

Celebrate 400 Committee Minutes  
January 13, 2009 – 3:00 p.m.

Present: Chairman Wood; Supervisors Wormuth, Richardson and Jenkins; Jen Ciulla, Publication Specialist; Barbara McHugh, Clifton Park; Press.

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

Minutes of the 2008 meetings were distributed for committee review.

Mr. Wood said starting in 2007, there were planning and conversations relative to the Quadricentennial Celebration. Over the course of the balance of 2007 and 2008 a number of possible activities were identified. At one point an activity per month was considered, but after looking at not only the cost of what having such a comprehensive program would be, as well as the manpower to accomplish it, it was decided that a somewhat more conservative program would be more appropriate. The conclusion was to support the local town, villages and cities in their celebrations. These activities will be supported, in part, through grants. At the State level there has been a considerable change in the administrative staff, planning and money available.

Ms. Ciulla distributed a draft copy of the Explore Saratoga County brochure for the Quadricentennial Celebration to all committee members for their review.

Ms. Ciulla said the mission of the Explore NY 400 is to focus on the history, culture and natural resources in New York State, such as tourism, and preserving open space, and making the Hudson a Economic and tourism opportunity

The “Explore Saratoga County” theme will allow events to encompass the whole county, not just the municipalities along the river. The vision is to encourage exploration of not only Saratoga County, as it is today, but its history and growth since 1609.

Saratoga County is looking to obtain \$45,000 in grants from the State. Grant applications are being processed and contracts are being sent out. Contracts are on hold until a clear message from the NYS Department of Budget on when to proceed.

Ms. Ciulla said the Quadricentennial brochure will include planned events and a selection of municipality events. There will be an online component for municipalities to submit more events as well on [SaratogaCountyNY.gov](http://SaratogaCountyNY.gov).

A County Trail Brochure will be published to help make the Quadricentennial relevant for the entire County participation. The brochure will include a trail of any type, i.e. walking, biking, hiking snowmobile, driving etc., from each municipality. The deadline for input is February 20, 2009. An online component will be available on [SaratogaCountyNY.gov](http://SaratogaCountyNY.gov).

The following is an overview of the proposed county activities and events:

### **June – National Trails Day**

- June 6, 2009
- Event at Saratoga National Historical Park
  - Park will waive entrance fee for the day
  - Producing three guided reserved tours
  - County to provide publicity and refreshments
- Promote and utilize County-produced trail guide including trails from each municipality (one or more of walking, biking or driving tours).
- Guide will be online only with an accompanying tri-fold brochure
- Tasks:
  - Trail brochure will be complete by 5/1/09
  - Will need limited advertising
  - Will go in County Quad brochure
- **July 4<sup>th</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup>** – River Festival in Fort Hardy Park, Schuylerville
  - State sponsored Sojourn may be cut; County is looking into sponsoring a kayaking portion of the event; talking to Johnny Miller Adventures
  - Fourth of July picnic and river celebration with fireworks

- Tasks:
  - Timeline for day
  - Find organizations/groups/agencies interested in having displays
  - Picnic details
- **July 14<sup>th</sup> –19<sup>th</sup>** – Tent at Saratoga County Fair near Caboose
  - Focus on 400 years history of transportation – river, roads, railroad
  - Space for a display from each municipality
- **October 2<sup>nd</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup>** – N'dakkina Native American Festival
  - County partnership of family tent
  - Board of Supervisors banner to be displayed

Ms. Ciulla said that every municipality that has passed the state resolution would be eligible to receive \$250 through the first round of the grant process.

The second round of the grant program is up to a \$750 matching grant available to each Saratoga County municipality that has passed the Explore NY 400 Community Resolution and has developed a new Quadricentennial program or added a significant Quadricentennial portion to an existing program.

Ms. Ciulla said applications would be submitted and reviewed on an on-going basis until May 30, 2009.

**A motion was made by Mr. Richardson, seconded by Mrs. Wormuth to recommend that the Law and Finance committee support a resolution to apply for a \$45,000 State Grant for the Celebrate 400 Quadricentennial. Unanimous.**

**On a motion made by Mr. Richardson, seconded by Mrs. Wormuth the meeting was adjourned.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Chris Sansom