

History Advisory Committee
May 14, 2022

Attendance: Tony Albino, Donald Dubac, Alvin Sheffer, Tom Shannon

- Pomeroy grants - Deadline for our region is Oct. 1. We have the necessary written property owner permission for the First Lutheran Church sign, which was broken into many pieces in a recent car accident. Tom will ask permission for a 1923 fire sign at the pocket park at Main St. and Church Ave. Still working on permission for a few others.
- Hover grant 2021 - First Reformed Cemetery Monument contract signed April 4th with Kol-Rocklea Memorials. They gave a 12-16 week window for installation. Donald suggested having Prof. Lindner sift the dirt when the foundation for the monument is dug. Leftover money from the memorial grant was used to order archive boxes and D2 to clean gravestones. Kiosks - the run up in lumber prices likely means that the grant money given will only cover Roe Jan Park kiosk this year.
- Hover grant 2022 - Deadlines are July 1st for LOI, August 1st for full application. Tom suggested a monument for the First Lutheran Cemetery on the west side of 9G/north side of Sharp's Landing Road if we can get landowner permission. The other big priority is digitization and translation of the 1736-1800 Reformed church book that we have on loan from the church. Maybe bundle in the digitization of the Edmund Rockefeller store day books that we have as well.
- Preserve NY grant - Ethan and Tom worked on it together and submitted in early April. We should know by July if the Preservation League of NYS will fund a building condition report or not.
- NYS Regional Economic Development Councils - Round 12 applications due July 29th. Tom will be working on the CFA, consolidated funding application over the next several weeks. Will ask for enough to cover a new roof and chimney repointing at the very least.
- Columbia County Historical Society re-grant program - No word yet on this \$500 grant we applied for. There is a new director as of a couple of months ago and they recently reopened their research library for the first time since COVID.
- Events:
 - Bard archaeology at the Parsonage, 3-4 later today
 - Emily Majer and Tom, happy hour at Quittner, 5-7 today
 - Lasher monument rededication at Anchorage, May 21st, noon
 - PalAm annual meeting at Germantown Library, June 4th, 10AM
 - PATH weekend kayak/canoe tour of G'town, June 18th, 11 AM

- Friends of Rhinebeck Cemetery gravestone cleaning, June 25th
- Independence Day fireworks, July 2nd. Hist. Dept. will have a table.
- PATH fall weekend, thinking walking tour but not settled. Oct. 8-10
- Town-wide fall event, October. Event at Parsonage, TBD.

- Recent donations: copies of Oak Terrace deeds and other papers, donated by Tom Romich; Rockefeller genealogy Volume 4, donated by Don Westmore; minutes and other documents of the now-defunct Germantown Neighbors Association, donated by Don Westmore; audio files of 2015 interviews with folks such as Helen Henderson, Marguerite Riter, Mary Howell, Joe Krupa, etc., donated by Billy Shannon.

- We discussed putting the Germantown History Department digital archive on Hudson River Valley Heritage, an organization that shares digital history-related content from many different libraries and institutions. The topic has been broached within the History Dept. before. Tom will reach out to a representative of HRVH.

- Columbia County historian, Bill Better, has asked Tom to work on researching and developing a Revolutionary War focused 4th grade curriculum for county school districts to use leading up to the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence. Tom will begin working on material for Ichabod Crane CSD and Germantown CSD, eventually covering all of the districts. Target completion is Sept. 2023.