

## History Advisory Committee

July 1st, 2023 (June meeting)

Attendance: Richard Coons, Yvonne Crawford, Donald Dubac, Tony Albino, Tom Shannon

- The Pomeroy Foundation recently awarded \$3,000 to the History Department for the purchase of new computers. We would like to get a desktop and two laptops.
- Preservation League of New York State Preserve NY Grant: We applied in April for the third or fourth consecutive year and were turned down again. Nonetheless, there is a strong potential of getting a building condition report on the Parsonage accomplished this year through donations to FOHG.
- Bank of Greene County Charitable Foundation: There is a celebration of grant recipients scheduled for Thursday, July 20th at 4 PM. They awarded \$1,000 through FOHG for the printing of history pamphlets and small books that we are nearly out of.
- A Local Law Prohibiting Metal Detecting and Treasure Hunting on Town Owned Property aka Local Law No. 2 of 2023 passed unanimously at the June 13th Town Board meeting.
- The proposed Memorandum of Understanding with Bard College regarding Dr. Lindner's archaeological efforts was tabled until the July Town Board meeting to give the Town Attorney and Board members more time to review it.
- Recent additions to our New York Heritage page include the 1855-1870 Germantown Poor Book, Erastus Coons' account ledger, Registers of Germantown voters for the years 1944 and 1946, two 19th Century Rockefeller family photo albums donated by the late Peter Fingar, and the Overington family's photo and newspaper collection about the partial collapse and eventual demolition of the Germantown Cold Storage Co. building from 1997-2000.
- Hover Foundation grant letter of inquiry was submitted in late June. We asked for funds to put up historic signs at Ice House Landing and the "pocket park" on Main Street; 50 gallons for D-2 for cemetery cleaning in the summer of 2024; and funds to help fix the eastern chimney on the Parsonage which is crumbling.
- Request for Proposals to fix the eastern chimney on the Parsonage: Tom will prepare a draft for this committee's and the Town Board's review. The chimney has deteriorated further in the last month or so and needs to be fixed before winter.
- Drone Footage of the Germantown Waterfront: Tony will set up a date in July or early August to produce a narrated aerial history of the waterfront sites.

- Oral Histories - July 22nd we are scheduled to interview four members of the Crawford family. Tony will ask around at the Fire Dept. to see if we could set up a day to interview several of the senior members there. Wendell Choinsky is also willing and will be scheduled soon.

- Cemetery Cleanings:

Second Lutheran Cemetery - Sunday, July 16th 3 PM - 8 PM

Second Reformed Cemetery - Sunday, July 30th, 3 PM - 8 PM

- Events:

- July 1st, 4 PM - 11 PM Fireworks at Palatine Park, History Dept. will have a table.
- July 8th, 11 AM - 2 PM, Bard Archaeology Open House at the Parsonage.
- July 22nd, 2 PM - 4 PM, Juneteenth tour of the Parsonage with Tanya Jackson. Ethan, Christopher, and Tom will be guides.
- Sept. 9th 4PM-7PM Tom and Emily Majer, Q and A at Quittner.
- September: Otto's will have a Germantown history themed sandwich all month.
- Sept. 16th Hudson River Valley Ramble. Kayak/History Tour from Lasher Park to the Ramshorn Livingston Sanctuary led by Tom. Hiking Tour of the Sanctuary led by Greene County Historian Jonathan Palmer.
- October TBD, talk at the Reformed Church about the stained glass windows.
- October 8th, PATH event TBD.
- October 21st, Oktoberfest. History Dept. role TBD.
  
- Recent Donations: A family photo album, 1965 GCS yearbook, and two Linlithgo Fire Dept. dress hats from Jim Stanley. Tony will ask if the Germantown Fire Dept. would like the hats for display. (The Linlithgo Dept. doesn't exist anymore).