

HILLSDALE HAMLET COMMITTEE NOTES
Saturday Jan. 14, 2017, at 9 a.m.

Attendance: Bart Ziegler, Tom Carty, Lynda Brenner, Mike Stertz, Laura Perone Griffin, Robina Ward, Joan Wallstein,

1. Minutes from December meeting were approved.
2. Sidewalk Project and Street Lighting Update – Tom
 - a. Victor Cornelius still checking with State Senator Marchione’s office on our application for streetlight funding - \$85,000. Committee discussed possibility whether funds left over from sidewalk contract may be used for this purpose.
3. New Entry Signs and Town Hall Sign – Bart and Tom
 - a. Mike Stertz has met with metalworker Jeff Budd and there are expected to be some cost savings from original bid. Mike is confident that the fabrication materials are appropriate and will be easy to maintain. Bart will meet with Nancy Scans, maker of the signs themselves, to also inquire about cost savings.
 - b. A vote was taken and a resolution was passed to proceed as quickly as possible to purchase four signs : the Town Hall sign (separately funded by a private donor) and three, instead of four, entry signs. There is currently no land with a town easement on which to place a sign at the eastern end of the Hamlet.
 - c. There have been questions raised about the need for new entry signs. The Committee recommended that all publicity relating to the signs emphasize that funds used for the signs are private money donated specifically for that purpose; no tax revenues were used. Also, publicity should point out that the current signs are more than 25 years old and are deteriorating (the former east Hillsdale sign fell down due to its age and was removed by the Highway Department).
 - d. There was also agreement that the sign on the northern end of the Hamlet (at the intersection of Route 22 and Old Town Road West) should be moved slightly away from the road in order to make it easier to see north- and south-traveling traffic on Route 22.
4. Rail Trail – Tom Carty
 - a. Work has ceased for the winter months. Paving will be done in the spring.
 - b. It was reiterated that the rail trail association and others will mobilize a major campaign for funding of tunnel construction under Route 22.
5. Basketball Court Restoration –
 - a. Mike and Robina will work together including talking to some local contractors and getting bids. Asphalt likely will be removed to determine extent of work.
 - b. It was agreed that, although a full plan for the Hamlet Park’s future should be done, we will not delay work on the Basketball Court. The funds for the Court were raised almost two years ago from donors and it is important to proceed.

6. Memorial Day Weekend Flea Market.
 - a. Date will be the Saturday of Memorial Day weekend; with Sunday as rain date.
 - b. The Committee: Laura Griffin, Mike Stertz, Phyllis Ehrlich (Mike's wife) and Steve Tiger are already hard at work.
 - c. There will be no town donation table; only vendor booths. Fire Department has agreed to do breakfast and lunch.
 - d. Robina will send information she has on previous Flea Markets to Laura; Bart has asked Mike Dvorchak and Tim Stookesberry for information as well.
 - e. Bart will work on promotion.
 - f. There will be a full report including proposed budget at the next Hamlet Committee meeting.

7. Hillsdale Day in Hamlet Park
 - a. The Committee decided to concentrate on the Flea Market and not plan a Hillsdale Day for Summer 2017.

8. Additional Work for Victor Cornelius (fundraiser).
 - a. Tom, Supervisor Peter Cipkowski, and Bart will meet with Victor to review possibilities for street lights, funding to purchase empty lot on 23, etc.

9. Climate Smart Committee
 - a. Tom reported that the Town Green Solutions Committee has become the Climate Smart Committee. Tom is Chair.
 - b. Work has begun on several initiatives to qualify for state grants that are available: there are 10 - \$50,000 and 2 - \$100,000 grants available to area towns.

Next Hamlet Committee meeting will be held on Saturday, Feb. 18 at 9:00 am.