

**RESOLUTION NO. 25-345**

**WHEREAS**, the Village of Ridgewood purchased the Schedler property with the interest of developing the site as an active and passive recreation park for the entire Ridgewood community; and

**WHEREAS**, during the process of development, the Village Council supported the initiative to preserve the existing Dutch colonial style house on the property which was recognized as an early example of Dutch architecture possibly dating back to the 1820's; and


**WHEREAS**, as part of that preservation process, the Village has incurred costs of almost Two Million, Six Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$2,600,000.00) in restoring and preserving the historic character and qualities of the former residence; and


**WHEREAS**, it has been the focused effort of the Ridgewood Village Council to find a suitable use for the historic residence that would include public access, public interest and public use of the structure, to help celebrate its historic quality and architecture; and

**WHEREAS**, the Bolger Heritage Center at the Ridgewood Public Library and the Ridgewood Historical Society share a common goal of acting as a community hub of access to historical information, resources and educational materials and opportunities for all residents of the Village and the surrounding area. They have convened on a partnership to provide a more inclusive and comprehensive historical opportunity for the Ridgewood community that celebrates the richness and diversity of our society; and

I hereby certify that this resolution, consisting of 2 page(s), was adopted at a meeting of the Village Council of the Village of Ridgewood, held this 13<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2025

	Moved	Second	Ayes	Nays	Absent	Abstain
Mortimer		X	X			
Perron			X			
Weitz			X			
Winograd	X		X			
Vagianos			X			

  
 Paul Vagianos  
 Mayor

  
 Heather A. Mailander  
 Village Clerk

**WHEREAS**, all three partners – the Ridgewood Public Library, the Ridgewood Historical Society and the Village of Ridgewood - have connected with the intent to form The History and Cultural Center of Bergen County to advance the historical preservation of the residence and find ways to enrich the cultural experience of the Ridgewood community. This effort is directed to enhance the accessibility of the historic residence to all interested persons and ensure the longevity of its history, for generations to come; and

**WHEREAS**, the Village Manager has memorialized the intent of the Village Council in a letter to the New Jersey Historic Preservation Office dated July 18, 2025, which sets forth the intentions of the Village to develop the Zabriskie-Schedler House into a vibrant center dedicated to local history, culture and community engagement. It intends to do so by permitting the Ridgewood Public Library, the Ridgewood Historical Society and the Village of Ridgewood administration to form The History and Cultural Center of Bergen County to work together to create programming and educational opportunities at the historic house, which promotes the intent and purpose described above.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Village Council of the Village of Ridgewood, County of Bergen and State of New Jersey, that the Ridgewood Public Library, the Ridgewood Historical Society, and the Village of Ridgewood administration are hereby permitted and authorized, with the support of the Village Council, to work together to develop a “Strategic Use Plan for the Zabriskie-Schedler House” by creating The History and Cultural Center of Bergen County to preserve its history and provide a formal vision and strategy for establishing a vibrant center, dedicated to local history, culture, and community engagement.