

Minutes of the Juniper Hill Civic Association Minutes of October 29, 2018

Attendance: Russell and Doris Boston, Martin and Corinda Hanlon, Carol Lashley, Millie Stewart, John Malone, Sharon Maxwell, Sue Miralakis, Seth Segall, Manni Areces, Rachel Schoolcraft, Teresa Toscano, Illayne Parker, Carol and Tywana Felton, Katherine and Dana Kirtin, Mary Jackson.

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 PM. The minutes from the 5/25/18 meeting and the Treasure's Report were accepted.

State Assemblyman Tom Abinanti reviewed current issues before the state legislature. The recently implemented Hotel Residency Tax should raise about \$3,000,000 a year in revenue for the Town. He discussed the prospects for possible adjustments to the school aid formula that might benefit Greenburgh. Greenburgh gets less state education than does Scarsdale because of the relatively high number of Greenburgh residents who do not send their children to public schools. He also discussed issues pertaining to the capital budget, available money for sidewalks, Medicaid funding, an assault weapons ban, and gun control. He expressed his wish to develop a special needs playground for the area. He hoped that the incoming legislature might approving early voting, online registration, an electronic absentee ballot, and campaign finance reform. He supported an initiative that would allow all New York residents to obtain driver's licenses regardless of immigration status. He also supported a bill that would make secession from a Town—such as Edgemont's proposed cession from Greenburgh—more difficult. Seth Segall thanked Mr. Abinanti for his help in getting state money for the Fairview Fire Department to purchase new Scott Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus Packs for its firefighters.

Manni Areces asked for a volunteer to step forward to fill the recording secretary vacancy that opened up due to the resignation of Trudy Green. There were no volunteers.

Manni Areces updated Association members on the progress of the Fair Street sidewalk project. The Kirtin family expressed anger and concern that the sidewalk would require them to re-site their fence, remove the bollards protecting their property, and remove a tree from their property, as well as requiring them to remove snow from the sidewalk during the winter. They had tried to address these concerns with the DPW, but felt they had not gotten an adequate response. Manni and Seth explained the need for the sidewalk, the constraints the Town had to work within to be eligible for state money for the project, and concerns that the family was coming forward with objections late in the process. Manni hoped that a continuing dialog with the Town could help them reach a more satisfactory conclusion.

Seth explained that the Greenburgh Central School District had filed a Draft Environmental Impact Statement for a school consolidation plan that could negatively impact Juniper Hill rainwater run-off and traffic and would substantially raise taxes. On September 9th Seth Segall wrote a letter to the School District on behalf of the Association expressing concern about the school district's failure to consult with our community during the SEQRA process. Manni Areces, Seth Segall, Susan Mirialakis, and Illayne Parker attended the September 20, 2018 DEIS hearing and Manni, Seth, and Sue had testified about our concerns. A Final Environmental Impact Statement was issued on 10/12/18 that addressed our testimony, but did not really answer our traffic concerns. Manni, Sue and Seth also attended a School Board Community Engagement Meeting on October 22, 2018 and continued to express concerns with Board President David Warner and Board Member Lloyd Newland. At that meeting we discussed the possibility of opening a new entrance/exit to the school campus at Olivia Hooker Way. The Association will continue to engage with the School District about finding a satisfactory solution to our traffic concerns.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Seth Segall
Acting Recording Secretary