

## Attendees:

Taylor McKinney – Tug Hill Commission  
Mickey Dietrich – Tug Hill Commission  
Jennifer Harvill – Tug Hill Commission  
Nichelle Swisher – Lewis County Soil & Water Conservation District  
Jesse Irwin – GYMO  
Gerry Ritter – Tug Hill commissioner  
Dr. Gallucci – Colgate University  
Peter Hayes – Constable Hall  
Heidi Lehman – Village of Castorland  
Pete Walsemann – Carthage Central School, retired

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## NOTES

1. Cuseum
  - a. The Cuseum demo was completed and attended mostly by commission staff due to the scheduling change. A recording of the meeting was shared amongst the group members to view at their own convenience.
  - b. Initial impression: an impressive app with customizable features, but a heavy monthly/annual fee of approximately \$3k/year (although this can be more or less, depending on what features are chosen).
  - c. We don't have much to currently compare it to. Are there are other companies? Other developers? What are their pay scales? All good questions.
2. blackriverny.com
  - a. The "Eat. Sleep. Explore." page is in the process of updating. Corey has indicated that the outdated content – the event announcements from the past summer – has been removed.
  - b. The maps: Taylor requested feedback from the group on the level of detail desired for the four Black River Maps (the overview map, and then the three different sections classified by water). Since Google map is highly interactive and detailed, this map should be more stylized. Some details to include: village shapefiles, town lines, state/country highways and, if needed, some major town roads.
  - c. Mickey notes that the Google map could be further populated; Chris Barboza, a former Tug Hill intern and now planner at the commission, recorded a number of points under different categories. We'll get in touch with him. Those items, and the Black River Canal Museum, should definitely be added to the interactive map.
3. Soil & Water –
  - a. Nichelle was able to get in touch with Shirley from the Lyons Falls Historical Association; they will be meeting soon to go over the pictures and locations that Nichelle needs. Their photo archives will be very helpful in populating the history webpage and the boat launch kiosks.

- b. Still a question of where the history content should be housed: the Black River website? Lewis County S&W? Other? The DEC boat launch kiosks will have QR codes to redirect visitors; we just need to determine which site/sites they will need to be directed to.
  - c. Good news! The bridge signs for the Black River are expected to arrive on November 27<sup>th</sup>. This is something Nichelle has been working on for years. County highway indicated *not* to purchase any hardware for the signs, as they will be able to work on fabricating materials and items to suit each individual bridge over the winter. They will also be helping with the installation. If things continue on in a similar fashion, we see those signs up next spring.
4. River Mapping
- a. GeoReferenced PDF of the Black River – initially came out of efforts to map navigation hazards on the Black River by RACOG. It could, hypothetically, be for that strict purpose (navigation hazards for recreationists) or as an overall aid for people navigating the river and interested in multiple aspects, including cultural and historical.
  - b. We are putting a pin in this topic altogether until spring, when the fieldwork season (late spring/early summer) might begin anew. The ability to safely map precedes all else on this topic.
5. Logo
- a. Taylor was able to “lift” the hand drawn logo put forth by Pete in Adobe InDesign and Illustrator, giving us a base to work with. The digitized lines would require a lot more cleaning and fill in the blanks.
  - b. Mickey was able to get in touch with the BOCES design student, Cari Knight, who worked up two different logos for Friends of the Black River. (See below.) The image is a JPEG, and might require some cleaning and clipping to separate the file into two images. Both were well-received by the group and are applicable to different situations.



6. Oneida County History Center & Patrick Reynolds –
  - a. Some weeks ago, Jennifer saw an Oneida County perspective of the Castorland Journal by the OCHC. Upon reaching out to Patrick Reynolds, he has expressed interest in potentially doing a similar presentation again and to allow it to be recorded. He mainly fears things would be too repetitious and doesn't want to step on any toes.
  - b. Dr. Gallucci is in full support of the story getting out to as many audiences as possible, and thinks it's a great idea.
  - c. Due to schedules, Taylor will follow up with Patrick early next year, when he is more free to brainstorm the idea of a presentation and the weather clears a bit (and a possible special field trip to some significant sites). Stay tuned!
  - d. It was suggested to keep Joe Kelly in mind for this moving forward – he is a writer for Boonville Herald, very involved in the history center.
7. Other news:
  - a. S&W – they're working with Emily Fell, DEC, on the BRAM model. As of this morning, they've done a couple of samplings. They're hoping to move onto Phase 2 of the modeling for a 9E Plan, which has an updated HUC 12 scale.

Next meeting: **January 9, 2023 @ 2pm**; Lewis County Extension Room (and via Zoom)