

Juniper Hill Civic Association General Membership Meeting Minutes

May 21, 2018

Officers Present: Manni Areces, Rachel Schoolcraft, Illayne Parker, Teresa Toscano, Seth Segall

Seventeen additional members were present including: Bruce and Kimberly Escalante, Emily Garnett, Patrica Dodson, Peter Steinhoff, Arthur Chisholm, Sue Mirialakis, Mary Jackson, Carol Felton, George Tutein, Trevor Plummer, Joyslin Watson, Mr. and Mrs. Aupy Dixon, Johan and Dee Snaggs.

The Meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM.

The minutes were accepted as read.

The Treasurer's Report was accepted as read.

It was announced that Recording Secretary Trudy Green has resigned her position, and Manni Aceres requested that members consider volunteering to fill her position.

Greenburgh Town Supervisor Paul Feiner discussed plans to install a sidewalk on the east side of Fair Street, from Prospect St. to Juniper Hill Road. The sidewalk would be 5 feet wide with a 2 foot grass buffer protecting it from the road. Drainage problems would be addressed in this project, cross walk added, and the white fence on Prospect and Fair that blocks a proper view of the intersection for motorists would be removed from the right-of-way.

DPW Director Victor Carosi joined in the discussion via cell phone. Peter Steinhoff expressed concerns that the sidewalk was being placed on the wrong side of the street, and was being installed before a full plan for coordinating the sidewalk with a possible future Juniper Hill sidewalk and a plan for traffic calming had been completed. Many residents expressed concerns that Midway and Saratoga Roads had not been repaved in years, and that Juniper Hill Road had potholes that presented a danger. Many residents all expressed concern that Con Ed had not yet repaved Juniper Hill Road after installing new gas lines. Drivers drive down the wrong side of Juniper Hill and Russell Street to avoid the rough parts of the road, and this increases the risk of accidents. Peter Steinhoff noted that while ConEd was supposed to repair areas it had damaged, the Town had the final legal responsibility for the condition of its roads, and could be found liable if the road condition lead to accident, injury or death. Mr. Feiner reported that there would be a meeting with a vice president of ConEd at Town Hall on May 23rd at 7:00 PM and that residents should attend and make their complains known.

A number of residents suggested improvements that could be made to traffic flow along Juniper Hill and Fair streets. Johan Snaggs suggested a "No Thru Street" sign at the bottom of Fair Street to discourage pass-through drivers. Rachel Schoolcraft raised the possibility of making Juniper Hill a one-way street. Mr. Feiner and Mr. Carosi said that a stop sign was under consideration for the corner of Fair and Juniper Hill. Mr. Feiner suggested the Police

Department perform a traffic study. He also suggested that the members of the association do a walk-through with himself, the Police Chief McNerney, and the traffic safety officer to discuss traffic concerns. Sue Mirialakis pointed out that traffic studies have been done before without any action. Past studies have failed to show a speeding problem, but the legal speed limit is way above the recommended speed limit on the bend of Juniper Hill and its intersection with Fair Street, and many drivers fail to stay in their lanes as they take the curves. Mr. Feiner raised the possibility of an RFP for an independent traffic study. This idea was widely supported by the membership.

Rachel Schoolcraft has had the stone wall in front of her home on Juniper Hill hit multiple times by motor vehicles. The first few times it happened, she didn't report it to the police, thinking that the car that hit it was long gone, and reporting it would not lead to any effective action. The last time she went and reported it, and the police pointed out that they had no record of it happening before. Rachel stressed we should report all such incidents in the future so that the police and be aware of ongoing problems and difficulties on the street.

Manni asked for an update from members about the quality of postal delivery. Sue Mirialakis commented that she had gotten a stranger's mail today. Several members expressed concern about the blue Post Office mail box on the corner of Juniper Hill and Southwood that had been broken and un-repaired for months.

Manni announced that this year's Juniper Hill BBQ would be held on Saturday, September 22nd with a rain date of Sunday, September 23rd. He asked for volunteers to step forward to help coordinate the BBQ. When no one volunteered, he said he would go knock on people's doors to individually ask members to step forward. Seth Segall explained what the job of coordinating the BBQ entailed, including set-up, clean-up, food purchasing, obtaining a DJ, and someone to coordinate children's activities.

Seth Segall expressed concern that there were only three members in attendance who were from the side of Juniper Hill road where a future sidewalk was proposed. While he thought the sidewalk was definitely needed, it would mean affecting some members right-of-ways which included taking down and replacing some retaining walls. Manni Aceres said that their should be a meeting this summer of everyone who's property would be affected to discuss the sidewalk proposal. Peter Steinhoff and Seth Segall agreed to help with that committee.

Seth Segall noted that two different proposals had been floated by Mr. Feiner earlier in the meeting concerning Juniper Hill traffic flow, 1) the police department walk through and traffic study and 2) an RFP for an independent study. The Board and membership were unanimous in wanting an independent study. Manni said he would relay this to Mr. Feiner.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Seth Segall

Acting Recording Secretary