward with the water line, then electric, then sewer if fund balance remains with the Schuylerville Chamber.**

Future Programs

- The next meeting is to be held on October 28. This will be just a board meeting.
- November 25 will be the Annual Meeting with presentation from the New York Power Authority.
- Jeff Cleary offered up the Waterford Harbor Visitors Center as a location for a future meeting.

New/Old Business

- Drew Alberti reported that he is anxiously awaiting further information on the matching funds for the Hudson River Valley Greenway grant to update the Stewardship Plan. He recommended that a committee be formed to assist in the revision of the RFP and to assist with the project.
- Kay Tomasi presented the board with signage design for the front of the Visitors Center. Concerns were raised about the circular sign and that the word “Gateway” was missing from the title. Joe Finan was to follow up with Janet Kennedy about a revised design to be approved by the Executive Committee with guidance from the Interpretive Committee.

Tom Wood made the motion to adjourn the board meeting at 9:55am.

Laurie LaFond from the Grassland Bird Trust gave a presentation at the Membership Meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Drew Alberti, Flatley Read