

aghini_99 · aghini@rcn.com

CRSE · Concerned Residents of Southeast

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From: "Lynne Eckardt" <midfarm@bestweb.net>

Date: Fri Apr 9, 2004 2:14 pm

Subject: Southeast Work Seeion Recap

Hello All,

The work session last night was two and a half hours so I am only going to highlight what might be of interest to CRSE members. These notes are still never ending so if you want the 'Best of' stick with items: 9 (Terravest), 14 (Storm Water Phase II) 16 (Route 22), 18 (Hunting), and 6 (The Village/Town).

Mercifully brief comments follow. No official minutes are taken at 'work sessions'. Councilman Bonanno was not present.

1. BREWSTER THEATER COMPANY: Paul Stein of the Brewster Theater Company asked the Board to consider renovating the theater in Old Town Hall. The Board's response was that although they would like to they have not yet obtained permission to hook into the Brewster sewer system. They stated they were not allowed to hook into the new Marvin Avenue system.

2. LAKE TONETTA ADVISORY BOARD: Ray Knox, Michael Lund and Ralph Woodgate were there to represent the committee. Mr. Knox told the Board that a newsletter had been put together by 'Bob Zubrycki with our assistance.' This will be mailed to approx. 600 homes. The possibility of adding sterile carp was addressed as was the idea of a new in-depth study. The Town Board is going to authorize \$3000 to use for committee expenses.

4. DEP SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS- DREWVILLE PUMP STATION: The DEP has mandated that the ladder to the basement be replaced. Although an estimate was given the cost was not disclosed.

9. TERRAVEST 2- WETLANDS PERMIT: A brief presentation was made by the applicant's engineer. Supervisor Dunford and Councilwoman Mitts were very concerned with the procedures taken by the Conservation Commission. The CC had approved the wetlands permit for Terravest 2 by a vote of 5-2 (The 'no' votes were from hydrologist, Don Cuomo and Mary Ellen Tiernan) and then extended the comment period for 10 days.

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The Town Board now felt that the responsibility of reading the additional comments fell to them rather than the CC. And that this was a burden on the Town Board.

Conservation Chair Steve Fasano stated that formal application had been made in November and that there had been a 'small glitch in the applications' process (this was when the applicant forgot to send out the 'green and whites'.) Mr. Fasano also seemed troubled by the change in policy regarding projects in litigation.

Attorney for the project, Don Rossi, (Formerly with the Town Attorney firm of: Stephens, Hogan and Rossi) then interjected that the DEP, DEC and Putnam County Board of Health have all given approvals.

Mr. Fasano ended by apologizing to the Board but said he had extended the comment period in the interest of Democracy.

13. JUDGES BENCH- CIVIC CENTER & TOWN CLERKS/ TAX RECEIVER COUNTER: Basically this was all about refurbishing/redecorating. There was some debate over whether or not to spend an additional \$1600 on mahogany vs. oak judge's bench. Apparently, the judges don't like writing on oak- too bumpy. The new wood floor in the Civic Center will cost \$9000. The old one can't be refinished. The new clerk's counter will cost \$2900.

14. STORMWATER PHASE II: The Board will set a public hearing on this at the Special Meeting April 15th. (The Public Hearing itself will be 13 May)

16. TOWN RESOLUTIONS: The Town Board's of Patterson, Pawling and Dover have all passed resolutions asking the DOT to begin an FEIS on Route 22. Southeast will do the same at the meeting on April 22.

18. LETTER- LEGISLATOR TONY HAY (HUNTING): The board discussed increasing the hunting 'buffer' from the current 500 feet to 1000 feet from any residence. A resolution like this must be approved by the state legislature. Supervisor Dunford said residents were very positive about this increase.

6. VILLAGE SEWER SYSTEM: This was deferred from earlier in the meeting. The company installing the village sewers is looking for a 'staging area' within the town. The proposed sites will be reviewed. Councilwoman Mitts then reported on the Village Board meeting she attended. There was concern regarding the taped minutes of the village board which will be given to the town as per their FOIL request. No recent written minutes exist and the Town Board doesn't want to be burdened with hundreds of hours of tapes. The Village Trustees disclosed their property holdings to Mrs. Mitts. There are other outstanding items re. the Town's FOIL request.

COMMENTS:

2. TONETTA LAKE ADVISORY BOARD: CRSE is hopeful that an in-depth lake study will be undertaken and recommendations followed. This seems to be the most sensible way to ensure water quality for the future.

9. TERRAVEST: What was most interesting here was the Town Board's displeasure with the Conservation Commission procedure. CRSE felt that extending the comment period after approvals were granted was unusual and said so at the time (but there were two dissenting votes so additional comments may be appropriate) Now that the deed has been done and comments received perhaps the Board should review said comments or insist that the more qualified CC look them over before issuing the wetlands permit.

13. JUDGES BENCH ETC. At least fifteen minutes was spent deciding on which wood the judges would like and other interior decorating updates. Highlights of Town Hall and Civic Center refurbishment were pointed out. New acoustic tile ceiling, paint choices made by employees, floors, runners and desks were all discussed. As this Board has been very interested in saving taxpayer money total expenditures for the redecorating and new purchases will be interesting.

18. HUNTING: Once again it's all about the enforcement. Will adding an addition 500 feet of buffer really solve the current problem?

6. THE TOWN/VILLAGE: Despite a couple of sarcastic comments the Board seemed willing to stay on top of their FOILS.

Phew. If you've managed to wade through all this, please feel free to e-mail me with any questions or comments you might have.

With best regards,
Lynne Eckardt

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