



## **BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

Monday, September 25, 2023

Gateway Visitors Center

Schuylerville, NY 12871

## **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

Kay Tomasi, Senate Appointee

Joe Durkin, Affiliate Member, Rensselaer Land Trust

Ed Kinowski, Town of Stillwater

Julie Stokes, Governor Appointee

Pam Fuller, Mayor of Greenwich

### **Also attending:**

Kate Morse, Hudson Crossing Park

Dave Roberts, GVC Construction Supervision Services Contractor

Dan Carpenter, Mayor of Schuylerville

Darryl Leggien, Discover Saratoga Tours

Chairman Tom Richardson called the meeting to order at 9:02 am. A quorum was present. Introductions included Darryl Leggieri of Discover Saratoga.

### **Secretary's Report:** Kay Tomasi

- **Ed Knowski made the motion, seconded by Joe Durkin, to approve the August minutes as presented. Motion carried.**

**Financial Report:** Ed Knowski

- There is \$9,654.12 in the General Operating Account and \$4,854.50 in the Special Projects Account.
- The documentation for the Assemblywoman Carrie Woerner grant of \$150,000 grant has been submitted. The freezing of some NYS funding may impact the timing of grant reimbursements. Joe explained that the Partnership, created by legislation, has a mission of economic development. This funding is not a budget line item, and the request for funding needs to be submitted on an annual basis. **Ed Kinowski made the motion, seconded by Pam Fuller, to accept the Financial Report. Motion carried.**

**Chairman's Report:** Tom Richardson

- Tom had met with NYS Senator Neil Breslin who stated that the Marchione grant money is still available. Since he does not represent the Partnership region, he is not a part of the process. We need to ask our Senator Tedisco to go to the Chairman of the Senate Finance Committee. Senator Breslin has information regarding the classification of the grant as economic development and that it is being transferred from DASNY to the Senate Finance Committee. Drew Alberti was asked to contact Tracy of Senator Tedisco's office.
- Drew will complete one interactive display this week. The second display still needs more information.
- The new GVC sign was delivered.
- Darryl Leggieri of Discover Saratoga comes with 35 years of experience and will promote the area and the 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the American Revolution. Darryl will take a tour of GVC with Kate Morse today. More data about our area is needed as we try to develop ways of outreach from GVC.
- Joe Durkin is interactive with Orion Parrillo of the Rensselaer County Chamber of Commerce. It was suggested that we have a local Chambers/ Community Council meeting at GVC.

**Projects Report:** Dave Roberts

- Joe Finan and Dave Roberts were commended and thanked for their many contributions to making the GVC a reality.
- The new GVC sign that can be seen from both directions needs to be installed.
- Mary Roberts has been very diligent in helping to establish a Tom Wood Memory Garden. Funds have been donated to provide and maintain a perennial garden and landscape for GVC.
- More work is needed for the back porch, parking lot, and canal bank. Dave will develop a design and estimate cost of the back project.
- **Ed Knowski made the motion, seconded by Joe, to install the Canal Corp bronze plaque on the exterior by the door. Motion carried. (23-6) 9/25**
- Ed Knowski suggested that we need to carry over \$5500 to 2024 for operating expenses.

**Management of GVC:** Kate Morse

- Kate will be hosting a group of re-enactors on the October 8<sup>th</sup> weekend.
- GVC will only be open with volunteers after October 31. Dates to be determined.
- Drew, Joe, and Kate will work together in writing an agreement between the Partnership and Hudson Crossing Park.

- Drew will send the documentation for the Carrie Woerner grant to Kate.

**New Business:**

- The Cindy Wian is the Chairman of the Nominating Committee.
- The Annual Meeting will be held in November.
- **The next Board Meeting will be held on Monday, October 30 at 9 am.**

**Ed Knowski made the motion, seconded by Joe Durkin to adjourn.**

Respectfully submitted,

Katharine Tomasi, Secretary