

October 8, 2007 – Meeting Summary

Members present: Co-Chair Steve Abramson, Gloria Rabinowitz, Tom Shea, Marlene Haresign, Tom Haresign, Al Kistler, Charlie Corwith, Joe Krajewski, Toni Maloney, June Morris and Rachel Verno

Non-members present: Mary Rode, Ceal Havemeyer, Charlotte Cousins/Walbro, Jenice Delano, Aline Griffin, Paul Griffin, Anna Throne-Holst, Margery Freedman, Michael Bruno, Sam Holmes and *Southampton Press* reporter John Riordin.

LIPA:

Town is requesting lead agency status in the SEQRA process. The CAC has submitted a letter to the DEC and has asked the other CACs to do the same. Town passes resolution to join SH Village legal action and takes position that LIPA pick up 100% of the cost to bury the lines.

Assemblyman Fred Thiele has recommended continued public pressure and the threat of legal action.

Discussion followed re increasing public awareness, including radio ads and signs in front of proposed poles, and tagging every tree that is slated to be removed.

Fred Thiele and Kenneth LaValle would support a special Tax Assessment District to help pay for burying the utility lines.

The Town is exploring alternative special Tax Assessment Districts.

The possibility was raised that LIPA could offset the additional cost to bury the new transmission lines by adding a surcharge to ratepayers, perhaps weighted towards higher kilowatt consumers who create more need for additional power.

Also suggested that the Town put a surcharge on obtaining building permits for construction and renovation over 5000 square feet so that those creating the demand for more power help offset the cost of burying the lines.

Question was raised whether the Peconic Land Trust could assist with the cost to bury the lines, or if CPF funds could be used for that purpose. Also whether there might be funds from the county and state that could be used for this project.

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION FUNDS:

Proceeds and purchases of CPF funds by Hamlet from 4/01/99-6/30/07 were reviewed. East of the Canal continues to increase its share of contributions to the CPF funds. The CAC urges the Town to accelerate purchases using increased borrowing against projected proceeds because waiting will result in less and more expensive open space to purchase in the future.

SITE PLANS:

The owner of the Villa Maria property has submitted plans to subdivide the property into three lots. There is no opposition by the CAC to the plan, however the CAC has requested that the restricted space along the water be kept open and not blocked with fencing, trees, hedges, etc. A public hearing is set for October 25th.

The owner of the property just east of to Trata restaurant, is proposing to renovate the existing building and convert it into a place to play bridge, hence the name, Water Mill Bridge. He also plans to construct a contractors' building in the back, which

includes giving the Town an easement (which at some point will be used as a connector to Scuttle Hole Road). The CAC has no objections to this project. It was reported that the Parrish Museum will break ground in the spring. The CAC supports this project.

CODE ENFORCEMENT:

The 80-acre Deerfield Road property that is being converted into polo fields was discussed. There are no permits in place and the Building Department has recommended contacting Code Enforcement. If confirmed, the CAC will suggest a Stop Work Order.

Trata Restaurant is illegally using an exterior walkway as an outdoor eating/bar area. They also have put up a tent in the back for additional seating. A letter will be sent.

COUNTY RD 39-LONG TERM IMPROVEMENT PROJECT:

A report on the Town Meeting regarding the progress of widening County Road 39 from the Lobster Inn to the Seven Eleven was discussed. But, several recommendations were not addressed, such as the need for traffic signals at certain intersections. The meeting was not well attended and another meeting will be scheduled to get better input.

OTHER BUSINESS:

The Town has yet to respond to the request to allow a right turn only when exiting Halsey Lane onto the Montauk Hwy.

The existing potholes on the Montauk Highway in Water Mill still need to be addressed.

Hutton Associates has still not delivered the Hamlet study that has been promised for over a year. A meeting will be requested with Councilman Nuzzi and Jeff Murphree. The CAC will check with the Town Clerk to see what contracts Hutton Associates has been given since they are unable or unwilling to finish the Hamlet Study.

There appear to be 5 new poles erected on the North Side of the Railroad tracks off of Old Mill Road. (These poles seem unrelated to the LIPA plan.) The CAC will look into this.

The County plans to bring public water to Old Mill Road and the SH Fire Commissioners are coordinating with the residents so this can be done before Old Mill Road is repaved.

The public water lines have been successfully installed on Rose Hill Road.

Next meeting – November 12, 2007