

January 11, 2010 Meeting Summary

Members present: Chair Rachel Verno, Gloria Rabinowitz, Marlene Haresign, Joe Krajewski, Steve Abramson, Barry Levy, Mary Schader

Non-members present: Jan Harboy, Al Kistler, Bryan Futerman, and Betty Prashker, from Southampton Town Code Enforcement: David Betts and Alfred Tumbarello

CODE ENFORCEMENT TOWN INVESTIGATOR, DAVID BETTS AND ORDINANCE INSPECTOR, ALFRED TUMBARELLO ATTENDED:

Inspector Tumbarello covers entire area from Shinnecock canal to East Hampton Town line. There is a code enforcement page on the Town website for residents to e-mail them directly with their complaints and questions.

Inspector Tumbarello explained that they do respond to every complaint but they are NOT police officers. They are in charge of property maintenance, issues such as too many cars in driveways, too many people in a house, noise, etc. Once a complaint is investigated and a summons is issued, the case goes to the court and Town Atty's office. Code enforcement has no control of what happens after that. We asked what the CAC could do to speed up the process and what kind of revenue enhancement can we advocate for. They suggested it would be helpful to adopt a fine structure similar to what exists in Easthampton whereby fines were more substantial, fines cannot be reduced, and revenue is used to hire additional officers. We raised the issue of Chariots of Fire (a situation we have been dealing with for over 12 years). (Note: After our meeting we received an e-mail from Betts saying that the "junk yard" behind Chariots is being cleaned up and Officer Tumbarello will work closely with the owner to complete this.)

Illegal rentals and huge parties at these rentals were discussed. Code enforcement is aware of these properties and does monitor them. They get search warrants, write up violations, etc.

AREAS TO IMPROVE TOWN GOVERNMENT:

Supervisor Throne-Holst has moved work sessions from Friday to Thursday. She will also allow public input at the work sessions. Also brought up was having the site plans that relate to Water Mill be sent to us in a more timely fashion. We should also have direct access to Planning Board members and Town Trustees via e-mail. Currently there is no way to reach them except through their Board's secretaries.

OMNIPOINT CELL TOWER:

Since the Planning Board gave the proposal a positive declaration we still do not know what the applicant is planning to do. In order to get information and updates regarding Seqra from the Planning Board, the CAC has to inform the town that we are "an interested party" and we will be sent pertinent material. We will also ask to be an "interested party" for the Patio.com submission. (Note: Since our meeting, we learned from Claire Vail, Town Planner, that Omnipoint has yet to respond regarding the Seqra determination and the Patio.com application will be subject to a pre-submission public scoping session as per some of the new procedures adopted in the planning process.)

OTHER BUSINESS:

A resolution to appoint Bill Berkoski to the Planning Board was on the Town Board agenda for Jan 12. A discussion followed on the fact that appointments to various Boards should be transparent with the public having access to interview process and resumes. Since our meeting, the resolution passed appointing Bill to the Planning Board.

We will send an e-mail from our website to get residents to give us the locations of potholes on Water Mill roads and areas that repeatedly flood.

The owner of Foody's restaurant brought up the lack of snow removal in the hamlet. The crosswalk at the corner of the Citarella shopping center was impassable for days. Also there was no path cleared to the Hampton Jitney stop. Sidewalks along highway were not shoveled unless individual storeowners had them done. CAC will find out if Town has responsibility for sidewalk and crosswalks.