

September 10, 2007 – Meeting Summary

Members present: Co-Chair Steve Abramson, Gloria Rabinowitz, Tom Shea, Barry Levy, Joe Krajewski, Charlie Corwith, and Toni Maloney

Non-members present: Marjorie Friedman, Paul Griffin.

Report on August 23rd Planning Board Meeting re LIPA.

The Planning Board took issue with LIPA's insistence on being their own LEAD agency; the Planning Board would prefer to be the LEAD agency to protect the Town's interests. LIPA has a bias in their agenda, i.e., their preference not to bury half the transmission cables because of costs.

After listening to LIPA's repeated arguments that LIPA only has a brief amount of time to get this project completed due to the increased power demands, Dennis Finnerty, Planning Board Chairman, asked LIPA if they had planned to bury 100% of the cables in the first place, would LIPA have been able to issue a Negative Declaration and avoid a time consuming (Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)? The answer was YES.

Dennis Finnerty also asked – would LIPA be agreeable – if government could find funds to contribute to burial of 100% of the cables underground? They said YES.

Other LIPA comments:

CAC Co-Chair said the Town has assigned the Tax Assessor, Ed Deyermond, to look into 3 (or more) possible assessment districts: 1) town wide, 2) a combination of the Bridgehampton and Southampton School Districts 3) one for entire area east of the canal.

CAC members agreed to write to Town Board members and all Town Board candidates requesting they attend the Sept 18 LIPA meeting and to state where they stood on this issue. Steve reported Southampton Village would send an attorney to the LIPA meeting.

Discussion followed regarding publicizing the Sept 18 LIPA meetings and what pertinent questions to raise. The LIPA scoping document was posted on the LIPA website, so members could review it prior to the 9/18 meeting. (www.lipower.org, Click About LIPA, scroll down to Powering LI: LIPA Projects and Click on Draft Scope of Work under BH-SH Transmission Line)

Use of CPF Money to Abate School Taxes in Specific Districts:

Town Board meeting of 9/11 will discuss a resolution to provide the Hampton Bays school district with 1.5 million of funds from the CPF. According to NYS law, this can be done. SH Village would oppose this use of the CPF fund. Some members of the CAC will attend the meeting and report back to the CAC in October.

Any Other Business:

Meeting re Final Planning for County Road 39 —

On 9/11 the Suffolk County Department of Public Works will meet with local community groups and officials to present their final plans for the widening and re-figuring of County Rd 39. A CAC member will report back.

Next meeting – October 8, 2007