

Hillsdale Hamlet Committee Meeting Notes
Saturday, Nov. 18, 2017, 9 a.m. at Town Hall

Present: Chair Bart Ziegler, Tom Carty, Lynda Brenner, Matt White, Laura Griffin

Agenda:

1. Sidewalks and streetlights: Streetlight dedication unlikely, town supervisor says. But press release on new sidewalks and streetlights is being prepared.

No dedication for the new lights -- Sen. Marchione not available. Town might try to remove a few of the old lights on the south side of the street.

2. Any other Town Board news:

Tom Carty's election to the Town Board. Congratulations extended by the committee.

Tom reports there was a discussion at the last Town Board meeting about concern over Airbnbs in Hillsdale and how they affect inns.

Electric vehicle charging station at Town Hall: It is installed, but not yet operational. Cost was paid by state grant.

3. Town branding/design subcommittee: Matthew White provided an update on the subcommittee's plans. It has ordered holiday wreaths for the new streetlight poles using Town Board appropriation to the committee; wreaths should arrive soon. Matthew discussed the subcommittee's thoughts on a larger Town Hall sign, east-side welcome sign, approval of town-branded goods and wayfinding signs for rail trail.

4. Discussion of Town Board's town-wide meeting Nov. 11.: We will await publication of the notes from the meeting to discuss in detail how the Hamlet Committee will be involved.

5. Treasurer's report:

Tom reported the following balances in the Hillsdale Economic and Community Development Corporation accounts for the committee:

Hamlet Development: \$701.39

Flea Market: zero

Beautification: \$2,272.34

Town Hall Park: \$4,518.78

In addition, \$1,434 of our town-budgeted appropriation from 2016 of \$1,500 was spent on the new wreaths. The remaining \$66 may be spent on sponsoring hot chocolate at the Dec. 2 tree lighting.

The town-budgeted amount from 2017 of \$750 will be requested by Bart to be held over for committee's future use.

Discussion: How will the new seasonal flags envisioned for the streetlight poles be

funded? The Town Board has agreed to fund the new Hillsdale-printed flags and the American flags that will be displayed all summer, but it is assumed the Hamlet Committee is responsible for funding (or finding funding) for the spring, fall, and winter flags.

Of the 16 new light poles, three will have the Hillsdale-logo flags. On the remaining 13 poles, there will be two seasonal flags on each, for a total of 26 flags per season. The spring and fall flags cost about \$10.50 each, while the custom-printed blue winter flag with snowflake is estimated at \$59. Committee discussed asking the business community to help fund the flags.

6. Town Hall Park: Status of building steps or platform from sidewalk. Any other needs for Town Hall Park? Ensure weeding is done next year:

Lynda reported that an informal consultation with stone mason Rick Burntitus suggests that the incline is greater than believed, thus more platforms or actual steps from the new sidewalk may be needed. Laura stated that steps are not necessary as compared to other potential uses for the \$4,500, though the donors' permission would be needed to change the use. No decision was reached.

Tom and Lynda indicated they will check into ensuring the town-hired garden maintenance people do the weeding next year.

8. Hamlet commercial buildings and businesses: Lynda reported being told that progress is being made indoors in the Hillsdale House. There is unofficial news that there is a special use planned for the small, separate room to the left when you enter the Hillsdale House, perhaps a retail shop. There is no official information on the plans for the former post office.

9. Tree-lighting event Saturday Dec. 2. Any news from business community on holiday trees, other issues?

It was decided to spend \$66 on sponsoring hot chocolate for the event, via The Village Scoop. Bart to communicate with Scoop owners Kevin and Ken. No other information reported.

10. Date of next meeting: Saturday, Dec. 16, 9 a.m. at Town Hall.

