

VILLAGE OF HASTINGS-ON-HUDSON, NEW YORK
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
REGULAR MEETING
JULY 21, 2009

A Regular Meeting was held by the Board of Trustees on Tuesday, July 21, 2009 at 8:00 p.m. in the Meeting Room, Municipal Building, 7 Maple Avenue.

PRESENT: Mayor Peter Swiderski, Trustee Bruce Jennings, Trustee Jeremiah Quinlan, Trustee Diggitt McLaughlin, Trustee Meg Walker (8:10 p.m.), Village Manager Francis A. Fobel, Village Attorney Marianne Stecich, and Village Clerk Susan Maggiotto.

CITIZENS: Six (6).

APPOINTMENTS

Mayor Swiderski: We have one appointment to announce. Filling a two-year term expiring in 2011, for the Conservation Commission, Elisa Zazzara is hereby appointed. We are also appointing Christopher Janniello as court clerk to fill a vacancy replacing Ginny Sura.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Trustee Jennings: June 16, page 23, where I am speaking, the second paragraph, the fourth line. Please strike "but are not," and add, "and so on."

On MOTION of Trustee McLaughlin, SECONDED by Trustee Jennings with a voice vote of all in favor, the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of June 16, 2009 and the Executive Session of June 16, 2009 were approved as amended.

APPROVAL OF WARRANTS

On MOTION of Trustee Jennings, SECONDED by Trustee McLaughlin with a voice vote of all in favor, the following Warrants were approved:

Multi-Fund No. 6-2009-10	\$184,760.00
Multi-Fund No. 7-2009-10	\$ 69,939.42
Multi-Fund No. 8-2009-10	\$159,659.18
Multi-Fund No. 9-2009-10	\$141,957.71

Mayor Swiderski: Typically, before the public comments, we have a two-minute PSA for sustainability issues. We are going to pass on that today, as we will on volunteer issues this time around. We will have something for the next Board meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

John Gonder, 153 James Street: I reside with the deer and the antelope, where they play in my yard, eat everything, and defecate all over my yard and leave lot of deer ticks.

I wanted to talk to you about your last Board meeting. I knew it was changed because of vacations and other things, but the newspaper, your calendars, do not tell you where the meeting is. I came here five to eight, and I find out it is over at the Community Center at seven. I was very interested in the comprehensive plan. I know you say you want to do better. A lot of people do not have cable television or emails. The paper said Municipal Building, 8 p.m., and it is over in the Community Center. I think you have to improve.

About six weeks ago one of the Trustees said we are going to get a green vehicle from Atlantic Richfield. I thought about it: oh, interesting. Then maybe three weeks ago something happened that it did not come. I got to thinking more and more, and it upsets me. We are dealing with Atlantic Richfield, or British Petroleum, the mother company and the DEC is dealing with them, and we are accepting a vehicle? Is there some conflict of interest? I happen to be a little shareholder of British Petroleum, and I think it is wrong of them giving a gift. If they give a gift, give it to the church, the temple, the Boy Scouts or something; but why would the Village accept such a gift? Is it \$5,000, up to \$30, 40 thousand? I understand you people deal with them. You buy them meals, they buy you meals. There is no big deal. But with a vehicle it does not sound right. Maybe you could give me some answers.

Mayor Swiderski: That is a fair question. Before I answer it, are there any other public comments?

David Skolnik, 47 Hillside Avenue: I did want to thank Mr. Gonder for hosting the deer because otherwise they would be at my house. So thank you.

I had asked if you might accommodate public comment interspersed in the meeting. I do not know if you have had a chance to think about it, but I am t reminding you that is still a question I have. Just if you figure out a way that you can accommodate it, without feeling as though it interferes with the process.

The other item was about Broadway striping and whether you have a plan and a means to assess the process and any issues as they come up, gathering data and also, at some point, being able to determine whether it is good the way it is, whether it needs some modification, whether it is no good at all.

Mayor Swiderski: I want to address Mr. Gonder's question, which is entirely legitimate and fair. Corporate giving, broadly as a category, is hardly confined to BP. Lots of companies give widely in their community, and it is generally accepted practice. Where I think it would break down would be, for example in the gift you particularly raise, which is that of a vehicle. If it were given to an individual in the government that would pose a different category of problem. A gift to the Village for general use leaves a question, clearly, is there a quid pro quo. And that is a fair question.

The sort of giving that BP has engaged in over the years has been partially subsidizing or underwriting public events. In my experience, that is pretty common, for example, the sponsoring of softball teams. I am not sure if that giving compromises the Village. But is there a break point at which the Village feels indebted to the corporation and likely to cut them breaks? There probably is. I am not sure an electric golf cart is that point, and I do not think we have come close to that with BP. The issue on the table with BP is so large that whatever we could be expected to give in terms of extra consideration, the sort of gifts given to date do not come anywhere near raising that sort of question.

Does Citibank get a better deal from New York City because they helped underwrite the Mets new home? I do not know. I would hope they are still dealt with as equally-handed as a corporate citizen. A lot of people think it is a moral responsibility for a company to give back to the communities that they own property or work in or have a major presence in. BP has the single largest presence in this community by owning, privately, the single biggest piece of property under one owner's management; and is on the hook for work that is their biggest liability, as we have heard from them, in terms of cleanup, in this country. That sort of largesse on their end is small enough that I am not uncomfortable with it. But it is an important question, and I raise it with the Board if anyone else wants to comment.

Trustee McLaughlin: Last year when we did Climate Action Week I was encouraged to go knock on ARCO's door, and ARCO gave us \$5,000 for that. They recently gave the Village another \$5,000 for the quadricentennial, and have underwritten the printing of the trailway map the Village has done and now revised.

Mr. Gonder: That concerns me.

Trustee McLaughlin: One thing I have noticed that I have wondered about is that Dobbs Ferry has some nice signage in the village, and we do not. Their signage was underwritten by a developer, and I would be surprised if we went and knocked on that developer's door. I think there would be a big uproar if we did. That developer has a closer relationship with Dobbs than he does with us and that is fine with me. But there is no bright line there. We do

have a Village ethics code in the Village code. We sign it, do we not, when we are sworn in? We have some way that we agree to it.

Mayor Swiderski: I think we work under it.

Trustee McLaughlin: Yes, we work under it, but it is very specific about dealings we have with many classes of people who might influence us as legislators. We have an ethics board, in case somebody has an ethics question about the behavior of elected or appointed officials. You never hear about it is because it is confidential.

Mayor Swiderski: Trustee Jennings served on the ethics committee for Greenburgh. I do not know if you feel like commenting here on the question.

Trustee Jennings: It is a very important question, and conflicts of interest are the enemy of good government, period. I agree with the Mayor. I think you handle it differently when you are dealing with individual officials than when you are dealing with an entire community. It does not trouble me as much as it might trouble others, this general pattern with a number of entities over the years, including recently BP. For many, many years Hastings benefited tremendously from the largesse of the Andrus Foundation and the Benedict Foundation. Our library, the fire trucks, very big-ticket items came from the private sector. One key safeguard is transparency and public disclosure. We should always make it known the kinds of gifts and grants the Village receives from any source, and that should be subject to public discussion and public scrutiny. That is probably the best safeguard against a situation getting out of hand, or crossing a line from perfectly reasonable and unbiased for the community's benefit versus something that would cast a cloud over the entire thing.

Trustee Quinlan: I agree with Bruce and Peter and Diggitt. When you have a situation like this that is not obviously a conflict of interest, the question becomes how does it affect you personally as a Trustee or as an attorney, and will it affect your conduct in any way. That is a question everyone has to ask himself. The fact that BP/ARCO has given the Village gifts to enjoy some music or have sustainable transportation does not affect my opinion of the questions and concerns that come before me individually as a Board member either pro or con. These gifts to the Village are not a conflict of interest, as far as I am concerned.

Trustee Walker: I am sorry I arrived late and missed your comment, but I understand the gist of it and agree with my fellow Trustees. I think I understand the potential conflicts. But in a year, or two or three, with very difficult budget shortfalls, I can see that fund-raising in general may be a way to help us meet some costs that we cannot through taxpayer money. Whether it is raising money to buy pizza for kids at the Community Center in the evenings,

or looking for sponsorships for musical events in the downtown, we are going to be looking for sponsors. It would be best if can use a variety of sources: public, private, non-profit foundations, whatever. Another way of dissipating the direct connection between the Village and benefactors is to use the non-profits, like the Friends of the Library or the Hastings Education Foundation. They were formed in order to raise money for those services, and our institutions. We are very grateful we have benefactors but we also have to be very careful.

Village Attorney Stecich: I did just double-check the ethics code, and it is clearly not a violation. Hastings has a really strict ethics code, a lot stricter than state law requires. It is about as strict an ethics code as I have seen, and this is clearly not a violation of it. It would be if Peter took the vehicle, but as long as it is taken on behalf of the Village it does not violate the ethics code.

Mayor Swiderski: But thank you for raising it. I hope you did not find it defensive. It is an important point to raise, and thank you.

Mr. Skolnik, I will generally do my best to look out in the public when we are finishing up. I imagine you are not interested on commenting on warrants. On the other hand, if there are people in the audience that might be inclined to comment on issues, I will certainly give a chance for input, time permitting, with an understanding that it not be abused.

Village Manager Frobel: Mayor, could I respond to his second question? Hardly a day goes by in my daily meeting with the Chief of Police that we do not discuss Broadway. The police are carefully monitoring the situation. They have radar out there. We also have almost daily correspondence with DOT engineers. They will be closely monitoring it to see if it works. Most of the signage is up. The additional signage should be done tomorrow evening. They expect to do some additional line striping before the end of summer. So we will closely monitor it and measure it through police action.

41:09 AWARD OF BID WASHINGTON AVENUE SIDEWALK IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

Village Manager Frobel: We were very fortunate. Four [three] bidders submitted to our request for proposals. We are recommending it be awarded to the low bid. We have had experience with Landi, Inc. in the past. Most recently they did the Quarry Trail. They also did the Ridge Street reconstruction. We expect to have our pre-construction meeting perhaps within two weeks. It is anticipated that if the contractor is able to get his bonding and insurance in order, and I am sure he will, and materials, we could be underway within six to eight weeks. The total project, if all goes smoothly, is perhaps 45 days.

Because the prices came in so favorably we will have additional money to put towards the Maple Avenue project. That budget was very tight. But because both these projects are funded under the community development block grant, we are going to be able to use the additional money that would have gone towards Washington for Maple.

On MOTION of Trustee McLaughlin, SECONDED by Trustee Walker the following Resolution was duly adopted upon roll call vote:

WHEREAS, a request for bids for the Washington Avenue Sidewalk Improvement Project was advertised as required by law, and

WHEREAS, bids from three bidders were opened at the Municipal Building on June 16, 2009, now therefore be it

RESOLVED: that the Mayor and Board of Trustees award the bid for the Washington Avenue Sidewalk Improvement Project to Landi Contracting, Inc., Hawthorne, New York, in the amount of \$164,325.00 to be paid from Community Development Block Grant funds and bond proceeds.

ROLL CALL VOTE	AYE	NAY
Trustee Bruce Jennings	X	
Trustee Jeremiah Quinlan	X	
Trustee Diggitt McLaughlin	X	
Trustee Meg Walker	X	
Mayor Peter Swiderski	X	

VILLAGE MANAGER'S REPORT

Village Manager Frobel: We opened bids for our ladder truck just last week. Again, four bidders submitted. Those bids are being reviewed by the team of chiefs and firefighters that have been designated to look closely at the proposals. We also submitted a grant to help offset the cost of that apparatus under the Firefighters Assistance Act.

We also received a member grant from the state for repairs to the Hillside tennis courts, which will allow us to buy some bleachers for Uniontown and Zinsser fields. We are working on a response to that. We need some background information and specifications so we can move forward.

I also included in your packet some disappointing news. Our first submittal under the Federal Assistance Act came back to us. They are not inclined to support our effort for the design, planning, construction, or closure of the Quarry Park. Not a total surprise. That project is not ready to go forward quickly. But nonetheless, we felt we owed it to ourselves to make an effort there. The Quarry Committee will be meeting with you next month.

BOARD DISCUSSION AND COMMENTS

1. Road Paving Program

Village Manager Frobel: I submitted to the Board our list of suggested roads for resurfacing. This year we are again joining with five villages to seek economies through size. We have taken a lot of time in looking at the streets. There are quite a few others we would like to do but each year we try to do a little bit. We have a budget of approximately \$250,000. You have authorized borrowing for that and also money from the state under the CHIPS program. One last time today I rode all the streets with Michael. The bids will be opened later this month. Hastings will be one of the first communities to be resurfaced. Our priority remains to have them done before Labor Day, or at least before the start of school. Last year the price was very high: \$91 a ton and \$4.20 a square yard for milling. We hope that the price of asphalt has stabilized and we do better this year. The last street we would do, depending on budgeting issues, would be Hamilton Avenue. The upper part is in a little worse shape than the lower section, but that will be the street that is the swing street.

Trustee McLaughlin: Would you read the list so people know if their street is on it?

Village Manager Frobel: I would happy to. Some of them are rather long, and we are not doing the entire length. We are looking to do work on Flower Avenue, Hollywood Drive, Villard Avenue from South Calumet Avenue up to the Dobbs Ferry line, Farragut Avenue, a portion of Division Street because part of that was redone by the contractor for the apartment project, the entire length of Marble Terrace, Merrill Street, and as much of Hamilton Avenue as we can accomplish.

2. Pool membership

Village Manager Frobel: Several meetings ago, the Trustees amended our local law which allows us to sell memberships to the pool for out-of-Village persons. I am asking for your permission to sell perhaps 20 additional family memberships for the second half of the year. The reason for my request is that our revenue for the pool is down about \$30,000. Not a total surprise, given the fact that June was a very wet month. Historically, if we do not hit our revenues at the end of May/early June we typically do not make it. We will see more people

coming in as guests. Ray Gomes is convinced he will be able to market them. We have had upwards of 12 or 15 requests beyond what we have already sold. We would re-contact those families and see if they were inclined to consider half-year memberships. Even this will not help us cover the whole shortfall. This could generate up to \$7,000. We do expect if we have some nice weather we will see our guest passes up for the day. But we will not make our membership budget number without this modification.

Trustee Jennings: If we sold all the additional memberships to non-residents that you are proposing we would make up \$7,000 out of the \$30,000 shortfall?

Village Manager Frobel: Yes.

Trustee Jennings: Can you give consideration while we still have time to additional revenue generators? If we are so far down on our pool memberships, it translates into there being fewer people at the pool. So the pool is not overcrowded. If we sell the half-season thing, could we sell just the month of August membership? Could we sell just weekend membership, or could we expedite daily walk-ins who pay \$10 at the door? All of those things would chip into that remaining \$23,000. It does not sound as though we are on the brink of having such a crowded pool that nobody can enjoy it. Therefore, I would suggest you think about some of those extraordinary options for this summer because it is a remarkably cold summer so far.

Village Manager Frobel: We could. We are already past the mid-year mark. Our aquatic program is doing better than anticipated. We thought that if 20 would get us a third of the way towards that shortfall, the remaining two-thirds could be made up through daily visits or through aquatic programs. It is late in the game to do anything too sophisticated, if you will.

Trustee Jennings: I understand. But nevertheless, to be a daily person you have to have that type of membership or you have to be a guest of a member.

Village Manager Frobel: Yes.

Trustee Jennings: That is quite an obstacle to going in and paying your 10 bucks if you feel like swimming today. I think you ought to consider opening up the gates. It is not that it is too late to do it. It would just be a question of communicating to the community. For example, over the last weekend there was a movie. Everybody could go to the pool and pay at the door, member or not. We probably ought to have more days like that, and advertise them the way you advertised the festivities and activities last weekend. Who knows? Maybe it would not work. But there is no cost to it, hardly, so you might as well try it.

Village Manager Frobel: So the thought is, opening the pool to all residents regardless of whether or not they have a family membership? Tell me again.

Mayor Swiderski: Ten-dollar daily.

Trustee Jennings: I was suggesting that maybe for a given period of time, or maybe just on occasions during the course of the month of August, you ought to just declare a pay-at-the-door day and people would come. You might say that nobody will buy a membership if they can do that. You obviously would not want to do it every day of August, but occasionally and especially on weekends you might get some additional people coming in.

Village Manager Frobel: Just so I am clear, these are residents only.

Trustee Jennings: I am just proposing you think about it. I have not got it all worked out in my own head.

Village Manager Frobel: No, I just want make sure I am clear when I propose this to Ray and the staff. But that is the suggestion: that periodically, during the month of August, we have a pay-at-the-door for residents only.

Mayor Swiderski: In the interest of getting Board support, to make it more formal, we have two suggestions on the table now. One is what you brought to the Board, and now this.

Trustee McLaughlin: I feel like I have missed something somewhere along the line. Did we sell out all the memberships that were available for the first half?

Village Manager Frobel: Yes.

Trustee McLaughlin: We did sell out, and we still had a \$30,000 shortfall.

Mayor Swiderski: No. We sold out all the ones for outsiders.

Trustee McLaughlin: So we did not sell out the ones available for villagers.

Village Manager Frobel: There is no max. As many residents who want to buy, can.

Trustee McLaughlin: But I assume significantly fewer people bought them, and that is where that \$30,000 shortfall came from.

Village Manager Frobel: Yes, it did.

Trustee McLaughlin: I guess the idea is to authorize them to do whatever is necessary rather than telling them: here is the program, implement it, because after all, this is Ray's business.

Village Manager Frobel: We took this issue to the Rec Commission last Thursday night. They, of course, did support it after some discussion. They felt that this was an extraordinary situation, as is the whole concept. Next year at this time we are going to be here during the budget discussing, perhaps, other options. This is a stopgap effort to try to balance this budget. But we did sell all the authorized 20 out-of-Village family memberships that we have talked about.

Trustee Walker: Were there still people on the waiting list?

Village Manager Frobel: Yes, there were some folks.

Trustee Walker: So they could be called.

Village Manager Frobel: They would be contacted. And as I understand it, there have been people since then who have contacted us and asked can they buy for half the year.

Trustee Quinlan: I voted against opening the pool to nonresidents because we were going to charge them the same amount we charged residents, which I did not think was fair. Although I was in support of the concept, I still have my same objections, which I have repeated over and over again and do not need to repeat. I want to make sure that opening it to nonresidents was a one-year resolution and is not going to be something that is going to continue year to year without Board of Trustees approval. Is that correct?

Village Manager Frobel: Correct.

Trustee Quinlan: That is for the 20 residents, and now we want to open it up for 20 more. Again, I do not think it is a bad concept. I am a pool member. I do not think the pool has been overcrowded. I hate to see a deficit. But again, I have to say that we should have done it in the first place and we should do it now: nonresidents should pay more than residents because nonresidents do not pay taxes and do not support our pool and do not support our village. I was the lone voice in the wilderness on that, but I have to continue my objections on that ground. Having said that, I want to commend Fran and the Rec Department because two things have happened which the Board asked to happen. Number one, no one is parking near the creek. The signs are clear, the tape is up, and our creek bed has been saved a lot of wear and tear. Also, the signs for alternate parking at the school, I do appreciate that. It has

helped the parking problem immensely. You guys would be a better judge of that as you patrol around. I have not really walked around. But I think people appreciate the new concept that they can park at Hillside School and walk three minutes down the path and get into the pool without driving around. I do want to commend you on that situation.

Mayor Swiderski: But is that a yes?

Trustee Quinlan: It is a no for the same reasons that I voted against it the first time.

Trustee Walker: Do we vote on this?

Mayor Swiderski: No. We are looking for the sense of the Board.

Village Attorney Stecich: Peter, I think you should have a resolution. The law you passed said the rules could be changed by rule of the Board of Trustees. As to the extra memberships, you could do that. I think the amount was the same as school district nonresidents. As to the open-ended suggestions, Bruce said he wanted Fran to discuss with the rec committee. You may not want to wait to another meeting, but may want to have a resolution that is a little more open-ended and to make it clear it is just for the rest of this pool season. I would do two resolutions, assuming you want to go forward with the additional memberships.

Mayor Swiderski: Could I ask you to draft a few sentences on each proposal and we will come back to that after.

Trustee McLaughlin: We are six weeks, or two months, past where we were six weeks or two months ago. People are probably feeling more strapped than they were then. I was wondering if you foresee any price sensitivity here, or do you feel we can go ahead with 20 more out of town memberships and fill them?

Village Manager Frobel: I am not sure you will sell all 20. We will have to see. I know Jerry made his point. But just so everything is clear, it is a 20% markup to what residents pay. I know, Jerry, you would like it even greater, but it is substantial. That was our concern going into it, that it would be too high. That is something we are going to look at next year if, in fact, we are going to be recommending that out-of-Village be again considered.

Trustee Quinlan: People in Donald Park do pay school taxes and play, and coach, in our Little League and soccer and all our programs, and they participate in Hastings life, where people from Ardsley and Irvington and Dobbs do not. That was my objection.

Trustee Jennings: I would like to get clearer on the consequences of having a shortfall. I was under the impression that the pool operated on a balanced budget out of fees and did not tap into our tax dollars. But if they operate in the red for the year, does that mean we are going to have to make up the difference out of our general fund?

Village Manager Frobel: We will, ultimately. There is an ongoing deficit. Our goal is not only to have it be self-sufficient, but to pay down past debt. If it runs short it runs short. The auditors would carry it as a deficit and it will have to be addressed at some time in the future.

Trustee Jennings: But the bills will still have to be paid.

Village Manager Frobel: They will. Ray manages the pool very well. Just because it is not bright and sunny, that does not mean people are not swimming. A lot of people are there for health reasons and exercise. So they are very careful about not closing the pool too early, or not opening it when the weather is poor. If it looks like it is going to be a really heavy rain day, he will use his discretion and not open the pool, and tell the youngsters that were scheduled to work there for the day that they are not going to work on that day.

Trustee McLaughlin: Was it open today?

Village Manager Frobel: I am not sure.

[Discussion of wording of resolutions]

42:09 INCREASING NUMBER OF POOL PERMITS SOLD TO NON-RESIDENTS

On MOTION of Trustee Walker, SECONDED by Trustee McLaughlin the following Resolution was duly adopted upon roll call vote:

RESOLVED: that the Mayor and Board of Trustees authorize the Village to sell twenty (20) additional half-year pool memberships to non-residents.

ROLL CALL VOTE	AYE	NAY
Trustee Bruce Jennings	X	
Trustee Jeremiah Quinlan	X	
Trustee Jeremiah Quinlan		X
Trustee Meg Walker	X	
Mayor Peter Swiderski	X	

43:09 INCREASING POOL REVENUES

On MOTION of Trustee Quinlan, SECONDED by Trustee Walker with a voice vote of all in favor, the following Warrants were approved:

RESOLVED: that the Mayor and Board of Trustees authorize the Parks and Recreation Department to take additional steps to increase revenues for the remainder of the pool season from Village and school district residents. Such steps must first be approved by the Village Manager.

ROLL CALL VOTE	AYE	NAY
Trustee Bruce Jennings	X	
Trustee Jeremiah Quinlan	X	
Trustee Diggitt McLaughlin	X	
Trustee Meg Walker	X	
Mayor Peter Swiderski	X	

3. Deer Report

Mayor Swiderski: Dr. Jacques Padawer is a long-time resident of Hastings and originally one of the heads of the Greenburgh Deer Committee. He has worked for many years with the committee and then after it, to craft a report out of the committee's work for our consideration and the consideration of other villages regarding how to deal with the problem of the white-tailed deer population explosion we have in our village. I am going to turn over the microphone to Dr. Padawer to speak to the document, which will be on file at the library in bound form for the public's perusal, as well as on the Web site. The document is a long one. It has an excellent one-page executive summary for those who cannot make their way through all 100-plus pages.

Dr. Jacques Padawer, 170 Villard Avenue: Let me cut to the chase and tell you right away what the bottom line is. We recommend a drastic culling of deer: 75% of the first pass for each herd, and 40% thereafter. These are not our figures; these are figures from the DEC and other experts. This is to maintain the deer at a level which does not endanger the environment beyond its recovery capacity.

I must emphasize we have not displaced the deer. Just the opposite. We have attracted them by creating the kind of environment they favor, and given them a smorgasbord in our yards which they can never hope to find in the forest. They are smart, they walked in.

The committee was started with about 63 volunteers, or self-selected members, from all over Greenburgh. We are lawyers, hunters, engineers, housewives, and you name it. They did not all stick with us over time. But because we were so many, we acted mostly as a think tank rather than a committee. We did not use Robert's Rules of Order. Our mission was three-fold: to look at the environmental and property damage the deer cause, and I can tell you it is extensive. Two, the road hazard. There are approximately 1.5 deer/car collisions per month, according to the police blotter and not my guess. Three, the health problem is major. Ticks are known for carrying Lyme disease, and that is just the beginning. They carry about six or seven serious pathogens, and even a virus which attacks the brain. We have bacteria, parasites, and viruses all carried by the ticks, and one tick can give you several of these things at one time.

The guiding principle of the committee was no elitism, no shifting of responsibility from one group to another, and to cause the least suffering to both deer and the people of the Village. The deer population is not natural. Predators were eliminated by man, and we cannot expect SUVs to replace them. Animal rights organizations, we have looked at their charters and they are very reasonable. They say where there is a conflict, our rights prevail over animal rights. The main thing is, we should not make animals suffer more than absolutely necessary. We are all in agreement with that. The overpopulation is a natural situation. It is bad for us, and it is bad for the deer.

Control methods. Our questionnaire listed them all: capture them, ship them out, shoot them, poison them, and so forth. One question we did not ask, but was suggested to us by a number of people, was to use contraception. All of this was looked at, and was inefficient, not feasible, very expensive, or illegal. So these are all out. That, again, is something the DEC decided before we did, independently of us.

What we suggest is they should be culled. I will be blunt: culled means killed. We can use either bow and arrow, or guns; shotgun preferably because they do not have that much range, they have a better chance of killing the animal at short range, and the animal cannot run away and die someplace else after being wounded partially by a rifle. It can go right through the animal if he does not hit the vital spot, then they suffer in agony someplace else. That kind of hunting or culling is not a hazard. People complain about people running around with guns all over the Village. No way. The hunters in our group have assured us that this can be done safely. In fact, for some 23 years, and millions of hours of hunting, in Long Island there was one fatality, self-inflicted. So this is not a problem if it is done by experts. We do

not suggest that everybody go out and shoot. You are going to have to have expert rifle people or shotgun people to do it. There is much sub rosa hunting in Hastings and all of Greenburgh. This proves to you that nobody has been killed. It is not dangerous.

In terms of the biology and ecology, the male deer has a harem of does. One deer can inseminate any number of females. Hunting allows only killing the bucks. So you do not really do anything because another buck can take his place. Hunting, in fact, increases the number of deer, which is what the DEC is interested in doing because they work for the hunters and the state. There is a lot of money coming in from all sorts of things. I spelled this out in the report, and you can see for yourself what it is.

Ticks have a two-year life cycle in Westchester. They have mainly three stages: the larva, the nymph, and the adult. The larva and nymphs are the worst as far as we are concerned; mostly the nymphs because they are a vector for these various diseases I mentioned, which are kept in a reservoir. The reservoir is mostly the white-footed mouse. When they bite the mouse they catch the bugs, then transmit them to us. The deer are essential for this life cycle because the way a male finds a female tick is by smell, something called pheromones. The pheromones do not go very far. The wind can dispel them, and the chance for boy meets girl in the tick world is zilch except on the head of a deer. They brush with their head down in the grass. They pick up ticks like a vacuum cleaner. More than 500 per deer have been counted on the head of one deer. Each one of those, if you figure half-and-half male to female, will give you 250. Each female gives about 3,000 eggs. That is 750,000 eggs per deer.

Luckily most of those do not survive, but too many do. So by cutting the deer, we are cutting the chain. Yes, other animals can do the same thing, but none of them do it as efficiently as the deer. Therefore, statistically speaking, we can forget about these other things. The reservoir is the mice, and also some other ones, but the other ones, again, are minor. We cannot control the mice. There are too many of them. The deer can travel a long way and drop the ticks on the way; the mice do not go more than a few hundred feet. So again, the deer are the key.

Our report has very broad coverage. We did not just attack the obvious about the deer problem. We thought people need more information, and if they understand they will accept it more easily. So we talk about diseases, treatments, various tests, and any number of other things. The political fallout is something you people do not like to ignore. I suggest maybe you should. The mayor of Princeton, New Jersey culled deer and there was a tremendous uproar. People broke the law to fight it. That mayor was reelected by a landslide in the next election. That is the kind of punishment she got for doing it. There is a message there.

The DEC's rules are reasonable for open country, not for crowded suburbia. The DEC, in fact, has offered to cooperate with us. I hope people will take them up on it. In the document, I quote the statement they make about offering to cooperate, and it should be more than giving you a permit to kill 10 deer. That is nonsense.

Before I finish I want to thank two people: Jackie Lhoumeau for her expert formatting, fact checking, and editing; and Raf Zaratzian for his cooperation in promptly printing reports, which were voluminous. I would like to thank you very much for putting up with me. .

Mayor Swiderski: Thank you, Jacques. And I would like to thank you, too. The document is one of these unsung testimonies to the work of volunteers. There are thousands of hours of work in it; your time, Jackie's time, and the members' who served on the committee with you. It is a remarkable collection of facts, and structures the information. I do not expect many people will read it cover to cover, but I do think that as people pick it up and focus on the topics of interest to them they will find it very educational. It sets a standard, and a bar, that other communities are going to find very useful. I myself would look to distributing it more broadly in Westchester because the lessons apply everywhere.

Trustee Walker: It is so impressive, Jacques. It is just amazing. You and the committee have done a terrific job. I have not read the whole thing, but I realize that it answers all the questions one has. There are so many rumors and so much misinformation out there about all these things. Whether it is Lyme disease, the life cycle of a tick, or hunting, just look up these issues and there is the answer. It is just a wonderful piece of work. And, of course, I want to ask where we go from here.

Mayor Swiderski: We will get to that question in a moment, but we will let other Boardmembers have a chance to comment on it. Then we can cut to the chase of what we do next.

Trustee Quinlan: Again, thank you. A great report, a lot of work, unbelievable really. And Jackie, thank you, too; both of you, and everybody in Hastings and everybody in the county that worked on this. It is a very good report. I am fully in favor of the recommendations you make. I would like to add, and I think this is important, that I am an animal lover. I love animals in the wild, I have owned dogs most of my adult life, and I think we have to cull/kill the deer, as recommended in your report. We have to find a humane way to do it and we will, hopefully, if the majority agrees with me. We are not killing all the deer. We are only killing a percentage of the deer, which is also healthy for the deer as well as humans. We have a health hazard, we have a hazard for health and physical safety, car accidents. We know the diseases. I walk in Hillside Woods numerous times a week. The undergrowth and the undercoating of our forests are being destroyed by the deer, which is destroying our

greenspace. So it is not healthy for our greenspace and the parts of our forests that we do have left. They are destroying our gardens. Most importantly, one of the things that a Village Trustee is always against is creating enclaves. What is happening, and it is very understandable, is that neighbor by neighbor, yard by yard, we are creating enclaves because fences are going up. Some fences are expensive, some inexpensive. What we are doing is separating ourselves from our neighbors by the fences to keep out the deer, and that is a very dangerous situation for any village or any community. Although fences make good neighbors, not really high ones that you cannot even get through.

For all those reasons, I think we should accept your recommendations and do something about it. The best way to do it would be to join with our neighboring villages so we could do something really significant about it. The deer in Dobbs Ferry do not know where the border of Hastings is, and the deer in Irvington do not know where the border of Greenburgh is. Having said that, I do not think we can wait for our neighboring communities to act because they have not acted, for whatever reasons.

I do not want to bring on the wrath of animal lovers. Again, I have to repeat that I am an animal lover. But we have to balance the needs of human beings with the deer, and your recommendations are a good way. I do not think we can wait for our neighboring communities because nothing will ever happen. If we lead the way, and if we do get reelected, and I am not so certain that that is a great thing to happen; as you say, are we rewarded by being reelected. Some would say yes and some would say no, but I am willing to take that risk. So I am in favor of your report, wholeheartedly. We should act alone and not wait for our neighbors. Maybe they will get the idea.

I have no scientific knowledge of this and absolutely no evidence it will happen, but I have a sneaking suspicion that if we do start culling the deer in Hastings that the deer will not want to come around Hastings that much anymore. They might get the idea because I do not think they are that stupid. To a certain extent they might get the idea that it is not safe to go over there, maybe we should stay over here.

Trustee Jennings: I would like to add my word of thanks to you and the committee, and everyone that did this work. It is remarkable. When we have to address a problem in the Village clearly, and we have to legislate, pass an ordinance, make something happen, I really appreciate it when we can do that on the basis of facts and data and good scientific information. It is not that common that we have this kind of basis upon which to make our judgments and our decisions.

Trustee Quinlan makes a good point when he says if we get started we may take some leadership and others may follow us. We do not want to do this, only to have replacement

deer keep coming in an endless assembly line of immigration and culling and immigration and culling. I would like to think that we would be able to get this population thing under control. That may require a regional approach rather than a local one. My only thoughts at this point are along those technical lines. For now, I appreciate the report. I look forward to reading all of it. I think it is clear we have to do something. I agree with that basic recommendation. Inaction is unacceptable. The people of Hastings, for the most part, are very concerned about the situation. The trick will be to inform people properly and to build a community consensus behind a particular approach that will work and be humane and practical. That is mostly our job as elected officials. We need to take the leadership in that kind of communication and education and consensus-building. I look forward to doing that.

Trustee McLaughlin: Bruce, when you read it I think what you are going to find is that it is well-written. It is very readable. In Section 11, page 2 the report tells us that there are 1.5 million deer/vehicle crashes per year in the U.S., leading to \$1.1 billion in damages, more than 29,000 human injuries, and 150 human deaths. These are State Farm Insurance statistics. That is pretty stunning.

Jerry, I am glad that you broke the logjam by saying you would like to see us take a leading role here, because I think all the communities are sitting around waiting for somebody else to step out in front of the shotguns first, in a sense. We all know that there are lovers of Bambi around. All of us have been cornered by people who have said that they love deer. My wanting to do this is not a reflection of balancing how many deer lovers there are versus how many people who would like to see them gone. I just do not think it is good for our society to have them. I realize we are intruding on their turf. Nonetheless, here we are, we are not going to go away. We have to protect ourselves.

I look forward to having all of us acquaint ourselves with what is in this and, as quickly as possible, begin to work on finding a way to make something happen. Once our neighboring communities see us in action they will be more likely to join us. Right now everybody is waiting for somebody else. So thank you.

Dr. Padawer: I purposely wrote this in as un-technical a way as I could; readable for the public as a whole. The committee was mostly not expert, and I did not want to snow anybody under. Many of the things you have said and that I have said are found in great detail in the document. I do not want to take the time here to do it, nor was I given that time. It is really detailed. If anybody feels better, some of those misconceptions about the deer also fall on my shoulders. I had some misconceptions, and was surprised to find out that even though it was so obvious, it was obviously wrong. We have to learn to look at the facts and not feel that we are committed because we thought something. If it is wrong it is wrong, and let us change it.

I appreciate the Board's backing. I think you are right in showing leadership. I hope other villages will do the same. You only need the nearby villages but, eventually, the whole county, the state, and maybe even Washington about what should be done. I will say if Congress wants to, let them eat deer.

Mayor Swiderski: We are finally at a moment in this Village where the proverbial tipping point was passed awhile ago. We all labored under the assumption that somehow there was a loud enough and noisy enough contingent that would fight this to the point that it would simply not be worth tackling as a problem because it would be so divisive for the community. Over the years, that belief and that fear has kept Board after Board from facing it; understandably, because that may have been true at one point.

Coming out of this last election I was surprised how often and how loudly the deer issue came up when I went door-to-door and in coffees and in other meetings with the public. It was easily one of the top three issues, and the sentiment expressed was unanimous. It became clear that, above all, this is a health issue. The issues on landscape and property damage are important, but there is a large number of humans affected negatively in this Village. At an average coffee I asked how many people here have had Lyme disease? A quarter of the hands would go up, time and again. A remarkable number of people have had it or have had family members who have had it. The number of people debilitated by Lyme disease in this village is more than a few, and it is shocking. That alone is a moral imperative to take action.

As we begin to circle it, and face it, and understand what it is going to involve, it is going to be distasteful. There is no getting around the fact that this is not a hunting community, and it is not a community used to asking for animals to be killed and then taking the action to have that happen. It is going to be a difficult thing for this community to come around and do. People will go on the Internet and do some reading and get scared about how bloody it might be or how upsetting it might be. There will be people who feel strongly that it must be dealt with, and then will read about what may be involved and be upset about it. I am saying that now because it is going to happen and we have to accept that up here.

But I also believe that the moral imperative is clear. We passed the tipping point a few years ago. I am not the only person in Hastings who has had Lyme disease in the family. I have hit a deer, and I have seen my garden razed to the stalk by deer. I am not alone in having those sort of triple impacts on my life from beautiful-to-look-at animals that simply do not belong here, and certainly not in the numbers we have.

In terms of next steps, as Meg asked, we need to schedule a proper Board discussion, give us all a chance to read it. Jacques, if you could attend that Board discussion I am certain there will be questions. Following Board discussion we will determine what the next step will be. There are a number of people in the Village who have expressed interest in working on the deer issue over the years. I will see if we can put them together a working group to help go through the options. You listed a couple of options. There are other options. They all merit a look, and an understanding of what the expenses involved and hazards, if any, and psychic impact on the community.

I have a hard time imagining a shotgun blast within the confines of the Village, but we have to have an honest discussion about this. It starts with a Board discussion, a winnowing out of the options, and then public comment, which is bound to be interesting. Let us start with a Board discussion. Do we want to wait until September so the public is back and can listen?

Trustee Quinlan: We discussed it in detail tonight, but we have to read this and then we have to have questions if anybody has any. But we could do that before September. And then have the public hearing in September when everyone can come, or early October, when we can get the most possible input in a public hearing. But I do not think we have to wait for our discussion. I think they can hear it online, they can see it on TV, they can look at the transcript in terms of the discussion. Then the discussion will take place in the public, too.

Trustee Walker: Can we send out an email blast so the public knows it is available? Then they have an opportunity to read it this summer.

Mayor Swiderski: Any thoughts about timing in regard to the Board discussion? Are we prepared to have it as soon as this August?

Trustee Walker: Yes.

Trustee McLaughlin: I would be happy to have it at our next meeting if we think we can read this in two weeks. I certainly can.

Trustee Quinlan: I would like to get moving on it, too.

Mayor Swiderski: I am prepared to have it as soon as that. My only concern is that I do not want anyone in the public to feel we are jamming this at any rate greater than the public's ability to swallow it.

Trustee Quinlan: I agree. It has to be made clear that the public meeting will not take place until everyone is back from vacation.

Mel Berry, 50 Circle Drive: I highly support your report, although I was not a member of a committee. I just want to say there is a time for culling. If you start to discuss all this you are going to miss the time for culling this winter. You have to assume there is an emergency time to make a decision.

Mayor Swiderski: Let us put this on for Board discussion for August. What is the pleasure of the Board? [Agreement on August 4.]

Dr. Padawer: I would be glad to give the details to any member of the Board who wishes it. And I remind you that the deer are killing a lot of animals by destroying the environment. So it is not just the deer we are talking about; it is everything else in the environment.

Mr. Gonder: I want to thank Dr. Padawer for this report. This has been an ongoing thing for 15 years in my yard, and something has to be done. I have been throwing rocks at them. That does not work. Golf balls do not work. Some other things I cannot even discuss, and they are still coming every day: three, six, the most I have seen at one time was six in my yard and six just over a wall. Six ticks I have picked out of my own body and out of my house on things. It is time that you did something. I told you I am willing to pay \$10 for every deer up to 100 deer you take out. There are other people like me that will contribute something. They are a beautiful animal, they jump terrific, but they are doing a lot of damage. If you do not do something shortly I am going down to the tax reduction grievance day because I have a list of things that it has cost me over the last 15 years. You should be paying me to live in the Village with all these deer.

Mr. Skolnik: You might want to speak with the various religious communities in the Village. Ultimately, in order to gather public support, you are going to have to deal with those difficult ethical issues. Even based on the health and everything rational, you are still going to have a contingent that needs to deal with that. It seems like the various religious centers are important allies, so you might want to consider that.

Jackie Lhoumeau, 157 Southside Avenue: I created the PDF in a way that if you use the bookmarks, the thing on the left when you have a PDF open in Adobe Acrobat, sometimes vertically, sometimes an icon in newer versions, it will give you a table of contents and an outline of the document, which then makes it easier to jump from section to section. You might be in Section 5 and say, what did it say in the survey? Then you can jump to where the survey is and get it.

Mayor Swiderski: So we start down this path, and on August we will have a Board discussion. If you could attend, we will go over open questions and talk about next steps.

Trustee Quinlan: What is the agenda like?

Village Manager Frobel: Really fairly light. The main thing is, you will have your presentation from the Comprehensive Plan Committee.

Trustee Quinlan: Then the 18th is going to be Quarry Park?

Village Manager Frobel: Quarry Park, and I would like to talk about Maple Avenue sidewalks. And the Graham School is coming in with a proposal about some drainage work they want to do.

Trustee McLaughlin: Speaking of the Comprehensive Plan, when it did its survey last year they reported that they had quite a few questions about deer. And, of course, for the comp plan it was totally out of the blue. Discussing the deer problem was not part of what the Comprehensive Plan is about, but people simply wanted to voice their concerns about the deer problem. So once again, that supports everything that you said, Jacques, and that you said, Peter, about the urgency of the problem for the community.

4. Update on the Comprehensive Plan

Trustee Quinlan: There is a meeting this Wednesday at the James Harmon Community Center. One topic that is going to be discussed at that meeting is the Planning Board meeting they attended on July 16. They are going to talk about the next steps, which is the organization of the subcommittee/focus group and the schedule for work. They are scheduled to appear before this board on August 4 to discuss parts of their draft recommendations. They have a planned release of a public review draft of the Comprehensive Plan sometime in the fall of 2009.

Trustee Walker: If the draft is coming out in September, what is the role of the committees they are forming?

Trustee Quinlan: I have no idea, but we can ask them on the 4th.

5. Update on the Waterfront

Trustee Quinlan: In June Peter and I made a trip up to Albany and met with Pete Grannis, the commissioner of the DEC, and his team. Val Washington was there with the assistant commissioner. There were a number of high-level DEC people there. There was the main remediation expert, George Heitzman. Chris Anet was there from Fish & Wildlife, Ed Sullivan accompanied us from Scenic Hudson, and Joe Sontchi was there from BP.

It was probably a two-hour meeting. The DEC is going to continue to review the modified feasibility plan that was presented to them by BP. Hopefully, they are going to zero in on a scenario that would be the best alternative for the cleanup. They have to work with BP to work out the differences between BP and the DEC to determine information that is missing and what alternative, or parts of the different alternatives, they will accept.

It is a work in progress. A lot has changed since then in terms of the studying and some of the things that are going on on the waterfront. They also have to decide what the cap design is going to look like to prevent further dispersals of the PCBs, and somehow figure out how to isolate the PCBs from the environment. That is an interesting concept because this is one of the first times we heard the DEC talk about isolating the PCBs from the environment instead of eliminating them, which is a positive step in terms of getting something done in the next decade down on the waterfront.

Also they discussed the possibilities of working on some interim remedial measures, which means it would take place sooner than later. Instead of waiting for everything to happen at one time, they are talking about doing certain things to remove the PCBs and have experiments on different ways to do that. They have been digging what they describe as heat wells down to the most contaminated part of the PCBs where the DNAPL is, which is that gooey substance, with heating pipes. The DNAPL is attracted to the heat and it is turning into a more liquid form, which they are able to remove in an easier way. It is a pretty significant remedial measure to remove some PCBs, and it is going on as we speak.

The LWRP meeting we had two weeks ago went very well. I have heard some positive and some negative comments since then, but my opinion is that we did a pretty good job getting through the entire document. Now we are going to hand it back to the LWRP. There were members of the LWRP committee there taking copious notes. They are going to meet again, maybe with some help from other members of the community, maybe not. I would strongly encourage the meetings be held in public, hopefully on TV, if we can find the manpower, but definitely publicly announced and in a public meeting space where people join with them to make sure that their transparency is everything that a majority of this Board has promoted ever since it was elected.

About a week ago Peter and I had a very interesting meeting with Patrick King, who is the president of ARCO. ARCO is the subdivision of BP which is in charge of remediation of hundreds of sites all over the country. He flew in from Houston, and we had a very interesting dinner with him. We learned a lot, and talked about a lot of different things, about how we are going to get this thing moving.

Trustee McLaughlin: I am delighted to hear what you said, Jerry. When George Heitzman was here in the spring I had thought it was the same old, same old. What you have just said now makes me feel incredibly optimistic. Not about wrapping things up because that implies that it will happen soon, but it certainly suggests to me that “all deliberate speed” actually has a meaning now. It really is an indication to me of ARCO’s good faith, and BP’s intention to make this thing happen and get it moving and get it done.

Trustee Walker: About the scenarios that Malcolm Pirnie is going to be reviewing: I know you signed a confidentiality agreement, but at some point will those become public, or available to other Trustees?

Mayor Swiderski: The Board certainly can look at that. There are about a half-dozen scenarios put forward. They fall into two camps, roughly speaking: the idea of a bulkhead, and the idea of a slope. We engaged Malcolm Pirnie to help us develop an opinion on those scenarios. BP has its own incentives to say what they will about those scenarios, and we needed professional expertise. We will be meeting with them next week to get that input. The request for the privacy of the document was driven by the DEC, and they are not eager for those scenarios to be public until there has been a chance for them to review and then refine them. They view this as a very preliminary document, and would probably not be excited by as much detail as we have gone into here being disclosed. They are very interested in working to a couple of final scenarios with BP, at which point they would be open to public input. But I think the document is open internally to the Board.

Trustee Walker: Did the DEC say anything about the bioremediation going on at the Tappan Terminal site or any preliminary findings?

Trustee Quinlan: They have not reported any preliminary findings, but the testing is going on. They are continuing with this natural process to break down the chlorobenzenes, which is a whole different thing than the PCBs in the north. We have chlorobenzenes in the south in a natural way. We have not seen any report. But when I spoke to them about a week or 10 days ago, they did promise we would get something in writing within a few weeks. The wet weather has not helped, I was told.

Trustee Walker: They need some sunshine to get the bacteria working.

Trustee Quinlan: It needs a combination of sun and warmth and water. You do not need a lot of one thing, you need a lot of different things, to have it work.

Trustee Jennings: One of the things that encourages me, Jerry, in your very encouraging report, is the concept of remediation that rolls forward instead of waiting, waiting, waiting,

and then all at once it is going to be done in five years or something. I think that is very interesting to note. Some years ago people were saying we will not do anything on the land until we have figured out the water, the riverbed problem; you have got to do them both together. In conversations now, are they still sort of joined at the hip? Or is there a possibility we could make some progress on the land even though they have not worked out all the details about underwater?

Trustee Quinlan: I think the answer to that is they are still joined at the hip. All the experts are in agreement, that you cannot do one without the other. What little I know about these things, I am going to have to agree with them. But I do not think it is going to delay anything. My hope is that we will see, in the next 10 years at least, a cleanup. Maybe we will not know what is going to happen in terms of development, if any. But at least I am hoping that parts of the waterfront will be clean enough so that something can go on down there.

Mayor Swiderski: A sidebar comment. GE has begun the cleanup of the Hudson River 100 miles upstream. They have designed a railroad fleet and a boat fleet from scratch specifically for cleaning up the river. It is a multi-hundred million dollar project, and the stuff is being dewatered, dumped into freight cars, and taken off to Plano, Texas, where they are going to make a business of storing this stuff. Not everybody in Plano thinks that is such a good idea. It is a sidebar conversation because it goes around to explaining why BP has some incentive here not to drag this process out.

Patrick, the man who heads up the ARCO entity left over, put it well when he said the remediation does not get cheaper with each day that goes by. It is a liability that does not get cheaper, and it is not clear that there will be a Plano 10 years from now willing to take what we will want to export out of our waterfront. When we signed the consent decree, the on-land portion, at the outside, was estimated to be \$100 million. Out of the scenarios that BP is examining, they have priced the cheapest at \$200 million, and more expensive at closer to \$300 million. So it is only heading in one direction, and I do not think it is a point of pride for us, or BP, that this is the most expensive remediation for them in the country. It is, however, perhaps a reason for them to get on with it.

6. Events Committee Update

Trustee Walker: I am hoping we will have some events in the downtown within my lifetime. It is on maybe a more speedy process. One of the steps this Board talked about taking to help rejuvenate the downtown was to work with the Chamber of Commerce to sponsor an events series in the downtown to both attract residents and visitors to our downtown and allow local businesses to promote themselves. I have been meeting with the Chamber regularly and with the Economic Development Committee, and getting lots of good

ideas and commitments from those committees. We have pulled together a small group that has met a couple of times in June. Then we had a much larger meeting last week, in the sense that the public was invited. I sent out an email notice and invited anybody who would like to come. At last week's meeting we invited the woman who started the Tarrytown Third Friday to speak. She started this almost seven years ago as a local merchant, local resident, and then got the Arts Council and Chamber on board. She gave a wonderful presentation, and is very enthusiastic and energetic. It was very interesting to see the pros and cons and the pitfalls we might expect, and all the work it requires, which is also very sobering, to do something as regularly as they do. They do events every month of the year, and they have themes. They have gotten a really good reception, and a lot of people go downtown for those Third Fridays. They have really good merchant participation. It has been building up over the years and has become quite an institution in Tarrytown.

We are ready to pull together some ideas. We are meeting August 3, and we encourage anybody to come. This is a brainstorming group. We have representatives from the Chamber and the Economic Development Committee. We would love to have the Arts Commission participate. RiverArts would like to send somebody. We are trying to pull together a proposal we can bring to the Board perhaps in August. It is not a difficult thing, but there are a lot of choices, a lot of decisions, and a lot of ideas that we have to narrow down so we come up with a real proposal we can give to you, and then give to the Chamber. We would like to get started in the fall.

Trustee McLaughlin: Are you going to talk to ARCO about more money?

Trustee Walker: We have discussed it. We can talk about it as a Board, as well.

7. Other

Mayor Swiderski: I would like to meet after this for brief advice of counsel. I do not think that requires a vote.

Trustee McLaughlin: Are we going to just look at Maple Avenue plans tonight?

Village Manager Frobel: No, I gave you an advance copy in your packet. It is about 30% designed, but the next stages can move very quickly. At a future meeting I would have Ms. Lopane from the county walk through the design with us. It is her recommendation that we hold not a public hearing as such, but a public opportunity, to react to it. There have been four objectors to the original design. Mrs. Lopane has met with them and has satisfied their concerns, she believes. But it would be worthwhile to have a more formal opportunity for people to consider it once again. It is a very sensitive project. There is a desire to keep as

much of the slate as we can, and in the plans we do retain the slate in large sections, although it is impractical in some areas. The other part of the project that will arouse some concern is consideration of removal of some trees that have dramatically intruded upon the sidewalk. We do have time. This project will not be ready before next spring.

Trustee Jennings: I would like to bring people up to date on sustainability. The comprehensive planning process is talking about sustainability issues in a very interesting and thorough way. I anticipate a lot of exciting ideas coming out of that process relating to what we have been discussing in our meetings. I am very excited about the way that is happening. It also dovetails with the LWRP process. Our Conservation Commission is taking steps to do a more systematic waste management plan for the Village. The Mayor and I will be meeting with the chair of the Planning Board soon, and the Planning Board is working on revisions to our building code for better environmental building practices. They are beginning a study of code provisions in other municipalities. I hope we do our homework this summer so we can have some serious discussions in our fall meetings.

ADJOURNMENT

On MOTION of Trustee Quinlan, SECONDED by Trustee McLaughlin with a voice vote of all in favor, Mayor Swiderski adjourned the Regular Meeting at 9:45 p.m.