Town of Clinton 1215 Centre Road Rhinebeck, NY 12572



Phone (845) 266-5853 opt. 2 Fax (845) 212-2048 www.townofclinton.com

July 8, 2025

Randy Simons, Commissioner Pro Tem / Chief of Staff
New York State Office of Parks, Recreation & Historic Preservation
NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation
Albany NY, 12238

Dear Commissioner Simons,

The Clinton Town Board recently voted unanimously to submit the following letter in support of the Town of Clinton Historical Society's application for a historic preservation grant from the New York Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation:

The Town of Clinton Historical Society owns and operates the 1777 Creek Meeting House, which is listed on the State and National Registers of Historic Places. It is the oldest public building in our town. The Historical Society hosts a variety of historical and community programs at the Creek Meeting House. Our annual Clinton Community Day is held on the grounds surrounding the Creek Meeting House.

The Town of Clinton is in a rural area with few places where people may gather. The Creek Meeting House is unique for its historical significance and valuable as a gathering place for meetings, exhibits, lectures, musical performances, pot-luck dinners and other activities that promote a sense of community.

We applaud the Historical Society's efforts to restore the building and strongly endorse their application for a grant of \$400,000 that will be matched by an equal amount raised from other sources. This will be Phase 3 of a long-term project for funding to repoint the exterior of the building, replacing missing stones and removing the old damaged mortar. We also hope to get funding for gutters, downspouts, and a diverter on the front porch to carry rainwater away from the building. We would also like to improve ventilation in the attic, make some roof repairs, and make the front entrance doors code compliant. The exterior repairs are highest priority in our Historic Structure Report and are needed to make the exterior weathertight and to exclude bats and other vermin. And the gutters, etc. will help with diverting increasing rain from climate change away from the building, restore the historic interior, but also to install energy-efficient building systems and to bring the Creek Meeting House up to modern building safety codes. The Town of Clinton has previously supported this project through a \$100,000 CDBG and \$17,000 in ARPA funds. We urge you to join us in funding their project.

Sincerely,

Michael Whitton Town Supervisor Town of Clinton 1215 Centre Road Rhinebeck, NY 12572



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