

History Advisory Committee
March 29th, 2025

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

- Our application to the Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation Fund for Columbia County for a summer program at the Parsonage was turned down. Yvonne and Tom will talk about potential other funding sources.
- Columbia County Historical Society Re-Grant Program. Will ask for D-2 money for gravestone cleaning.
- Grant and/or fundraising wish list: monument at Roe Jan Park regarding the 1778 Loyalist raid detailed in William Smith, Jr.'s memoirs, kiosk across Maple Ave. from the Parsonage with a trail map and other information about the Bard Parcel, a tripod hoist to repair gravestones. Additional Parsonage maintenance concerns include: exterior painting, front door sill repair, and plaster repair in the parlor and hall.
- Chancellor Livingston news: Gov. Hochul has proposed replacing the statue of Chancellor Robert R. Livingston at Statuary Hall in the U.S. Capitol with a statue of Harriet Tubman. Tom will write a letter to the Governor detailing Chancellor Livingston's role in the American Revolution, and suggesting that if the statue must be removed, it would be best to bring it to Clermont State Historic Site for display there.
- Tony gave an update on the drone footage project of the riverfront parks in Germantown. The footage needs to be trimmed down a little bit, and the script is finalized.
- Field trip in June for GCS fourth graders. Will have a firm date in the next couple of weeks. The committee brainstormed some ideas for activities.
- We discussed putting out a call for collection donations, and how to properly word it. Will send around a draft soon.
- The tentative closing date for the Bard Parcel is April 23rd.

- Waiting on results from the ground penetrating radar survey conducted in November at the site of the First Reformed Cemetery.

- Events:
 - April 25-27 National Historic Marker Weekend
 - May 8th, 7 PM, Germantown Library talk about water chestnuts.
 - PATH Through History Weekend, Father's Day weekend. Event TBD.
 - Talk at Clermont SHS in July about William Smith, Jr.'s Memoirs.