

HUDSON RIVER VALLEY GREENWAY
Combined meeting of
Greenway Conservancy for the Hudson River Valley, Inc.
Hudson River Valley Greenway Communities Council,
and
Greenway Heritage Conservancy HRV, Inc.
January 14, 2016
Taconic Regional Headquarters,
NYS Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation
Staatsburg, NY
Minutes

Conservancy Members Present

Berky, Jennifer Schwartz, Conservancy Secretary
Brown, Kristen, Conservancy Member
Burke, Kevin, Conservancy Treasurer, Meeting Chair
Daniels, Jane, Conservancy Member
Jacks, Betsy, Conservancy Member
Lanzetta, Cindy, Conservancy Member
McLaughlin, Jayne, Conservancy Member

Conservancy Members Present by Proxy

Marra, Donald, Conservancy Member
Murray, Dennis, Conservancy Member
Yarabek, Stefan, Conservancy Member

Council Members Present

Aldrich, J. Winthrop, Council Member
Chmar, Andrew, Putnam County Council Member
Head, Betty, Albany County Council Member
Mazzarella, Sally, Council Member
McHenry, Barnabas, Chairman, Greenway Council
Porr, Johanna, Orange County Council Member
Von der Heide, Linda, Rensselaer County Council Member

Council Members Present by Proxy

Ames, Edward, New York City Council Member
Gielisse, Victor, Dutchess County Council Member

Delegates Present

Chaisson, Trevor, Joint Delegate for Commissioner, NYS Office of General Services
Cooper, Linda, Joint Delegate for Commissioner, NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation

Dunwell, Fran, Joint Delegate for Commissioner, NYS Department of Environmental Conservation
Ethier, Jamie, Joint Deputy Delegate for Secretary of State
Rooney, Frank, Joint Deputy Delegate for Commissioner, NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets
Taylor, Meghan, Joint Delegate for President and CEO, Empire State Development

Advisory Members Present

Rosenberg, Steve, Scenic Hudson Land Trust
Bergman, Frank, Hudson River Boat and Yacht Club Association

Greenway Staff Present

Castiglione, Mark, Acting Executive Director
Jeanson, Daniel, Project Coordinator
Johnson, Shannel, Administrative Assistant
Mayo, Desirae, Greenway Intern

Call to Order

Conservancy Meeting Chair Kevin Burke and Council Chairman Barnabas McHenry called the meeting to order at 10:12 a.m.

Welcome and Introductions

Chairman McHenry introduced Linda Cooper who welcomed everyone to the Taconic Regional Headquarters and spoke about the history of the building and the assets of NYS Parks nearby and across the state. Ms. Cooper also discussed the Governor's budget, including an increase in the Environmental Protection Fund (EPF) and referred to a handout she brought which is appended to and a part of these minutes.

Chairman McHenry introduced Nick Joseph, representing Senator Sue Serino who welcomed everyone to the Senator's district.

Chairman McHenry introduced Assemblywoman Didi Barrett who welcomed everyone to her district and noted that she looked forward to the meeting presentation on farmland protection because of the development pressures on farmland in the Hudson Valley.

Presentations

Council Member Frank Rooney introduced David Behm, Farmland Protection Program Manager for the NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets, who gave a presentation on the department's \$20 million farmland protection program in the Hudson Valley. Mr. Behm's presentation is appended to and a part of these minutes.

Agenda Review

Acting Executive Director Mark Castiglione announced changes to the City of Troy grant resolution to include conditional language for approval and added the oral history project to the agenda.

Minutes of October 14, 2015 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 January 11, 2016 Meetings of the Hudson River Valley Greenway Grants Committee

On a motion from Sally Mazzarella (Jane Daniels second) the October 14, 2015 Combined Meeting of the Hudson River Valley Greenway Communities Council, Greenway Conservancy Combined Meeting minutes and January 11, 2016 Grants Committee Meetings minutes were unanimously approved.

Greenway Conservancy for the Hudson River Valley, Inc.

Call to Order

Meeting Chair Kevin Burke called the Conservancy meeting to order.

Welcome Back Beth Campochiaro

Mr. Burke welcomed back Beth Campochiaro and Mr. Castiglione thanked the present Greenway staff.

Update on Gap Analysis

Mr. Castiglione gave an update on the Gap Analysis project, noting that after the Steering Committee's selection process, Alta Planning along with Behan Design has been chosen and the project is set to commence. Mr. Castiglione also noted that Governor Cuomo's proposed 2016 budget would increase the Greenway's trail budget to \$250,000 from the current year's \$100,000 and noted that the increased funding could be guided by the outcome of the Gap Analysis. Mr. Castiglione also thanked the governor for his continued leadership and support.

Accept findings of audit

Mr. Burke discussed the annual Greenway audit findings and read a prepared statement from Scott Keller, Finance Manager, who was not present at the meeting. Mr. Burke also thanked and commended Mr. Keller's service and dedication.

On a motion from Kristen Brown (Jane Daniels second) the Board unanimously approved the audit findings.

Water Trail Update

Mr. Castiglione reviewed the progress of the water trail map guides. Four guides are now in final edit, the maps and associated website will be launched in the spring.

Hudson River Valley Greenway Communities Council

Call to Order

Chairman McHenry called the Council meeting to order.

New Board Members

Chairman McHenry announced that Betty Head has been appointed to the Board by Albany County Executive Dan McCoy. Ms. Head will serve as the Albany County representative to the Council.

Hudson River Valley Greenway Grant Program- Greenway Community Grants

Mr. Castiglione reviewed the Greenway Communities Grants applications received since the last meeting.

The *City of Troy, Rensselaer County* is seeking grant funding in the amount of \$5,000 for enhancements to the Uncle Sam Trail in North Troy. The Grants Committee recommends \$5,000.

The *Town of Saugerties, Ulster County* is seeking grant funding in the amount of \$10,000 for a feasibility study for improving access to Bristol State Park. The Grants Committee recommends \$10,000. Chairman McHenry recused himself due to his involvement on the Palisades Interstate Park Commission.

The *Town of Wawayanda, Orange County* is seeking grant funding in the amount of \$10,000 for the final stages of an update to the Town's 2006 Comprehensive Plan. The Grants Committee recommends \$7,500. The Committee stipulated that the town should consider adopting the Greenway Compact principles as adopted by Orange County, and directed Greenway staff to recommend the town examine its zoning code for consistency after plan adoption.

On a motion from Wint Aldrich (Sally Mazzarella second) the Board unanimously approved the Community grants. Mr. McHenry recused himself from voting on the grant for the Town of Saugerties.

Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area

Call to Order

Chairman McHenry and Meeting Chair Burke called the National Heritage Area (NHA) meeting to order.

Garden Project Update

Mr. Aldrich discussed the ongoing restoration of the Roosevelt Garden at the FDR Home & Library using funds from the National Park Service. The gardens will produce some food to be used on site and provide educational opportunities to local youth. Mr. Aldrich thanked Sarah Olson for her leadership as park superintendent.

Guidebook Update

Mr. Castiglione reported that the guidebook is nearing completion and will be released in the spring.

Heritage Development Grants

Mr. Castiglione noted that the Heritage Development Grant program will close on February 11, 2016.

Henry Knox Cannon Trail

Col. James Johnson discussed the Henry Knox Cannon Trail and the Washington-Rochambeau National Historic Trail. Col. Johnson thanked Mr. Castiglione for his contributions to the project.

Hudson River Valley Ramble 2016

Mr. Castiglione noted that the 17th annual Hudson River Valley Ramble will be held in September and discussed the incorporation of the Ramble website into the new NHA website, hudsonrivervalley.com. Mr. Castiglione also noted that he is seeking more sponsors for 2016.

THV Institute Recap

Mr. Castiglione commented on the educational aspect of the Roosevelt Garden and the ongoing commitment to education that the NHA supports through the Teaching the Hudson Valley (THV) Institute.

Oral History Project

Mr. Burke commented on the purpose of this project, which is to capture and preserve the stories of those who were instrumental in the formation of the Greenway and NHA, which are celebrating their 25th and 20th years in 2016, respectively. Mr. Burke will work closely with Mr. Castiglione and others to identify those to interview in the coming months.

Acting Executive Director's Report

Me. Castiglione reviewed his report which is appended to these minutes.

Adjourn

The next meeting of the Boards of Directors will be held March 23rd. The meeting was adjourned at 11:54 a.m. by acclamation.

Respectfully submitted,
Daniel E. Jeanson
Meeting Secretary

<u>Open Space Program</u>	<u>FY 15-16 Enacted</u>	<u>FY 16-17 Enacted</u>
Open Space / Land Conservation	26,550	40,000
<i>Cons. Partnership Program/LTA</i>	2,000	2,000
<i>Urban Forestry</i>	1,000	1,000
<i>Cities with population 65,000</i>	500	500
<i>Projects in DEC regions 1-3</i>	1,000	1,500
Farmland Protection	15,000	20,000
<i>Ft. Drum Buffer</i>	1,000	1,000
<i>Cornell University Land Class/Master Soils List</i>	0	70
Agricultural Waste Management	1,500	1,500
Municipal non-point source pollution	4,800	8,000
Ag. non-point source pollution control	14,200	19,000
<i>Cornell Pro-Dairy Program</i>	0	224
<i>Cornell Integrated Pest Management Program</i>	0	1,000
Hudson River Estuary Management	4,700	5,000
<i>Mohawk River Action Plan</i>	800	800
<i>Peconic Bay Estuary Program</i>	200	0
Biodiversity Research and Stewardship	500	1,000
<i>Habitat Conservation Plans</i>	0	500
Albany Pine Bush Commission	2,475	2,675
Long Island Pine Barrens Commission	1,600	1,800
LI South Shore Estuary Reserve	900	900
Finger Lakes/Lake Ontario Alliance	1,750	1,979
Lake Erie Watershed Protection Alliance	250	250
Invasive Species	5,850	10,000
<i>Lake George</i>	450	450
<i>Eradication Grants</i>	1,000	1,000
Oceans and Great Lakes Initiative	6,050	15,000
<i>Peconic Estuary Program</i>	0	200
Water Quality Improvement Program	8,000	20,000
<i>Suffolk Co./DEC Nitrogen Reduction efforts</i>	3,000	3,000
<i>Suffolk Co. Sewer Improvement Projects</i>	0	2,000
<i>Nassau Co. Bay Park Sewage Plant Outfall Pipe</i>	0	5,000
Soil and Water Conservation Districts	5,275	9,000
Water Resources Commissions*	0	746
<i>Susquehanna River Basin Commission</i>	0	259
<i>Delaware River Basin Commission</i>	0	359
<i>Ohio River Basin Commission</i>	0	13
<i>Great Lakes Commission</i>	0	60
<i>Interstate Environmental Commission</i>	0	15
<i>New England Interstate Commission</i>	0	38
Sub-Total	100,000	156,850
<u>Parks and Recreation Program</u>		
State Land Stewardship	18,500	28,000
<i>Belleayre Mountain</i>	500	500
<i>Parks & Trails NY Grants Program</i>	500	500
<i>Hudson River Valley Trail Grants</i>	100	250
Waterfront Revitalization	12,500	15,000
<i>Inner city/Underserved</i>	6,250	10,000
<i>Towns of Minerva, Indian Lake & Newcomb</i>	0	660
Municipal Parks	15,750	20,000
<i>Inner city/Underserved</i>	7,875	10,000
Hudson River Park	2,500	800
ZBGA	12,450	13,000
Sub-Total	61,700	76,800

Solid Waste Program		
Municipal Recycling	7,500	14,000
Secondary Materials Markets	1,000	1,000
Pollution Prevention Institute	3,250	4,000
Pesticide Program	1,200	1,200
<i>Long Island Pesticide Prevention</i>	200	200
Natural Resource Damage Assessment	1,000	1,950
Landfill Closure/Gas Management	250	700
<i>Essex County</i>	0	300
<i>Hamilton County</i>	0	150
Environmental Justice*	0	7,000
<i>Community Impact Grants Program</i>	1,100	2,000
<i>Lead Paint Inspection Erie County</i>	100	0
Environmental Health*	0	2,000
<i>Children's Environmental Health Centers</i>	0	1,000
Brownfield Opportunity Area Grants*	0	2,000
Sub-Total	15,300	33,850
Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Program*		
Greenhouse Gas Reduction outside power sector*	0	3,000
Resiliency Planning*	0	4,500
<i>DEC grants for mitigation*</i>	0	2,000
<i>Vulnerability Assessments*</i>	0	2,500
Smart Growth Grants	600	2,000
Adaptive Infrastructure*	0	23,000
<i>Resiliency Planting Program</i>	250	500
<i>NYSSWCD Committee Climate Resilient Farms</i>	500	2,000
<i>Climate Smart Communities Grants*</i>	0	20,000
Sub-Total	0	32,500
TOTAL EPF	177,000	300,000

000s omitted. Programs in *Italics* are sub-allocations within programs.

*New category in FY16-17. Previous year sub-allocations in Waterfront and Muni Parks deleted.

Data compiled by The Nature Conservancy. For more information, contact jottney@tnc.org.

January 13, 2016. For more information about the EPF visit www.keepprotectingny.com.

Hudson Valley Agricultural Enhancement Program

- Nearly \$20 million available for perpetual conservation easement projects
- Projects may be located in any of 14 counties comprising the Hudson Valley region:

• Albany	• Putnam	• Sullivan
• Columbia	• Rensselaer	• Ulster
• Dutchess	• Rockland	• Washington
• Greene	• Saratoga	• Westchester
• Orange	• Schenectady	
- Cost-share rates vary depending upon the content of the proposed conservation easement –
 - 87.5% = must use the Department's easement
 - Up to 75% = Department-required provisions must be inserted into project sponsor's easement
 - "25% plus" (25% of purchase price + all transaction costs) = easement must ensure that the property is reserved for agricultural use; this cost-share option is intended to leverage Federal funds
- Individual awards shall not exceed \$2 million (except for (c) above, which is limited to \$500,000) and State contribution toward purchase price shall not exceed \$29,000/acre

• counties, municipalities, & non-profits are eligible

• funds came from bank settlements not from the EPF

• ^{just}not about protecting farmland, but for protecting farming as a ~~good~~ viable industry.

Hudson Valley Agricultural Enhancement Program

(continued)

- Proposals must be submitted through Grants Gateway by 4:30pm on January 29, 2016
- No limit to the number of proposals submitted by an individual applicant entity
- Each proposal must be endorsed by the Agricultural & Farmland Protection Board of the County in which the project is located; if applicant is an SWCD or a land trust, that entity must also obtain a letter of endorsement from the municipality in which the proposed project is located
- Proposed project may involve multiple landowners, but must involve only one Farm Operation (as defined by AML Article 25-AA)
- Proposal may earn bonus points if it demonstrates or illustrates –
 - efforts to actively protect local farmland
 - strategic importance of protecting the subject farm to the agricultural industry
 - degree to which exclusion(s) are separated from the proposed easement area by a landscape buffer
 - that the subject properties comprising the project are located within an agricultural district
 - that the subject properties are covered by Prime Soils
 - that the applicant and/or project partner entity possess(es) the capacity and commitment to adequately monitor, enforce and defend conservation easements
- Awarded projects receive four performance-based payments and each project is expected to be completed within 2 years



Hudson River Valley Greenway

Hudson River Valley Greenway Annual Report 2015

At the end of 2015, the Hudson River Valley Ramble was honored by the New York State Outdoor Educators Association with an Environmental Impact Award. The award recognizes an individual or organization that influence environmental protection. We were pleased to accept the award on behalf of all of our partners whose work we amplify through their participation in the Ramble.

The Ramble is one of the Greenway's biggest successes because it embraces the fundamental principle that influenced the creation of our organization 25 years ago and remains a guiding force to this day. It is the principle that environmental values and economic development can go hand in hand. Indeed, by helping our partners connect people with environmental and heritage resources, the Ramble cultivates more environmental and cultural stewards each year. What's more, this celebration of our valley and its resources generates more than \$21 million dollars in economic impact each year.

The Greenway has awarded more than \$9.6 million to support over 770 grant projects that helped to plan communities, build trail connections, provide more public access, advance regional values in local projects, and connect people with the stories of the people and places that made the Hudson River Valley "the landscape that defined America."

Many studies have also identified the connection between trail development and economic development in communities and regions. In 2016, we will undertake an analysis of the Hudson River Valley corridor to identify connections to complete the Greenway Trail from New York City to the Capital Region first envisioned 25 years ago. The study will provide a template for more specific feasibility studies, inform future capital projects, and guide investments made through our grant programs.

Over the past 25 years the Greenway has provided catalytic support for planning, trails and heritage development projects. We were supporting 'sustainability' before the term existed in the parlance of environmentalism and community development and we recognize the significant impact our small grant have had in communities and the region as a whole. Since our creation under the Greenway Act of 1991, the Greenway has awarded more than \$9.6 million to support over 770 grant projects that helped to plan communities, build trail connections, provide more public access, advance regional values in local projects, and connect people with the stories of the people and places that made the Hudson River Valley "the landscape that defined America."

This report includes a summary of our activities in 2015 and also summarizes the impact of the Hudson River Valley Greenway in our first 25 years of existence.

Mark Castiglione
Acting Executive Director
January 2016

Highlights from 25 years of Greenway

85% of municipalities Greenway Communities, 5 Greenway Compact Plans

487 miles of designated Greenway Trails

256 mile long Hudson River Greenway Water Trail with 115 access points with launches every 10 miles or less on both side of the river and camping every 15 miles.

100 Affiliated sites within the Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area

\$9.6 million in grants awarded for 774 projects leveraging \$33.1 million in matching funds

- ***Community Planning and Zoning: 199 projects, \$2.37 million awarded***
- ***Capital Improvements: 293 projects, \$2.4 million awarded***
- ***Cultural Inventory and Resource Planning: 83 projects, \$742,553 awarded***
- ***Natural Resource Planning: 111 projects, \$748,302 awarded***
- ***Regional/Intermunicipal Planning: 48 projects, \$705,224 awarded***
- ***Training/Education: 100 projects, \$513,821 awarded***
- ***Waterfront Revitalization and Access: 69 projects, \$2.8 million awarded***



Hudson River Valley Greenway Trails

Greenway Water Trail Promotion/Trip Planning Project:

The Greenway has developed an interactive, smartphone optimized website and map series to support trip planning and recreation-based tourism related to the Hudson River Greenway Water Trail. A series of 4 map/guides are ready for production and posed for launch and distribution in in spring 2016. This project is funded through a \$90,000 grant from Empire State Development to promote use of the [Hudson River Greenway Water Trail](#). Sample map on right

Greenway Trail Gap Analysis: The Greenway began this project in 2015 to identify likely connections that would complete the trunk line north/south Greenway Trail route from New York City to the Capital region and beyond. The Greenway Trail route already includes over 260 miles of designated “river side” trails which have been mapped. While the vision of the Greenway Trail still puts primacy on the river corridor and visual/ physical access to the River, the route identified through this project will likely take advantage of the opportunities presented by the various regional trail systems currently being planning and developed. Identifying practical and implementable connections/routes and alternatives will require the development of a methodology that will consider a variety of factors to take advantages of opportunities and minimize obstacles. The final elements of the project should also serve to inspire implementation by providing focus on strategic areas for trail connections, and inspiring potential public and provide funders through compelling visualizations. The project is expected to be completed in the summer of 2016.



Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area

16th Annual Hudson River Valley Ramble

Four beautiful weekends this September were filled with activities from hiking to kayaking to kite flying and more. This year's Ramble featured more than 200 events hosted by more than 160 partner organizations. We are especially grateful to all of our wonderful Ramble event leaders and organizations who have dedicated their time and effort to making this an exceptional event. Check out our [Facebook](#) to see more photos of the events.

Successes:

- Website traffic up 43%
- 78% of website visitors were new users
- Facebook 'likes' up 46%
- Facebook posts reached over 400,000 people
- Event satisfaction 4.85 out of 5
- 77% of Ramble partners reported

Hudson River Valley Ramble Wins Environmental Impact Award

This year, New York State Outdoor Education Association (NYSOEA) has recognized the Hudson River Valley



Ramble with a prestigious Environmental Impact Award for its role in supporting outdoor education while promoting outdoor recreation, community partnerships, and stewardship. The Hudson River Valley

Greenway/National Heritage Area was proud to accept this tremendous honor on behalf of all the partner organizations and outdoor educators whose work we amplify through their participation in the Hudson River Valley Ramble.

2015 Path Through History Weekends Grows by More Than 60%: The Greenway again partnered with the Greater Hudson Heritage Network to manage day-to-day administrative and communication tasks for the event on behalf of I Love NY/Empire State Development. Their partnership and hard work contributed significantly to the growth of this state-wide event. The number of PTH Weekend events grew to more than 330 events which represented a 60% increase over the same weekend last year. Learn more about the events at www.paththroughhistory.iloveny.com.



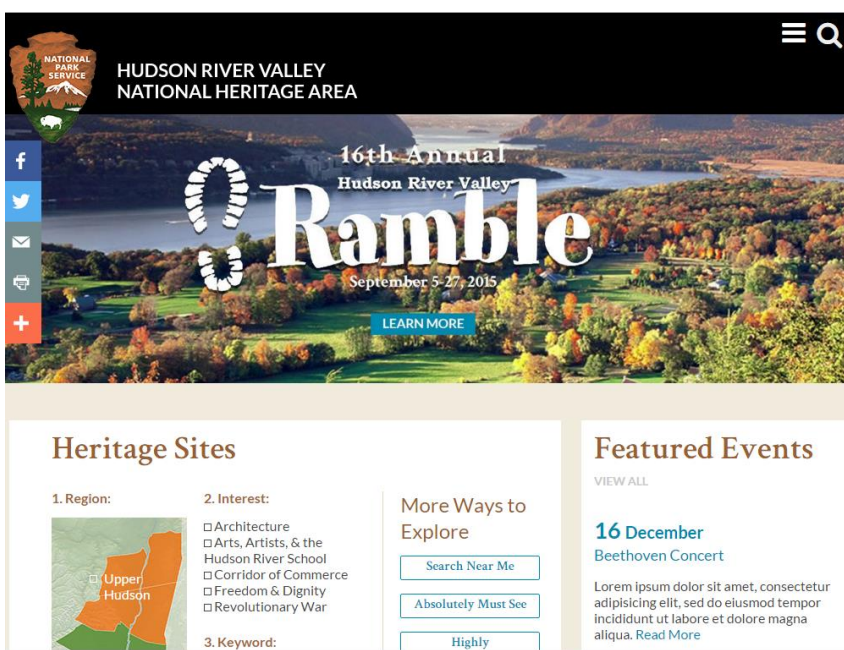
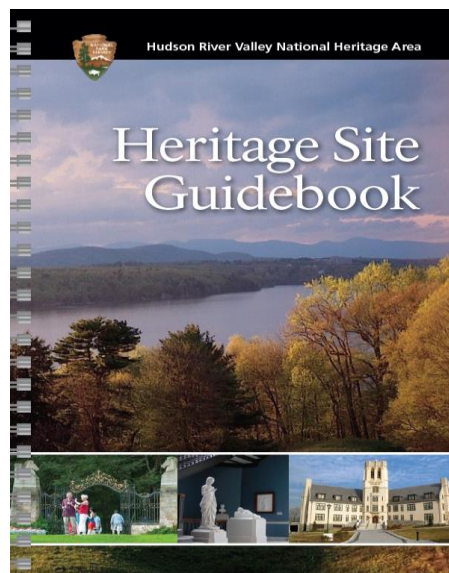
**Hudson River
Valley Greenway**

National Heritage Area Guidebook Re-print

The HRVNHA first published its “Heritage Site Guidebook” in 2010. The current update also includes a complete redesign of the guidebook. The newly designed layout is currently being edited and new guidebooks will be ready for purchase in spring 2016.

National Heritage Area Website Update

Over the last six years, the HRVNHA website has received nearly 250,000 visitors and over a million page views. Since its launch, technologies and media practices have changed dramatically and the website requires a complete overhaul in order to keep pace with ever-evolving technology. Greenway staff and our website consultants have been working steadily on updates to www.hudsonrivervalley.com. Several drafts of the layout have been reviewed and the consultants are in the process of building and coding the new site. The website will be mobile responsive and benefit from many new tools that will enhance the user experience. New website anticipated spring 2016.



Heritage Area Sponsors

Inaugural Hudson Valley Heritage Fair and Presentation by Franklin Vangone

The first-ever Hudson Valley Heritage Fair was a great success. This year, the fair featured hands-on table displays of artifacts and living history presentations from a variety of organizations. Exhibitors included 27 Hudson Valley cultural organizations, including historical societies, historic sites, and tourism agencies. The Hudson Valley Heritage Fair was spearheaded by Dutchess County historian Will Tatum and is a joint project of the Mid-Hudson Valley Path Through History Workgroup, New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation, the Greater Hudson Heritage Network, and the Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area. The heritage fair was sponsored by Dutch Spirits and the Museum Association of New York.



Teaching the Hudson Valley

Explore Awards

Trips Completed: 1,036 students from six counties to sites in nine counties

Grants Made/Trips Pending: 649 students from five counties, sites in three counties

Bus on Us Awards

Trips Completed: 602 students from six counties

Grants Made/Trips Pending: 308 students from three counties



Summer Institute - July 28-30: 130 people participated in Teaching for Engagement in the Hudson Valley: The Next 100 Years Depend on It. 45% of those completing the survey work in schools; 18% are environmental, historic site, or museum educators. 60% said the institute is a “good value” compared to other professional development options. Keep an eye out for details on the [2016 Summer Institute](#) coming soon.

Writing about place: 26 elementary students, six middle school students, and 14 high school students submitted work for this year’s contest. Student work was read and commented on by THVIPs, members of our partner organizations, two published writers, and teachers from the Hudson Valley Writing Project. Nine of the poems and essays were published on THV’s blog.

Other Successes: THV added over 400 new contacts to e-mail lists, approximately 110 friends on their Facebook page, and added two new members to THVIPs. THV joined Friends of the Old Croton Aqueduct to offer two walking tours, Stone Workers at New Croton Dam designed with educators in mind.

National Park Service Washington-Rochambeau Route Waysides Unveiled

In September, National Park Service Wayside exhibits were delivered to 15 locations throughout the lower Hudson Valley, marking their significance on the Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary National Historic Trail. The Route is one of the newest National Historic Trails in the nation and marks the route the Continental Army and allied French forces traveled from Rhode Island to the final victory over the British at Yorktown, Virginia during the American War of Independence.



On Saturday, September 19th, as part of the 6th Annual Revolutionary War Weekend event, the Fishkill Historical Society (FHS) and Friends of the Fishkill Supply Depot (FOFSD) unveiled the display panels marking the Fishkill Supply Depot site's inclusion in the Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route National Historic Trail. Research has uncovered Fishkill's clear connection to the French forces that served in the Revolution. (Picture: 6th Annual Revolutionary War Weekend at Fishkill Supply Depot in NY) Credit: Marilyn Gabriel

History Happy Hour

The Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area sponsored and helped to develop History Happy Hours at the Albany Institute on May 14th and at Schuyler Mansion State Historic Site on September 24th. History Happy Hour targets history enthusiasts to socialize and experience history in a new and fun way. History Happy Hour is an outgrowth of the city of Albany's volunteer heritage tourism initiative, convened by Mayor Kathy Sheehan. Community leaders and a variety of stakeholder organizations, historians and tourism professionals are represented on the initiative's committees, which work to cultivate a community to support heritage tourism in the city and introduce Albany's historic resources to new audiences. The idea is expanding with Albany and throughout the National Heritage Area



New Public Access at Nutten Hook Unique Area

On June 19th, officials from the Hudson River Valley Greenway, NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) and the Town of Stuyvesant were joined by community members and dignitaries to announce new public access and public amenities at the Nutten Hook Unique area in Columbia County. Site improvements, include two new picnic areas,

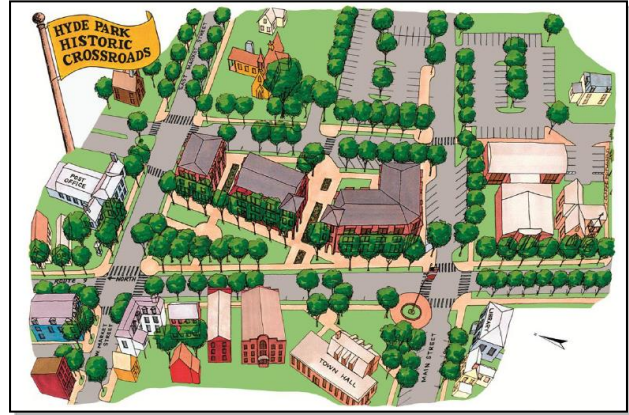


gravel parking areas, and an informational kiosk. Other improvements to be completed later this year include an ADA accessible pathway and a kayak launch. The site is also the latest addition to the 256-mile Hudson River Greenway Water Trail, The Nutten Hook Unique Area is part of the larger Stockport Flats area, which includes a five-mile length of Hudson River shoreline dominated by freshwater tidal wetlands. For more on this story, please see these articles by the [Register-Star](#) and the [Times Union](#).

Grant Programs

Hudson River Valley Greenway Grant Program

The Greenway awarded more than \$153,000 funding twenty community and intermunicipal projects in 2015. Projects ranged from community planning, economic development projects, resource inventories and public access projects. These small catalytic grants continue to help transform communities. Eight Greenway Grants were completed in 2015.



2015 Heritage Development Grants

The HRVNH 2015 Heritage Development Grants were announced at events in April and June. On June 5, Congressman Paul Tonko, Albany Mayor Kathy Sheehan, Assemblywoman Patricia Fahy, and Assemblyman John T. McDonald III joined partner organizations at historic Ten Broeck Mansion in Albany to announce seven Heritage Development Grant awards totaling over \$28,000. For complete coverage with photos, please see this [Times Union article](#). The Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area press release is available [here](#).



On April 27th, Congresswoman Nita Lowey joined partners at an event to announce seven Heritage Development Grant awards to local historic and cultural institutions. Over \$30,000 was awarded to organizations in support of a variety of educational and interpretive programs that will showcase the area's history and contribute to the regional heritage tourism economy.

In addition, six Heritage Development Grant projects were completed in 2015.

Greenway Conservancy Small Grant Program

The Hudson River Valley Greenway awarded \$69,245 in matching grants to 11 projects that will develop and enhance the Hudson River Valley Greenway Trail. These trail development projects translate into construction, engineering, planning, and tourism jobs. In addition, five Conservancy grant projects were completed in 2015.



19 Matching Grants Completed in 2015

Grant Type	Community/ Organization	Project	Grant Awarded	Match	Award Date	Completi on Date
Conservancy Trail	Village of Piermont	Restoration of the Southern Section of the Erie Path	\$10,000.00	\$16,443.00	1/20/2011	1/6/2015
Conservancy Trail	Hudson Crossing Park, Inc.	Enhancements to Hudson Riverwalk Sensory Trail & Canoe/Kayak Launch	\$5,000.00	\$14,381.00	10/17/2012	9/4/2015
Conservancy Trail	New Baltimore Conservancy	Interpretive Signs for New Riverside Park in New Baltimore	\$1,759.00	\$1,760.00	10/16/2013	11/24/2015
Conservancy Trail	Palisades Parks Conservancy	Tallman Mountain State Park Biodiversity Trail	\$2,945.63	\$9,804.37	10/16/2013	11/24/2015
Conservancy Trail	Rensselaer Plateau Alliance	Rensselaer Plateau Regional Trails Vision	\$8,384.00	\$31,616.00	3/19/2014	11/24/2015
Council Compact	County of Orange	Hudson Valley Online Community Design Manual	\$12,500.00	\$27,500.00	9/30/2013	5/4/2015
Council Planning	Town of New Castle	Public Outreach & Education for the New Castle Comprehensive Plan Update	\$6,000.00	\$14,000.00	1/25/2013	3/5/2015
Council Planning	Town of Hyde Park	Development of a vibrant town center in Hyde Park	\$10,000.00	\$20,000.00	6/7/2012	3/19/2015
Council Planning	Village of Nyack	Nyack Green Village Action Plan	\$5,000.00	\$14,858.00	1/29/2014	5/4/2015
Council Planning	Town of Clarkstown	The Rockland Farm Alliance Farmland Expansion Program	\$9,000.00	\$135,718.00	1/29/2014	8/6/2015
Council Planning	Village of Voorheesville	Village of Voorheesville Main Street Renaissance Project: main street master plan	\$8,500.00	\$12,700.00	10/8/2014	9/25/2015
Council Planning	City of Beacon	Beacon Main Street and Waterfront Linkage Area Development Plan	\$5,000.00	\$6,320.00	10/12/2011	10/16/2015
Council Planning	City of Kingston	Midtown Cultural Resources Survey & Interpretive Planning Project	\$15,000.00	\$15,852.00	7/1/2008	11/16/2015
NHA	Friends of John Jay Homestead	Rehabilitate, furnish and open to the public a historic summer kitchen focusing on the back story highlighting the lives of the servants and slaves.	\$4,700.00	\$7,704.36	3/26/2010	4/1/2015

NHA	Town of Hyde Park	Walking Tour of Hyde Park Historic District	\$2,484.53	\$2,515.47	3/28/2014	8/6/2015
NHA	Putnam History Museum	West Point Foundry Exhibition	\$5,000.00	\$25,000.00	3/28/2014	8/14/2015
NHA	Albany Institute for History & Art	Making of the Hudson River School online exhibition project	\$3,326.00	\$3,326.00	3/28/2014	9/1/2015
NHA	Thomas Cole National Historic Site	2014 Exhibition, "Master, Mentor, Master: Thomas Cole & Frederic Church"	\$5,000.00	\$83,500.00	3/28/2014	5/16/2015
NHA	The Olana Partnership	River Crossings: Contemporary Art Comes Home	\$4,000.00	\$458,118.00	3/11/2015	11/24/2015
		Total:	\$123,599.16	\$901,116.20		

45 Matching Grants Awarded in 2015

Grant Type	Community/ Organization	Project	Grant Awarded	Match	Award Date
Conservancy Trail	Town of Fishkill	Wappinger to Beacon Trail	\$10,000.00	\$50,000.00	10/14/2015
Conservancy Trail	Town of Saratoga	Old Champlain Canal Basin Trailhead	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	10/14/2015
Conservancy Trail	Wallkill Valley Rail Trail Association	Nature, History & Community Along the Trail	\$10,000.00	\$28,618.00	10/14/2015
Conservancy Trail	Teatown Lake Reservation	Kitchawan Bridge Repair	\$1,795.00	\$3,091.58	10/14/2015
Conservancy Trail	Town of Wilton	Open Space, Recreation and Pathways Plan	\$5,000.00	\$11,500.00	10/14/2015
Conservancy Trail	The Palisades Park Conservancy, Inc.	Improving the Silver Stream Trail at Knox's Headquarters State Historic Site	\$3,250.00	\$9,250.00	10/14/2015
Conservancy Trail	Village of South Nyack	Erie Railroad Greenway Trail Signs	\$5,200.00	\$14,200.00	10/14/2015
Conservancy Trail	D&H Canal Historical Society, Inc.	Reset-repair Bridge on 5 Lock Walk	\$7,500.00	\$15,500.00	10/14/2015
Conservancy Trail	Town of Marlborough	Milton Landing Park: Connecting Woodland Trail Upper Park to Waterfront	\$4,000.00	\$6,560.00	10/14/2015
Conservancy Trail	Village of New Paltz	Mill Brook Preserve Trail Access Enhancements	\$5,000.00	\$663,035.00	10/14/2015
Conservancy Trail	Town of Yorktown	Yorktown Trailway to FDR State Park	\$7,500.00	\$432,500.00	10/14/2015

Council Compact	Village of Tarrytown	Tarrytown Station and Waterfront Transit Oriented Development	\$15,000.00	\$25,000.00	6/10/2015
Council Planning	Town of North Greenbush	Design Guidelines	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	1/13/2015
Council Planning	City of Cohoes	Visitor Center Revitalization	\$7,500.00	\$92,500.00	1/13/2015
Council Planning	Village of Kinderhook	Village of Kinderhook Comprehensive Plan Update	\$8,460.00	\$8,460.00	1/13/2015
Council Planning	Village of Green Island	The Black Bridge Rail Trail Connection Project	\$7,500.00	\$436,500.00	1/13/2015
Council Planning	Town of Clinton	Revision of Zoning Law	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	3/11/2015
Council Planning	City of Newburgh	Reactivating Vacant Lots in Newburgh	\$7,500.00	\$9,700.00	3/11/2015
Council Planning	Village of Cold Spring	Village of Cold Spring Code Update	\$10,000.00	\$103,750.00	3/11/2015
Council Planning	County of Albany	Lawson Lake Barn Rehabilitation	\$5,000.00	\$6,919.68	6/10/2015
Council Planning	Town of Sand Lake	Rensselaer Plateau Greenway Communities Signage Project	\$5,000.00	\$8,500.00	6/10/2015
Council Planning	Town of Somers	Somers Complete Streets Project	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	6/10/2015
Council Planning	City of Hudson	GIS-Based Natural Resource and Open Space Inventory	\$3,700.00	\$3,700.00	10/14/2015
Council Planning	City of Port Jervis	Hudson Valley Main Streets: Economic Development Strategies	\$7,500.00	\$22,737.50	10/14/2015
Council Planning	Town of Gallatin	Gallatin Geographic Information System Project	\$6,284.00	\$8,684.00	10/14/2015
Council Planning	Town of Germantown	Town of Germantown Comprehensive Plan Update	\$5,000.00	\$15,000.00	10/14/2015
Council Planning	Town of Waterford	Town of Waterford Comprehensive Plan and Zoning Code Update	\$5,000.00	\$46,100.00	10/14/2015
Council Planning	Village of Voorheesville	Voorheesville Wayfinding and Signage Project	\$7,500.00	\$12,500.00	10/14/2015
Council Planning	Town of Hyde Park	Zoning Updates to Refine Scenic Overlay and Introduce Adaptive Reuse Opportunities	\$7,500.00	\$12,500.00	10/14/2015
Council Planning	Town of Salem	Salem Main Street Renaissance Project	\$7,500.00	\$17,500.00	10/14/2015

Council Planning	Village of Ellenville	Downtown Revitalization Plan - Center St. & Market St.	\$7,500.00	\$19,000.00	10/14/2015
NHA	The Olana Partnership	River Crossings: Contemporary Art Comes Home	\$4,000.00	\$458,118.00	3/11/2015
NHA	Albany County Historical Association	Albany County History Web Interchange	\$4,000.00	\$6,000.00	3/11/2015
NHA	Friends of John Jay Homestead	Red Barn Discovery Center	\$4,000.00	\$16,664.95	3/11/2015
NHA	City of Beacon	City of Beacon Heritage Site Mapping and Signage Project	\$8,500.00	\$11,500.00	3/11/2015
NHA	Lyndhurst	Interpretive Signage	\$1,250.00	\$1,252.86	3/11/2015
NHA	Mount Guilan Historic Site	James F. Brown Day: A Celebration of Freedom	\$2,414.00	\$13,602.35	3/11/2015
NHA	National Maritime Historical Society	Sea History's Guide to Maritime Programs & Cultural Sites	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	3/11/2015
NHA	Palisades Parks Conservancy, Inc.	Interpreting the Tower of Victory at Washington's Headquarters SHS	\$2,226.00	\$3,420.00	3/11/2015
NHA	Shaker Heritage Society	Interpreting the Watervliet Shaker Community	\$4,000.00	\$7,424.00	3/11/2015
NHA	Thomas Cole Historic House	Reinventing the Interpretation of Thomas Cole's Home	\$5,000.00	\$405,000.00	3/11/2015
NHA	Walkill River School	Art/History Trail	\$8,500.00	\$21,500.00	3/11/2015
NHA	Friends of the Landscape and Arboretum Program at Bard College	Proposal for Blithewood Garden Interpretive Materials	\$2,414.00	\$7,586.00	3/11/2015
NHA	Friends of Clermont	Harvesting History and the Community Garden at Clermont	\$5,000.00	\$10,000.00	3/11/2015
NHA	Albany Institute of History & Art	Top 50: The Story of the Capital Region	\$4,000.00	\$196,179.00	9/1/2015
		Totals:	\$282,993.00	\$3,286,552.92	

2015 News from the Boards

Vincent Alteri Appointed Rockland Representative to Greenway Council:

Mr. Alteri is the Executive Director of the Rockland County Drainage Agency and was appointed to the Greenway Council by Rockland County Executive Ed Day in May. Appointed in 2011 to head the RCDA, Vincent oversees a variety of agency activities including enforcement actions as to violations, construction stabilization projects along banks of streams, removal of obstructions that may cause flooding, obtaining funding from F.E.M.A. for eligible grants, and working with Army Corp. of Engineers and NYSDEC as to permits. Vincent supervises a staff of six and manages a capital budget of \$49 million.

Jayne McLaughlin Named to Greenway Conservancy Board

Jayne McLaughlin began her career at New York State Parks in 1978 as Assistant Director of the Young Adult Conservation Corps at Allegany State Park. From there, she held park manager and director positions throughout the state park system. Since 2004, Ms. McLaughlin has served as the Deputy General Manager for the Palisades Interstate Park Commission. From 1998 to 2004 she served as Taconic Regional Director, a position she returned to in 2008 for two years. She then served as Senior Advisor from October 2010 to August 2011. Throughout her accomplished career at State Parks, Jayne has been responsible for some of the largest parks in the state system, including Letchworth State Park, Allegany State Park and Franklin Delano Roosevelt State Park. McLaughlin holds a BA in Biological Sciences and a MA in Science Education, both from Cornell University. Jayne also serves on the executive board of Walkway Over the Hudson. She was appointed by the Assembly Minority Leader.

Victor Gielisse Appointed Dutchess County Greenway Council representative.

Dr. Victor Gielisse was appointed by Dutchess County Executive Marc Molinaro in December 2014 to replace Clara Lou Gould Dutchess County's Greenway Council representative. Dr. Gielisse is vice president of advancement & business development at The Culinary Institute of America (CIA). Chef Gielisse's responsibilities include all of the college's alumni relations and fund-raising initiatives as well as stewarding the CIA's relationship within the foodservice industry, including business development, consulting, custom training programs, industry outreach, licensing programming, and donor support opportunities. See more [here](#).

Betty Head Appointed Albany County Greenway Communities Council

Betty Head has been appointed to the Albany County Greenway Communities Council. She is also a volunteer organizer for the local branch of activism website moveon.org.



**Hudson River
Valley Greenway**

State of New York

Andrew M. Cuomo, Governor

Hudson River Valley Greenway Communities Council

Barnabas McHenry, Chairman

Greenway Conservancy for the Hudson River Valley

Sara Griffen, Acting Chair

Mark Castiglione, Acting Executive Director



**Hudson River
Valley Greenway**