

## Minutes of the Friends of the Beaverkill 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting

August 27, 2011

Location: Trelstad compound, Elm Hollow Road, Beaverkill, NY

Weather note: The meeting was called to order as Hurricane Irene, which was sweeping up the coast, had just begun to touch Elm Hollow. A number of members were absent, securing their homes in Beaverkill and elsewhere. It was agreed that the exigencies demanded that all presentations would be truncated as far as reasonable. Rain began in earnest conveniently as refreshments began to run out following the meeting.

### Officers

President David Barnes

Vice President: Unfilled at the time

Recording Secretary: Steve Levine

[Recording Secretary Pro-tem for the instant meeting John Kelly]

Corresponding Secretary Jane Sokolow

Treasurer Sue Barnett

At Large: Patricia Adams, John Kelly, Mellissa Holden

The meeting was called to order at 4:30 pm and presided over by David Barnes

The reading of minutes of last year's meeting was passed. Minutes were made available and approved.

Treasurers Report presented in summary by Sue Barnett. More detailed accounts were made available, and at the conclusion of the report, it was approved.

\$10,323 in Treasury subject to \$2000 promised to the Church. Various volunteers agreed to talk to Fly Fishing Museum and local stores to see if sales placement of the History of Beaverkill was possible.

After discussion the above named officers were elected to continue in office for the coming year.

Patricia Adams reported on status of the historic inventory which was now planned to cover the corridor Roscoe Diner to Rockland Road to Covered Bridge. A subcommittee had talked to the contractor, Neil Larson, who had sent in a proposal which Patricia summarized as involving a reconnaissance survey and historic inventory which would include maps and photos of individual properties.

Patricia Adams' request for a funding grant of \$1000 for the survey was unanimously approved.

Fracking. Ramsay Adams reported on the current status of fracking and the guidelines relating to the same. He noted the importance of the issue, locally and to the country and that major drilling would begin in the coming spring. He stated that DEC regulations were about to be issued with a 30 day comment period and that it was important for interested people to participate in a variety of hearing coming up.

Catskill Growth Efforts. Bruce Janklow, assisted by Jennifer Grossman, gave a report requested by David Barnes regarding findings of a coalition of the NRDC Urban Team, Mountainkeeper, and other organizations with respect to establishing a sustainable growth path in the Catskills that would stop destructive economic options such as casinos. He indicated that the best option was agriculture which is now the second biggest industry after tourism. He said that there is increasing demand in the Metropolitan Area for local food and that in the last 5 years there had been a 50% increase in such demand. Much of this demand has been satisfied by areas such as the Berkshires and New Jersey. The fastest way to increase the Catskill's share was to increase production. In this regard, the biggest need of local farmers was capital. The coalition was attempting to

garner the funds required for a farmers loan program. This was being done by private initiatives organized by the coalition rather than any generally publicized programs.

Church. Stuart Root gave a report on the Church, noting that originally efforts to deal with the disrepair of the siding were central to this creation of the Friends. The siding again requires attention, and the Board of the Church had considered at length the options available, particularly the pros and cons of plastic siding. He reported that the Board had decided that the use of pretreated boards had been determined to be the most long lasting and best appearing method. The Church was currently involved in fund raising for this purpose, [and that there were funds from the Friends amounting to \$2300 set aside for this purpose.] He stated that he would provide a written report on the church maintenance issue.

New Business. Patricia Adams introduced two items for discussion:

1. She stated that an interesting long term possibility might be the establishment of a Catskill Mountain Museum on the pattern of the highly successful Adirondack Museum in Blue Mountain Lake, New York. She gave as an example of the type of venue that could be desirable was the Campbell Inn west of Roscoe. She asked for anyone interested in exploring this project to contact her.
2. She indicated that a musicale had been scheduled for next summer and asked for volunteers who might be interested in it. David Barnes, Stu Root, and Midge Wright responded.

The meeting was adjourned by David Barnes at [5:45].