

Celebrate 400 Committee Minutes

February 6, 2008 – 2:00 p.m.

Present: Chairman Wood; Supervisors Richardson, Peck, Jenkins and Grattidge; Liz Callaghan, Town of Waterford; Kristina Reese, County Historian; Jennifer Ciulla, Publication Specialist; Press.

Chairman Wood called the meeting to order and welcomed all in attendance.

On a motion made by Mr. Richardson, seconded by Mr. Peck the minutes of the November 8, 2007 and December 18, 2007 meetings were approved unanimously.

Chairman Wood appointed Mr. Richardson as the committee Vice Chairman. Mr. Richardson accepted the appointment.

Mr. Wood said at the State level, Bob Bullack, a resident of Saratoga Springs has been appointed as the Director of the Quadricentennial Commission. Barbara Fratiani continues her work with the commission, as well as, Executive Director, Tara Sullivan. After speaking with Mr. Bullack, it was stated that the Governor has \$7 million in the budget for Quadricentennial celebrations, of which \$6 million is already targeted for the following projects:

\$1 million is targeted for three legacy projects in New York City

\$1 million is targeted for the Mid-Hudson Walkway Bridge

\$1 million is targeted for the Crown Point area, Lakes to Locks

\$1 1/2 million is targeted for specific communities and counties

\$1 /12 million to non governmental organizations

Mr. Wood encouraged any towns, villages or cities that have not adopted the resolution to join the Celebrate 400 Quadricentennial to do so.

Ms. Reese suggested using various tours throughout the county as a way to bring “Explore Saratoga County” to fruition, i.e.

1. Walking tours
2. Biking tours
3. Boating tours
4. Driving tours

Ms. Reese said after speaking with Mr. Foster from the Champlain Canal Tours, she has received confirmation that he would be interested in participating in the Celebrate 400 activities and possibly discounting rates for the Canal Tours for a specific time frame during the Celebrate 400 events.

Mr. Brushack from the Nakinda Education Center, expressed interest in partnering with the county, through the Native American Festival which will take place in 2009, including special events for school age children.

Ms. Reese said Kayakers would be rowing from Canada to New York City beginning in June of 2009, reaching Saratoga County on July 4th. They have agreed to stay at Fort Hardy Park in the Village of Schuylerville, which will designate the park as a Greenway site open to the public. They will be providing walkabout Kayak racks, and Fort Hardy Park will be included in all promotional brochures, leading to grant opportunities for funding and improvements to the park area.

Ms. Ciulla said she is in the process of looking at the New York State curriculum of the Hudson River School of the Arts with regard to the opportunities available for school age children.

Mr. Richardson suggested a way to bring the different counties together might be to have a “hands across the bridge” event with an arial picture taken from each of the locals.

Handouts of “Explore NY” grant opportunities were distributed to all committee members for their review with an application deadline of March 7, 2008.

On a motion made by Mr. Jenkins, seconded by Mr. Richardson the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Chris Sansom