

HILLSDALE HAMLET COMMITTEE NOTES

Saturday, August 20, 2016, at 9:30 am

Attendance: Peter Cipkowski, Jeff Paige, Julie Kane, Bart Ziegler, Pastor Mary Langley, Lynda Brenner, Eileen Cohen, Lex Lalli, Joan Wallstein, Tom Carty

1. Minutes from June 16 meeting were approved.
2. Sidewalk Project and Street Lighting Update – Peter
 - a. Some last-minute agreement modifications with the state DOT were required. Engineering firm GPI says agreement will be approved by Labor Day.
 - b. DOT found piping problem along Route 23; DOT will place and repair at no cost to Town.
 - c. **Bids will go out in Fall; Construction Start - Spring 2017.**
 - d. Bid documents will specify project end date. Expect 6-8 weeks of construction.
 - e. We are applying to state Senator Marchione for **streetlight funding** - \$85,000.
3. Town Branding Initiative; Fundraising for Signage - Tom
 - a. Meeting on final bid documents to be held week of August 22.
 - b. Fundraising letter went to selected Hillsdale residents. Donations covering 4 of the 5 signs have been received, if pricing comes in as expected.
4. Hillsdale Extension of rail Trail – Tom Carty
 - a. Work is ongoing to clean out around culvert for drainage.
 - b. Harlem Valley Rail Trail Association has put out bids; paving will be done during fall.
 - c. Joint Columbia-Dutchess County application for federal funding for tunnel under Route 22 and related bridges over Roe Jan creek was rejected.
 - d. A Consolidated Funding Application has been prepared to cover planning for the tunnel.
 - e. We will have to mobilize a major campaign for funding of tunnel and bridge construction.
5. Basketball Court Restoration – Robina by email
 - a. Bid documents delayed again.
 - b. Will go out to bid week of August 22.
6. Roe Jan Ramble – Saturday, September 24.
 - a. Group plans 2 Rest Stops in Hillsdale – one at Town Hall; the other at the dump.
 - b. Ramble committee has folks to staff both stops; Julie Kane generously volunteered to help out at Town Hall.
7. Arts Festival Update –
 - a. Moving along nicely. The event will be centered on Anthony Street and also use the vacant lot across 23.

8. Bike racks for Hamlet Park and Town Hall are on the schedule for installation by the Highway Department; Highway Department also working on clearing Rail Trail.

9. Pumpkin Festival/ Business Alliance

a. Julie Kane presented the Business Alliance ambitious plan for a Pumpkin Festival on October 22. During a thorough discussion, Hamlet Committee members complimented the Business Alliance on the well thought-out plan. However, major concerns were raised as to the ability of the Hamlet Committee to be as helpful as it would like to be. Many people will be away in the 8 weeks leading up to the festival.

b. The Business Alliance met soon after the Hamlet Committee, and decided to postpone the Pumpkin Festival until October 2017. Work will begin earlier in hopes of enlisting strong support from the Hamlet Committee and others.

Next Hamlet Committee meeting will be held on Saturday, September 10 at 9:30 am.