

# Village of Schuylerville

March 31<sup>st</sup> 2025

## Village Board Workshop Minutes

Megin Potter, President of the Friends of Fort Hardy Park and Pat Smola, presented on the progress of the rehabilitation of the gazebo and the proposed trails, improvements to the boardwalk and plans for the dog park.

Some ideas were presented were as follows;

One beam that is supporting the deck needs to be addressed.

A cupola and weathervane is proposed for the top.

They would like to add color changing lighting.

The spindles and railing around the gazebo need to be replaced. The person doing the designing proposes using a c and c machine to carve sheet metal in designs with the following design ideas suggested.

Revolutionary soldiers, an eagle, the flag (Baker suggested the colonial flag), the monument, a duck, a cannon, 1776, Fort Hardy, General Schuyler House, Victory Mill, the canal, Native American culture. It was determined that there should be a ribbon cutting when the gazebo is finished.

The boardwalk that follows the waterfront by the gazebo needs some work to bring the safety standards up to code. There are also some repairs that need to be done. There are trees and shrubs that need to be taken down near the walkway to preserve the boardwalk and to allow for a better view of the river. There also needs to be some work done at the entrance and the exit of the boardwalk to make it compliant with ADA standards.

Large boulders need to be placed between the gazebo and the river to prevent erosion before any landscaping can be done to the area.

There was an extensive conversation regarding the disposal of snow by the DPW at the proposed site for the dog park. The issue is that this causes pieces of asphalt to be deposited in the area, resulting in laborious clean up for the volunteers. Mayor Carpenter will reach out to the Town of Saratoga to find out where they deposit their snow waste.

Mayor Carpenter asked Treasurer Heyman to reach out to DOT to find out if we could store our plows and equipment at the proposed site south of the Schuyler House.

The path depicted in the Fort Hardy Park Master Plan for the loop trail was determined by a trail construction contractor to have significant issues. The plan shows the trail going between the water treatment plant and the retention pond near the river. This would require extensive work to

build up the terrain and install fencing to keep pedestrians from falling into the pond. A better option would be to turn west below the water plant to connect to the dog park area.

The area designated on the Master Plan for the dog park and community garden also presents some challenges. The northern portion of the park is designated as wetlands and would also require an archaeological study to ensure that there would be no disturbance or destruction of valuable historical artifacts.

It was mentioned that a previous study may have been performed by Drake Black. Village Clerk Porter will investigate.

There are also some invasive plants, honeysuckle and knotweed to name a couple, that need to be removed and controlled.

A letter of intent for the purchase of a new dump truck was presented to the board at the request of the vendor. Mayor Carpenter read the letter aloud. The purchase had already been approved at an earlier meeting. The board agreed that this was something that the mayor could sign on their behalf.

During the water line replacement project, a line was broken, and several water users were issued a boil water advisory. The issue has been resolved.

There was some discussion regarding the review of the IMA. This will require a meeting between the two villages.

The Canon Copier scanner no longer scans to email. Repeated attempts to get support from both the Canon company and our IT team has proved unfruitful. The board agreed that Treasurer Heyman and Village Clerk Porter should research purchasing a new machine.

Mayor Carpenter asked the board if they would be interested in having iPads or tablets to use at the meetings to save on paper. The board agreed that they would like quotes for tablets.

Trustee Colvin stated that he feels we should begin to draft policies on how we could raise revenues for the use of the park and proposed community center. The board agreed. There were no further subjects of discussion, Trustee Colvin made the motion to adjourn Trustee Baker seconded the motion, all in favor, meeting adjourned.

Recording Secretary,

*Cory Heyman*

