

History Advisory Committee
Dec. 28th, 2024

Attendance: Hank Himelright, Alvin Sheffer, Tony Albino, Rich Coons, Tom Shannon

- The State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) created a Unique Site Number (02109.000056) for the Bard Archaeology project at the 1767 Parsonage in SHPO's Cultural Resource Information System (CRIS). There may be additional news on this front from SHPO in January.
- Tom submitted a grant application to Americana Corner for some potential outdoor signage at the Parsonage and a traveling exhibit focused on William Smith Jr.'s writings from late 1776 through 1778. The program incentivised Revolutionary War themed projects. Will know on Feb. 22nd if we get the grant.
- Need to submit a grant application to the Bank of Greene County by Jan. 15th. Will ask for D-2 Biological Solution.
- Tom is working with David Crawford on creating a phased approach to the necessary electrical upgrades needed at the Parsonage, including estimates. Will approach charitable foundations once we have that finalized.
- We spoke about the historian's annual report and goals for 2025. Ideas included replacing the TV at Town Hall with a newer model, replacing the Parsonage roof, painting the Parsonage exterior, helping cut trails on the Bard Parcel, field trips to the Sebastian Lasher gravestone cabin, the remnant mill stone on the Roe Jan, and elsewhere.

- Tom will be busy editing and arranging a Columbia County 250th book in the first several months of 2024. There are submissions from about a dozen historians around the county.
- Recent donations: Martin Lueck donated an 1858 Beers Atlas map of Columbia County in reasonably good condition. Rich brought over several local history story boards from Mary Howell's house.
- Upcoming events:
 - Jan. 6th "Keeping Columbia County History Alive" webinar hosted by Claverack Library. Ghent Historian Gregg Berninger will emcee, Tom will be one of the panelists.
 - Jan. 24th. Get together for the 250th anniversary of the first documented meeting of the Albany County Committee of Correspondence. Details ASAP.