

History Advisory Committee
May 31st, 2025

Attendance: Alvin Sheffer, Yvonne Crawford, Hank Himelright, Richard Coons, Tony Albino, Tom Shannon

- Recently notified of a \$1,000 grant from the Bank of Greene County for gravestone cleaning supplies. The grant will be awarded in June or July.
- The closing date for the Bard Parcel is scheduled for June 5th. The NYS DEC has approved the recreation plan.
- The Town Board discussed the RFP to replace the Parsonage roof and tentatively agreed to issue it, pending confirmation from SHPO that a standing seam metal roof is appropriate. Tom forwarded a previous email chain from SHPO saying as much.
- We are expecting to hear back soon from SHPO (the NYS Historic Preservation Office) with recommendations about how to proceed with the Bard Archaeology project. Tom will distribute them to the committee and Town Board when they arrive.
- Tom has been in touch with Town Clerk Joyce Vale about doing some reorganization in the Town Records Room this summer. We would like to store important books that we currently have two or three copies of in the Records Room. They currently reside upstairs in the Parsonage.
- Tony spoke about the drone footage project along the waterfront and the remote sensing project at the First Reformed Cemetery. Tom and Adam Deen need to set a date to shoot additional footage. Dr. Larry Brown has not yet responded to Tony's many inquiries about the remote sensing data.
- We spoke about potential grant requests for the 2025 Hover Grant application. Tom would like to ask for a monument at Roe Jan Park commemorating an early 1778 Loyalist raid in the vicinity. The primary source passage describing it is short enough it could be given verbatim on a plaque. Also a monument commemorating one of the four 1777 skirmishes collectively known as the "Battle of Egremont," which occurred at Long Lake, better known now as the larger of Twin Lakes in Elizaville. Tom would also like to purchase a roadside historic marker for the first public school in Germantown which dates to the mid-1790s.

This can be placed on the pole where the “First Schoolhouse” sign now sits in front of the current Reformed Church. The First Schoolhouse sign, which describes Rev. Haeger’s 1711 school house, can be relocated to somewhere along Sharp’s Landing Road where the 1711 school was located.

- Recent donations: We may soon be receiving what survived of the Linlithgo Firehouse’s records. Will assess if/when they arrive.
- Events:
 - May 28th: Lecture at Hudson Area Library about the Palatines.
 - June 4th: 4th grade field trip to the Parsonage.
 - June 8th: Talk at Hendrick Hudson DAR Luncheon about Rev. War.
 - June 12th: 4th grade field trip to Clermont SHS.
 - June 28th: Opening remarks at the GCS Alumni Banquet.
 - History walking tours and speech at Clermont SHS this summer, TBD.
 - No PATH through History event this June. Schedule is already overfull for Father’s Day weekend.
 - Hudson River Valley Ramble event in September. Need to register soon.
 - PATH through History event for October. TBD.