

Sept. 11, 2006 – Meeting Summary

Members present: Co-chair Steve Abramson, Rachael Verno, Al Kistler, Joseph Krajewski, Toni & Ray Maloney, Gloria Rabinowitz, Tom Shea, Rachel Verno

Non-members present: Mr. & Mrs. Mark Keenan, Dianne Rulnick, Liam O'Braoin, reporter Jennifer Landis (E.H. Star)

Community Outreach Campaign: Our web site e-mail list doubled due to recent Water Mill Postal Patron mailing. A follow up “meet and greet” in front of the post office to gather more names was proposed. Our minutes will be sent to all on e-mail list.

Focus Areas for Water Mill Survey: Issues suggested were: Zoning changes and violations (the number one issue people were concerned about) Road Safety, Beach issues, Environment (including improving water quality of our bays and ponds). A survey will be formulated.

Chariots of Fire: - After years of complaints from the CAC, and a meeting with representatives from the Water Mill Community Club and Town officials, the Town took action on the illegal activities at this business and arrested the owner. CAC will keep tabs on the situation.

CPF Fund: Proceeds and Purchases: A report on the Town proceeds and purchases is attached to minutes. In Water Mill, 286 acres have been preserved since the inception of the CPF Fund, 176 of those acres in the last 2 years. It was felt by a member that the receipts of the fund supported more aggressive borrowing against the future income stream. Discussion followed on other uses for the Fund but according to NY State, the monies can only be used for preservation purposes.

Deerfield Meadows: A Water Mill resident reported on a proposed 20,000 sq. ft. Indoor Riding Ring for Deerfield Rd., a 47 vehicle parking lot and stables for up to 40 horses – all on ag reserve land. Previously, when this site was developed with homes, the Planning Board stipulated that the “public view” along Deerfield Rd be protected. This riding ring is proposed for the edge of the property on Deerfield Rd. Mark feels it should be smaller and moved to another location on the site – to keep the open view previously required. After further discussion, another resident said he would work as a liaison on the status of this issue.

Joint Transportation Corridor through Water Mill: It was reported that The Transportation Commission is very aware of the opposition to the concept of a bypass road alongside the railroad tracks. The subject has been deferred to a future Transportation Commission meeting; the pros and cons will be weighed by the Commission before recommending that the Town invest funds (perhaps \$50,000) on an engineering study on this corridor. In the meantime the Commission is concentrating on the immediate and future improvement of Cty Rd 39, and the Suffolk County Chief Engineer, Dept of Public Works will appear at this months meeting.

Incorporation of Bridgehampton: A member reported on a meeting held by a group of Bridgehampton residents who are promoting Bridgehampton Village incorporation. They felt that the Town has gotten too large to address the specialized needs of Bridgehampton. They are concerned about development, lack of services provided by the Town and inequitable tax collection. An operating budget was proposed, which would be defrayed by the “carve back” of taxes already taken by the County and the Town. The school district was used to establish boundaries. Dennis Suskind and Nancy Graboski both attended and raised problematic issues regarding village incorporation. This citizens group will raise funds to cover cost of a petition drive, mailings, etc. Their web site is: www.bhny.org.

Other business: There was a discussion on the pros and cons of having our Town Board made up of part-time members who are unable to devote a full week to Town business, which has grown and become more complicated over the years. The recent tax assessment was also discussed and it was agreed that the CAC ask the Town Board member responsible for the Budget to attend a future meeting, so we can learn how the Town raises its funds and how they are apportioned. It was pointed out that the bulk of our taxes are school taxes and the Town does not establish them. They are determined by the school board and then put up for a vote.

Next CAC meeting is October 9, 2006 at 7 pm, Community House