

History Advisory Committee Meeting
October 30, 2021

Attendance: Tony Albino, Conor Guy, Ethan Dickerman, Alvin Sheffer, Rich Coons, Melora Kuhn, Donald Dubac, Tom Shannon

- Hover Foundation Grant: The Hover Foundation granted funds to the History Department via Germantown Library and Park Commission to erect a monument at the site of the First Reformed Cemetery and to assist with the kiosk project. Hover Foundation needs a status update in late January and the money needs to be spent within a year. Tom will begin drafting the cemetery monument, reach out to a vendor, and figure out a plan for kiosks with the Park Commission.
- Henry Z. Jones Collection: Hank Jones, the premiere Palatine German genealogist, reached out to the NYS chapter of Palatines to America about donating his research library. Tom offered that the History Department could house Hank's library of approximately 800 books and one file cabinet of correspondence with researchers in Germany. Hank will donate his collection jointly to NYS PALAM and Germantown Library but it will be housed at the Parsonage. Tom will ask the Town for approximately \$400 for lumber, screws, and paint to build another set of wall bookshelves in the History Dept. office. PALAM will work on covering costs for shipping the library here from San Diego, CA.
- Camp Creek Road Methodist Cemetery: at their October meeting, the Town Board discussed and tabled the History Department's request that the Town attempt to acquire the recently sold property. We'll keep an eye on the situation.
- Save America's Treasures Grant: We discussed this grant about a year ago but it was on hold due to the pandemic. It is administered by the National Parks Service. They have since restarted the grant cycle. The Robert Jenkins House in Hudson recently was granted \$497,000 for various construction projects. The next deadline is December 14th, 2021. Tom will put together an application with Tony's assistance. The grant requires a dollar for dollar non-federal match.
- Events: The Reformed Cemetery walk on October 16th was rained out. Tom will do it via Zoom this winter. The campfire on October 22nd went well. About 20 people showed. Martin Overington set up Halloween themed lighting on the Parsonage. Christopher Lindner will do a presentation regarding this year's findings and the mapping project on Nov. 13th, at 1 PM. Tom will do Zoom presentations again starting in January.
- Friends of Historic Germantown recently received their charter from the NYS Board of Regents. Next meeting is Nov. 6th at 11 AM.

- Sharp's Landing NYS Historic Sign: Tom floated the idea of getting in touch with the Town of Stuyvesant historian to see if they want the sign. Sharp's Dock was important but it did not exist in 1684. The author of the sign conflated it with the Sharptown settlement in Stuyvesant, NY. We will eventually get an accurate replacement for the sign.
- Germantown, NY Wikipedia Page: still pending though Wikipedia did recently put up a note about how virtually the entire page is about generalized Mohican history.
- We have our exhibit out in the kitchen through January 31st. Please think of ideas for the next one before our next meeting.
- Demolition permits: nothing new.