

History Advisory Committee

March 26, 2022

Attendance: Tony Albino, Ethan Dickerman, Tom Shannon, Alvin Sheffer (first few minutes)

- Exhibit about the life of Theodore Robinson is up in the Parsonage kitchen. Melora Kuhn helped tremendously with the layout of it. The exhibit will run through July 1st.
- At least two more bricks fell off of the east chimney of the Parsonage approximately 10 days ago. Tom notified Highway Superintendent Anthony Cidras on March 20th. He looked at it last week but no update on a plan of action yet.
- Pomeroy Foundation deadline for their NYS historic sign grant is in September. Written permission from property owners is required so we want to get started early on these. Ideas suggested included: Theodore Robinson's house site; Diell Rockefeller Sr.'s mill and/or house site; Cheviot boat accident, 1845; site of the Kortz house; site of the Sharp house; 1923 fire on Main St.; 1866 Fenian train murder. Tom will start reaching out to property owners to gauge interest. Up to 5 signs can be applied for per year.
- Hover grant update: nothing much new to report since last meeting. The First Reformed Cemetery plaque draft was sent back for corrections again. It should be ready to order sometime next week. Started brainstorming ideas for this year's Hover grant submission, LOI due July 1, full application due Aug. 1. Would like to do a monument for the First Lutheran Cemetery (9G bisects it a bit north of the northern outlet of Sharp's Landing Road). We discussed which side of route 9G it should go on. Property owner consent required in either case.
- Tom and Ethan have been working on the Preserve New York grant available from the Preservation League of NYS. We are seeking a building condition report for the Parsonage. Ethan obtained quotes from Crawford and Stearns and Douglas Emilio. Crawford's quote is approximately \$2,000 less than Emilio's. Tom will finish the draft grant application early next week. Grant application is due April 15th.
- Columbia County Historical Society Re-grant program: Tom recently submitted a grant request for the \$500 maximum award. Items requested included money for Google, OneDrive, and Veed subscriptions as well as archival boxes and paper. Will know if the grant was awarded by early next week.
- Recent donations: A large map drawer cabinet donated by Historic Red Hook via Emily Majer. It fits nicely in the corner of the kitchen and will house our newspaper collection, assuming they fit in the shelves; a photo album of about 30 labeled portraits of various Rockefellers from the late 1800s, donated by Greg Fingar; a window sill branded "P. Lasher, Germantown, NY" and a nailer with "E.R. (Edmund Rockefeller) & Co.

Germantown, NY” written on it, salvaged from construction sites by Tom; Hank dropped off a couple of maps to be scanned including a late 1800s property survey map of the Moseley mill area of Linlithgo and a 1914 formal plan for the current layout of Main Street from the river all the way to the Town of Clermont line, including all of the property owners along the way; a rusty horseshoe excavated during construction of Germantown Library as well as documents relating to Theodore Robinson, donated by Joel Craig just after this meeting.

- Columbia County Historians’ website is scheduled to go live on April 10th. Tom ensured all contact info is correct and has been working on adding content to the Germantown section of the site.
- Upcoming events:
 - Earth Day Parsonage Gardening/Yard Work day, April 23rd, 9:30 AM to 12:30 PM
 - Open house for the Hank Jones collection at Germantown Library, April 24th, 1 to 4 PM
 - Roe Jan history Zoom, April 27th, 6:30 PM
 - Palatines to America annual meeting at Germantown Library and gravestone cleaning at Cheviot Cemetery, June 4th.
 - Path Through History weekend kayak/canoe tour of Germantown waterfront, June 18th. Waterfront Advisory Committee is willing to co-sponsor and help out.
 - Friends of Rhinebeck cemetery gravestone cleaning (we co-sponsored this) June 25th, 9 AM to 1 PM
- Tony mentioned maybe doing a cruise tour of the Germantown waterfront as a possible fundraiser. Tom and Ethan both liked the idea and suggested doing it through Friends of Historic Germantown.
- Next meeting is scheduled for April 16th at 10 AM.