HUDSON RIVER VALLEY GREENWAY

Combined meeting of

Hudson River Valley Greenway Communities Council,

Greenway Conservancy for the Hudson River Valley, Inc.

and

Greenway Heritage Conservancy HRV, Inc.

January 16, 2008

Henry A. Wallace Center at Roosevelt National Historic Site
Hyde Park, New York

Minutes

Conservancy Members Present
Brown, Kristen Cole, Conservancy Board Member
Daniels, Jane, Conservancy Member
Fratianni, Barbara, Conservancy Member
Herman, Kenneth, Conservancy Treasurer
Marra, Donald, Conservancy Member
Mazzuca, William, Conservancy Member
Murray Dennis, Conservancy Member
Plunkett, Kevin J. Esq., Conservancy Chairman

Conservancy Members Present by Proxy
Astorino, Robert, Conservancy Member

Council Members Present
Ames, Edward, New York City Council Member
Calhoun, Nancy, Assemblywoman, council Member
Chesley, Christine, Rensselaer County Council Member
Crabb, Mary, Orange County Council Member
Elliott, Robert, Westchester County Council Member
Galef, Sandra, Assemblywoman, Council Member
Gould, Clara Lou, Dutchess County Council Member
Granirer, Martus, Council Member
McHenry, Barnabas, Council Chairman

Saland, Stephen, Senator, Council Member
Wille, Charles, Council Member

Delegates Present
Cosgrove, Jerry, Joint Delegate for Commissioner Hooker, NYS Dept. of Agriculture and Markets
Devine, Bonnie, Joint Delegate for Secretary of State Cortes-Vasquez, NYS Department of State
Dunwell, Fran, Joint Delegate for Commissioner Grannis, NYS Department of Environmental Conservation
Gordon, Liz, Joint Delegate from Commissioner Ash, NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation
Ivey, Mary, Delegate for Commissioner Glynn, NYS Department of Transportation
Mazzarella, Sally, Delegate for Senator Stephen Saland
Sheifer, Chuck, Joint Delegate for Commissioner Egan, NYS Office of General Services

Advisory Members Present
Bergman, Frank, Advisory Member, Hudson River Boat and Yacht Club Association
Sullivan, Ned, Advisory Member, Scenic Hudson

Greenway Staff
Apkarian, Christina, Financial Assistant
Campochiaro, Beth, Scenic Byways Coordinator
Castiglione, Mark, Senior Planner
Dennehey, John, Senior Planner
DesLauriers, Jessica, Trails Coordinator
Irvin, Adeidra, Executive Assistant
Keller, Scott, Trails and Special Projects Coordinator
Mangione, Mary, Executive Director
Marchitello, Chris, New York City Office Assistant
Salvino, Sheena, Greenway Trails Intern

Call to Order
Chairman Plunkett called the meeting to order at 10:10 a.m.

Pledge of Allegiance
Chairman Kevin Plunkett led the meeting in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Welcome and Introductions
Chairman McHenry introduced Senator Stephen Saland who described the legislative history of the Greenway and, at the urging of the Chair, his instrumental role in the process. Senator Saland also noted his pleasure in funding the Greenway Trail Program and pledged his continued support.

Chairman McHenry introduced John Clarke of Dutchess County Planning.~~—~~ Mr. Clarke welcomed everyone to Dutchess County on behalf of County Executive Steinhaus, who was unable to join us today. Mr. Clarke commented on upon the state of the Dutchess County Compact and put forth the charge to advance the intermunicipal and regional coordination represented by the Compact and a challenge Board members and the audience to translate the Greenway principles into their day to day lives. Addressing regional and global issues requires each of us to begin to live in a "green way".

Chairman McHenry introduced Sarah Olson, the National Park Service Superintendent of the Roosevelt-Vanderbilt Estates. Ms. Olson welcomed everyone to the Roosevelt Estate and noted that 2008 is the 75th anniversary of Roosevelt's New Deal. She also let everyone know about the upcoming Teaching the Hudson Valley Grant round.

Sarah Olson introduced Wallace Center Special Events Coordinator Darian Rivera. Mr. Rivera welcomed everyone to the Wallace Center and announced that there would be free admission to the library and museum today for meeting attendees.

Greenway Conservancy for the Hudson River Valley, Inc.

Call to Order

Chairman Plunkett called the Conservancy meeting to order.

Announcement of Trail Grants

Chairman Plunkett called the Greenway Conservancy meeting to order and thanked Senator Saland for all of his support through the years.

Executive Director Mary Mangione invited Senator Saland to join her at the podium and the Senator announced the recipients of the 2007 Greenway Trail Grants. Representatives from the recipient organizations briefly spoke, thanking the Greenway and the Senator for the awards.

Ms. Mangione thanked the Senator for his years of support.

Chairman Plunkett and Chairman McHenry presented a framed Greenway map to Senator Saland as a thank you for his support. Senator Saland noted that of the 385 bills of his that have become law, the Greenway Act of 1991 is one of the best due to the success of the program.

Special Presentation—Tara Sullivan, Hudson-Fulton-Champlain Quadricentennial Commission

Ms. Sullivan announced the new state plan for the Quadricentennial celebration which will include a strong emphasis on events that will not just be celebrations, but will provide a continuing benefit for the people of New York after the celebration is over. There will be three celebrations around Governor's Legacy Projects which will be Walkway Over the Hudson, Governor's Island and an as yet unnamed project in the

Champlain Valley. Additional Legacy Projects are being identified by state agencies, such as the Estuary Management Programs Action Agenda.

Ms. Sullivan's job is to deliver the state plan which will have three components: financial, community oriented and sponsor oriented. The overall goal is to "Quadify" what is already a part of community heritage and celebrations. There will be limited financial subsidy for special projects such as documentaries, community celebrations and non-government entities celebrations. Finally there will be an effort to involve corporate sponsors for events.

Special Presentation—Ned Sullivan and Seth McKee, Scenic Hudson, "The Land That Matters Most"

Ned Sullivan announced and Seth McKee described in detail a new Scenic Hudson initiative~~,~~ in partnership with ten land trusts to collaborate on the protection of identified ecologically, historic and visually critical landscapes. The project uses the existing Scenic Areas of Statewide Significance.

Minutes of the October 10, 2007 Meeting of the Hudson River Valley Greenway Grants Committee
Minutes of October 10, 2007 Combined Meeting of the Hudson River Valley Greenway Communities Council, Greenway Conservancy for the Hudson River Valley, Inc. and Greenway Heritage Conservancy HRV, Inc.
Minutes of December 20, 2007 Grants Committee Conference Call

On a motion from Ken Herman (Donald Marra second) the minutes of the October 10, 2007 Grants Committee meeting were unanimously adopted.

On a motion from Charlie Wille (Fran Dunwell second) the minutes of the October 10, 2007 Joint Board meeting were unanimously adopted.

On a motion from Mary Crabb (Clara Lou Gould second) the minutes of the December 20, 2007 Grants Committee conference call were unanimously adopted.

Greenway Conservancy for the Hudson River Valley, Inc.

Call to Order

Chairman Plunkett reopened the Conservancy meeting.

Approval of Trail Grants

On a motion from Don Marra (Barbara Fratianni second) the trail grant awards previously announced were unanimously approved. Jane Daniels recused herself on the grant to the New York/New Jersey Trails Conference.

New Greenway Trail Designations

Ms. Mangione announced that two trails totaling 8.1 miles were up for designation. The Peach Hill Park Trails, Dutchess County, 3.5 miles and the Piermont Trail, Rockland County, 4.6 miles.

On a motion from Dennis Murray (Ken Herman second) the Greenway designated the two new trail segments as part of the Hudson River Valley Greenway Trail System.

Re-Scope Greenway Trail Grant

Teatown Lake Reservation, Village of Ossining, Westchester County is seeking to Rescope a 2005 Greenway Trail Grant. They propose to retain the kiosk portion of the grant and drop interpretive signs originally called for due to a lack of funding. On a motion from Barbara Fratianni (Donald Marra second) the Greenway Trail Grant re-scope was unanimously approved, with Kevin Plunkett recusing himself due to a conflict.

Ms. Mangione announced that Jessica DesLauriers is leaving the Greenway at the end of the month to work for Audubon International.

Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area

Director Mary Mangione announced a National Heritage Area Grant program which will be open to all 91 heritage sites. The program will provide funding to develop programs.

Hudson River Valley Greenway Communities Council

Chairman McHenry called the Greenway Council meeting to order.

Greenway Communities

Ms. Mangione introduced six communities, all in Saratoga County, seeking to become Greenway Communities. They are: Town of Northumberland, Town of Saratoga, City of Saratoga Springs, Town of Stillwater, Village of Victory, and Village of Schuylerville.

Greenway Compact Community

Ms. Mangione introduced the Village of Pelham, Westchester County which is seeking to become a Greenway Compact Community.

Greenway Community Grants

Ms. Mangione introduced three communities seeking grant funding.

Town of Kinderhook, Columbia County is seeking funding in the amount of $7,500 to aid in the review, modification and updating of the Town's comprehensive plan, originally adopted in 2000.

Town of Montgomery, Orange County is seeking funding in the amount of $7,500 to aid in the development of an intermunicipal economic development plan developed in conjunction with the villages of Montgomery, Walden and Maybrook. Kristen Brown asked the staff to ensure that the selected consultant's proposal mentions consistency with Greenway principles.

Town of East Fishkill, Dutchess County is seeking funding in the amount of $7,500 to concurrently work to implement recommendations of the Town's 2005 Hopewell Junction Hamlet Area study and create more specific landscape plans for the hamlet area.

Greenway Compact Grants

Ms. Mangione introduced one community seeking grant funding.

Village of Wappingers Falls, Dutchess County is seeking funding in the amount of $10,000 to update the Village zoning ordinance to implement its comprehensive plan and reflect the concepts in the County's Greenway Compact plan, *Greenway Connections*.

Greenway Water Trail Grant

Hudson River Maritime Museum, City of Kingston, Ulster County is seeking funding in the amount of $10,000 to develop an access dock on the Rondout Creek suitable for use by kayaks, canoes and rowing shells.

On a motion from Sandra Galef (Mary Crabb second) the Greenway welcomed the new Greenway and Compact Communities and approved the Community, Compact and Water Trail Grants as recommended by the Greenway Grants Committee.

Executive Director Report

Executive Director Mary Mangione's written Executive Director's report is appended to, and a part of these minutes.

Ms. Mangione thanked Chuck Sheifer for the Office of General Service's donation to the Greenway of a plotter.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned following a motion by Martus Granirer (Bob Elliot second) at 11:550 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Scott S. Keller
Meeting Secretary

Hudson River Valley Greenway
Executive Director's Report
Mary Mangione
January 16, 2008

Hudson River Valley Greenway

Happy New Year! On behalf of the Chairs and the Greenway staff, we hope that you all had a wonderful holiday season and wish you the best for 2008.

You will find in your addenda packets a "year in review," giving you a report of Greenway activities over the past year.

As of January 3, 2008, there are a total of three **vacant seats on the Greenway Boards**: one vacancy on the Council to be appointed by the Speaker of the Assembly and two vacancies on the Conservancy Board to be appointed by the Senate Majority Leader and by the Senate Minority Leader. Letters have been sent to the appointing individuals notifying them of these vacancies.

As many of you know, Governor Spitzer created a **Smart Growth Cabinet** this past December. The Greenway is poised to assist Governor Spitzer with his priorities for NYS in the Hudson Valley. With the Greenway being a pioneering state organization to assist communities with Smart Growth, many other state agencies have leveraged significant funding and technical assistance toward the effort as well. The Greenway remains a bottom up, non-regulatory organization and is essential to the grassroots efforts of communities as they face the challenges of balancing critical economic development and open space and historic preservation. As Board Members representing counties, agencies, and organizations, I am asking that you please contact your constituencies regarding projects and initiatives relating to Greenway Criteria.

We have been meeting with **Saratoga County communities** about the Greenway and our programs. Six communities within the county have passed resolutions requesting designation as Greenway Communities, with several other communities requesting information and presentations.

Governor Spitzer has organized several meetings throughout NYS with his **regional representatives**. The Greenway attended the meeting in the Lower Hudson Valley on October 17 with Tara Sullivan and Lori Hall Armstrong. The meeting was convened to update the regional representatives about agency operations and current projects/issues in the Hudson Valley.

The Dutchess County Planning Department, in cooperation with the Northern Dutchess Alliance, would like to develop an intermunicipal administrative framework

for implementing and enforcing **conservation easement** requirements. The intermunicipal framework will capitalize on the existing capacity of local land trusts, and increase that capacity in order to consolidate the cost that would otherwise be borne by individual communities into one entity. This will result in calculable cost savings. This coupled with financial and technical support from the county (web-based GIS to monitor easements), and expertise from the local land trust will ensure that the conservation subdivisions reflect the most efficient and environmentally responsible design. Better designed conservation subdivisions will result in more contiguous open spaces and biotic corridors, create natural barriers to development and have a significant relationship to preserving critical environmental resources like aquifers. The cost savings in terms of better planning choices to protect the natural environment is not easily quantifiable, but certainly pays dividends over time.

The Greenway was once again invited by Don LaValley, Greenway Board Member, to attend the **Columbia County Sportsmen Federation's** annual dinner, which was held on January 14, 2008. This is a great opportunity to connect with the sportsmen community.

The **Hudson Valley Economic Development Council** convened on December 6. They have developed excellent marketing tools to promote shovel ready sites in the Hudson Valley, as well as available lease space.

The 2007 **Conservancy Trail Grant** call for applications was made on National Trails Day, with a September 7 deadline to receive applications. We received 16 applications requesting a total of $85,246.00. A total of $65,000.00 was made available through member items for funding this year's grant program, and after staff review, 13 projects were recommended and approved by the grants committee. Types of projects being funded include trail planning and design; trail construction and rehabilitation; and trail interpretation and education.

An **annual audit** for state fiscal year 2006-2007 of the Greenway Conservancy for the Hudson River Valley, Inc. and the Greenway Heritage Conservancy HRV Inc. began on September 17, 2007 and was completed on September 21, 2007. The auditors are currently finalizing the results of the audit which should be ready for presentation to the board members at the March board meeting.

A meeting was held with the Greenway Conservancy Treasurer, Ken Herman, to discuss **cash management**. Currently, the Greenway utilizes three banks to protect funds with FDIC. The discussion centered around whether we are receiving the greatest possible dividends from the Key Bank Money Market accounts and other options. A meeting will be held with the Financial Committee (the Executive Committee) to discuss recommendations.

The **Greenway Albany office moved** from the 23rd floor of the Corning Tower to the 28th floor. The mailing address remains the same as we use a mailroom in the Capitol Building. All phone numbers are the same.

Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area:

The HRVNHA is working with Hudson Valley Tourism to bring the "Opportunity Guy", a nationally-known consultant that works with heritage and cultural sites to enhance their program and marketing initiatives, back to the Hudson Valley. This will be a great opportunity to assist the Valley's sites with preparation for the upcoming 2009 Hudson-Fulton-Champlain Quadricentennial commemorations. The **NHA small grants program** will be launched in late summer of 2008, allowing sites to apply for funding to fulfill the recommendations that are developed as a result of this collaboration.

A meeting was recently held between the Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area, the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor, and the Lake Champlain Basin National Heritage Partnership. These **three significant National Heritage Areas in New York State** meet in southern Saratoga County, which affords an excellent opportunity to work together.

The HRVNHA is an underwriter for a new program being developed by **WMHT,** entitled **Local Presidents.** The program is expected to air from President's Day in February through May, 2008. The 15-second interstitials relating to the Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area will begin running on President's Day.

Barney McHenry and I continue to meet with Dan Ahouse, recently appointed Congressman Hinchey's Chief of Staff, to discuss the National Heritage Area and relevant **federal bills**, including the progress on the federal Quadricentennial bill that Congressman Hinchey introduced. The Congressman was successful in obtaining an earmark of almost $500,000 for the 2009 commemoration.

A new Executive Director has been named for the **Hudson Fulton Champlain Quadricentennial** Commission- Tara Sullivan. Tara has already been successful in raising funds for the upcoming Quadricentennial Commemoration and is working with Governor Spitzer, Commissioner Ash, Commissioner Grannis, the Commission and local communities in preparation.

On January 10, 2008, the **Northeast Region National Heritage Areas** met with representatives of the Northeast Region of the National Parks Service and the new NPS Northeast Regional Director, Dennis Reidenbach, to update him on projects and progress of the National Heritage Areas. There was a facilitated discussion regarding how partnerships between the National Park Service and the National Heritage Areas are working and how they can be improved.

The Greenway participated in a public workshop to discuss the development of the ***New York State Historic Preservation Plan*** *2007-2011*. The workshop was facilitated by New York State Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation and was one of several workshops being held throughout the State. The HRVNHA

has offered assistance with implementation of the Plan as it relates to communities and resources within the Hudson River Valley.

The Hudson River Valley **Ramble** kicked off September 15 – 16, and continued on September 23, and 29 – 30. This is the first year we have spanned three weekends and the weather was terrific! The event continues to grow, both in participation and number of events held. With 61 new events added this year, there were 167 different events for ramblers to choose from, in communities from Albany to NYC. This year, over 128,000 people came out to participate in the Ramble! Compared with figures from last year, repeat Ramble events saw participation increase significantly, with over 61% of repeat events experiencing an increase in attendance. Each year, the Ramble provides the perfect opportunity to discover the history, culture and landscapes that make this region nationally significant. Based on comment cards submitted after Ramble events, participants came from all over the state and the country to take part in this event. Planning has already begun for this year's Ramble, which will be held September 13-14, 20-21 and 27-28, 2008.

The HRVNHA is working with National Park Service [NPS] Conservation Specialist Dennis Montagna, other NPS specialists, NY State Parks, local partners and Massachusetts partners to discuss the rehabilitation the **Henry Knox Cannon trail** [HKCT]. Current status:

- Determined the location of all existing markers and inventory their condition based on survey administered.
- Determined what markers are in the DOT right-of-way
- Evaluated responses to the RFP and determined recipient for contract
- Coordinate conservation with DOT

The next steps include:

- contacting the DOT to secure necessary permits and secure the stone for the replica monuments from a Quarry in AuSable, New York.
- Establish a timeline with Restoration Company to complete a Conservation timeline.
- Mark Castiglione and Dennis Montagna will be presenting the HKCT project to the Association of Local Historians Conference.

The Greenway, on behalf of the HRVNHA has received the award letter from DOT for the $300,000 of **Transportation Enhancement Program** funds that were previously announced. Current status: we received comments back from Region 8 DOT on our Initial Project Proposal and Project Management Plan. The Heritage Area will, in consultation with Col. James Johnson, revise these documents to the satisfaction of the DOT and draft and let a RFP/RFQ.

Applications for the 2008 Teaching the Hudson Valley **grant program are due March 17th. The 2008 Summer Institute for Teaching the Hudson Valley will be titled "Teaching the Hudson Valley Diversity: Culture, History, and Nature 1609-2009" and will be held July 29th through the 31st.**

The Greenway, on behalf of the HRVNHA, was awarded $25,000 through the **Explore NY matching grant** for a project in partnership with Amtrak to develop a brochure that will guide Amtrak riders on their trip along the corridor between NYC and Albany. We are currently working on the text and will be meeting shortly to discuss layout.

The Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area **website** experienced a 25.5% increase in visitation over last year, with a total of 504,542 unique visits in 2007. The HRVNHA website has been live for well over three years. After much consideration, we are exploring the possibility of refreshing our website to entice new visitors and encourage past users to continue to utilize this great heritage travel resource.