

VILLAGE OF HASTINGS-ON-HUDSON, NEW YORK
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
REGULAR MEETING
MARCH 16, 2004

A Regular Meeting was held by the Board of Trustees on Tuesday, March 16, 2004 at 8:10 p.m. in the Meeting Room, Municipal Building, 7 Maple Avenue.

PRESENT: Mayor Wm. Lee Kinnally, Jr., Trustee Michael Holdstein, Trustee Bruce Jennings, Trustee Marjorie Apel, Trustee Peter Swiderski, Village Manager Neil P. Hess, Deputy Village Attorney Marianne Stecich, and Village Clerk Susan Maggiotto.

CITIZENS: Ten (10).

PRESENTATION – Community Center, Lothrop Associates Architects

Jim Lothrop, Lothrop Associates Architects: We have been given the privilege of working on your Community Center. We are very excited about this project. It offers some terrific benefits to the community, and our plan is just starting to gel. The intent tonight was to give you the first look at conceptual plans for the building.

We have worked with Ray Gomes and the Parks and Recreation Department, and Neil Hess has been in on some of the conversations. We started the project by developing a written description of what the building should contain. Every one of the spaces is what the Parks and Recreation Department feels is necessary for the community. The new building totals 11,950 square feet. It is an efficient design; the net-to-gross ratio, the size of required spaces versus the size of the overall building, is a very good ratio of 1.28%.

The grossing factor is any of the rooms that are not program areas. The program areas are the lobby, the multipurpose rooms, the offices, and so forth. A non-net area would be bathrooms, storage areas, trash storage, elevators and stairs, walls, columns, mechanical equipment rooms: things you need to make the building work.

Trustee Holdstein: What would be an ideal percentage?

Mr. Lothrop: Anytime we are below 1.3 on a tight building like this we are doing very well. Our original projection was 1.5. So it is a good, efficient building.

After we had the program and decided how big the building should be, we looked at the street to see how this could best fit into the neighborhood. All along the south side of Main Street there are individual buildings, two stories high, separated from each other by three to

eight feet. The Community Center is the first one that has a fairly big break on both sides. On the west side of the building there is an old paper street, Factory Road, that no longer exists. Behind the building there are very steep stairs that have fallen into disrepair and, clearly, it is not being used. On the east side of the property there is an underground culvert for stormwater, so we are stopped on that side. As I mentioned, coming up Main Street all the buildings are in fairly tight unison. We get here, it breaks with the open space, it breaks on the other side, and then the firehouse occurs. Then another break occurs, and this building is also set back from the street. The church is next to that, and beyond that it breaks down even more into individual homes. We felt it was very important to keep the scale of this building the same size, and try to make sure it fit in with the community. It is a very nice site, in that coming down the street the street bends at that point. As you come west on Main Street, the Community Center is right in front of you. There is a full floor beneath Main Street that has windows on three sides. The building goes down to a partial third floor even beneath that. The site drops off rather dramatically.

Our first thought is to put the new Community Center in line with the existing buildings along Main Street, putting a space between the building similar to the space between the other buildings along Main Street. The building will be closer to its neighborhood. We are showing a distance of about 10 feet between the two buildings, a little greater than most of the space between the other buildings. The building fills up the site fairly fully. We would like to make this a focal point of the community as you drive down Main Street, becoming the start of Main Street; coming up Main Street from the west it becomes the end of the street facade before it starts to open up. We could open up a very nice usable outdoor space in front of the Community Center between the building and the firehouse.

The main floor has a street level entrance and the multipurpose room used frequently during the day by the seniors and for big community meetings. Seniors and large groups of people ought to be able to come directly into the building, should not have to negotiate stairs, should not have to use an elevator. The main floor contains a lobby, multipurpose room, warming kitchen off the multipurpose room, meeting room, senior outreach office, restrooms, and the Parks and Recreation office near the entrance. The concept is to give you a flexible building that can be used for different functions. We were anxious to be able to greet people when they come in, get them right to the main meeting rooms, have a compact floor plan that does not have a lot of corridors, have an efficient space to get the most value for the dollars. We wanted to make sure that we could close off parts of the building that were not being used; the stair would be able to be closed off so entrance to either floor could be shut off, eliminating the need for extra staff supervising spaces that are not used.

The lower floor is envisioned as mainly the youth services area. It is not a basement because it is open on all three sides; there are windows all the way around. The heights are quite generous, so we can make a very comfortable lower level. We felt, and Ray felt, that the youth were best able to go down to the lower level, not needing the elevator as frequently, able to negotiate the stairs more easily. The upper multipurpose room is big enough for 200 people to seat. We are smaller down here. The lower floor consists of youth services offices; a large multipurpose area for games, socialization, all in the center space; a quiet study room; activity rooms; meeting rooms; restrooms, and a storage area. The fire stair from the upper floor leads directly outside, so we have our appropriate exits from this floor.

Because the building falls down the site so steeply there is a space available under a portion of it. We can either put the building up on stilts or we can fill in a portion underneath. That is what is suggested here. We will get a large storage area and the mechanical room. We will extend the elevator down for service to the area. This area would be 1,600 square feet. This is somewhat optional but it seems a prudent thing to do.

Since all of the other buildings on Main Street are two stories high on the south side of the street, and the new one across the street is three stories at the street facade and then has a setback and another story above that, we want to make sure that this building fits in. Although we have not looked at the exterior yet, our thinking is that probably this tower in front would be high enough to come close to the height of the other buildings. The floor-to-ceiling height would be rather generous, much like it is in this room. In the future it would be possible to put another story on top of this. We can design to accommodate that in the future. The elevator could go up, the stairs could go up, so it leaves the option open.

We did not want to take it any farther until we could get your input, and if the community has suggestions we would love to hear them.

Village Manager Hess: You talked about 11,950 square feet. We should point out that the current Community Center is 7,300 square feet, so we are adding 4,600 square feet. I want to point out that the Youth Advocate's office also provided input. The Parks and Recreation Commission was invited to come to tonight's meeting as well as the Youth Council. I will be meeting with both groups in the near future to go through the plan with them.

Trustee Apel: Do you have an overlay of the building as it is now? I would like to compare the size of that big room to the size of the big room that is there now.

Village Manager Hess: I can provide that.

Trustee Apel: I am trying to understand if the great room is any bigger than what is there already.

Mr. Lothrop: This one is about 2,200 square feet. We figured that with a folding chair, small-table type arrangement, 200 people would fit in that space.

Trustee Apel: Right now you can get around the building if there was any problem like a fire. Would you still have the appropriate space between those two buildings?

Mr. Lothrop: Yes. We are planning a 10 foot space, which is more than adequate for fire separation and for access in and out. Our second means of egress is going to exit out there, and we will come up a set of stairs and ramps to get up.

Trustee Apel: It is wide enough for a ramp?

Mr. Lothrop: Yes.

Trustee Apel: I understand the basement has difficulty because it is very damp. Would you still have those problems?

Mr. Lothrop: No, we can waterproof it.

Trustee Apel: A second-story option: would it not be more costly to add something later than to do it at this time?

Mr. Lothrop: Yes, certainly it would. Right now we did not hear the program need for that. We just wanted to leave the option open for you in the future.

Trustee Apel: I always think it is more cost effective to do something while you are ripping everything up. I would foresee that we would need additional space. This is something I would like to discuss with the Board. If we add additional personnel to any of the offices, even in the municipal area, where are we going to put these people? I would like to see a third story which could be used for something like our communications center or a TV studio. We have Raf in a small room, and I see him expanding and growing. I am not so sure we would do it later, and then when we were desperate for the space we would not have it. The plan is great, but one more story now is a good idea.

The multipurpose room downstairs does not appear to be multipurpose, where you could move walls so you could use it differently. I am trying to visualize how much space is there;

is it bigger or smaller than the current downstairs room? If you wanted to have two large events going on at the same time, one room is much smaller than the other.

Mr. Lothrop: Yes, the multipurpose room that we are showing here is about 1,200 square feet. With a lobby it is a little bigger than that. I do not have the square footage of the existing rooms with me, but we can get that for you tomorrow and do the overlays.

Trustee Apel: To try to maximize the spaces in multipurpose areas sometimes the walls are moveable, and then you can reconfigure for any particular event.

Trustee Holdstein: On the lower floor you have a study room, a quiet room, an activity room, a meeting room, so you are chewing up a lot of space with individual rooms. As Marge has said, if there is a large group using the upstairs main room, and we want to use the downstairs for a second large group, I am also curious to see how the size of what you are calling the multipurpose room compares to the current one. My question might be to Ellen and Ray and the Rec Department why having four different closed rooms was more important than a larger space downstairs. Plus, you have five offices off the youth services department. I do not know that we currently employ five people that require five different offices. Those office rooms could also be quiet rooms and/or study rooms.

Village Manager Hess: Let me go through it since Bill is not here. The study room is specifically for study. We have an after-school homework help program set up with computers and desks. The activity room is set up in a theater format with 20 or 30 theater-type seats, surround sound, a large-screen television. It would be a permanent, soundproofed area for movie nights for teens, or even adults. In the youth advocate's office you need two main offices, but they wanted some smaller offices to meet with parents and not bring them into their office. They are identified as offices, but they are small meeting rooms.

The lower lobby area is an open area. They did not feel that the multipurpose room on the lower level needed a lot more space. That is where they are going to have pool tables, ping-pong tables and video games, etc. There will be vending machines.

Superintendent Gomes: We felt the quiet room could be for cards, board games. If Bill had to swing over from his office for some reason he could use that also as a large conference room.

Trustee Apel: I can almost envision, if you took the activity room and switched it with the meeting room because the activity room is going to have permanent stuff, then everything on

this side could have moveable walls on those two spaces. And then you could have a big space if you needed it.

Trustee Swiderski: That is a good point.

Trustee Holdstein: I tend to agree with Marge on that. If you flip-flop the activity and meeting rooms, and then create the new quiet room and the meeting room in some more flexible way, then you could open up that big space downstairs for a second room. I do not know how often we get large groups functioning at the same time upstairs and downstairs.

Superintendent Gomes: Also, depending on what we put in the quiet room there could be small yoga classes, things like that. It may be an open room with stuff on the side. A lot of these breakout rooms, for the most part, can be multi-use.

Trustee Holdstein: On the first floor, you have an entrance off the patio area into the multipurpose room as well as the main entrance to the building. My concern is from a monitoring standpoint in of having two entrances to the building.

Village Manager Hess: That was an exit only to the patio, not an entrance area. If the seniors had a program and wanted to set up tables outside on the patio, then they could do that and go back and forth. But normally, it is an exit only.

Trustee Holdstein: What is the open space between the buildings? Is that just going to be grass off of a patio area or does it drop off there?

Mr. Lothrop: This is at the first story. We were hoping to be able to slope this down so that we get windows looking out of the lower floor. We were trying to make that lower floor as open as possible, not like the basement that it currently feels like it is.

Trustee Holdstein: Will that require some excavation?

Mr. Lothrop: I am not sure whether the existing building hits right there. It could be when we get to the details of it that may already be excavated because of where the lower floor is now. I do not know.

Trustee Holdstein: What is envisioned for that large storage space?

Mr. Lothrop: For any large multipurpose room it is handy to have a place for folding chairs, folding tables, and the different uses that would go back into there when the folding chairs and tables came out.

Trustee Apel: Is there a coat room here?

Mr. Lothrop: No, we do not have a coat room in there. That is something we could add.

Trustee Apel: If you are going to have a nice event what are they going to do? Throw their coats on the floor?

Mr. Lothrop: It tends to be an issue that people decide whether they want to leave their coat in a place because they think it is safe; it depends on the community. But we could get one in here if you felt that was appropriate.

Trustee Holdstein: You could create a little coat closet in the storage area.

Mr. Lothrop: Could be. For a major event at night there is not a problem getting a portable coat rack into the Parks and Rec area.

Trustee Jennings: In terms of the first floor and the multipurpose room, I also thought that it seems a shame to have that entire wall blocked off. I would love to see some kind of window on that wall to bring a view of the patio and that grassy, sloping hill into the multipurpose room. I was wondering if the storage area could be broken up. There is, along the warming pantry, what looks like wall. For storage for things like folding chairs and tables, it does not all have to be right in one location in the room. It could be around different parts of the room. It might allow you to get at least one window onto that wall.

I seem to spend most of my life in hotels with meeting rooms, and I notice they all have walls that move. There will be times when we will need to use this entire floor space for one function. There may be times, though, when it is a smaller function and it feels funny to be in such a big space. And there may be times when two functions will be going on simultaneously. If it is possible to have a dividing mechanism, it would increase the functionality of the space and increase our options in terms of usage. I do not know how expensive that sort of equipment is, but it does look pretty simple to move the walls in the hotels that I have seen.

It's great to have a theater setup with AV equipment for use by adults as well as teenagers. My suggestion is not redundant with that. One of the things we lack in Hastings is a large

civic meeting space. Whenever we have an event like a meeting on the cleanup of the waterfront with 100 or 200 people, we use either the high school auditorium or the elementary school. Neither facility is perfect for a number of reasons, not the least of which is that the AV is not good, and broadcasting on our television station is difficult. I suggest we set this space up with AV, a built in projector, a screen, as you did in the Orr Room in the library. Rather than try to pull in a small projector on a table with a microphone and a podium, we ought to envision this as a room that is going to be used in that way either by the whole community or by community groups from time to time. We should make it as high-tech as possible, and as is affordable.

In terms of the senior outreach person and meeting room, I gather that that corner space is going to be an office for private meetings, or small meetings, or one-on-one kinds of counseling. Our senior advocate has needed some privacy for a long time. I assume this was intended as the senior staff office.

Village Manager Hess: Yes, but the senior outreach worker is only there a few days a week. That is where she is going to be with her telephone and files, but it is going to be multipurpose.

Trustee Jennings: In the youth advocate's office, I want to make sure that it is easy to put a table and some chairs in there for, for example, the youth council to meet, and perhaps have a storage cabinet along one of the walls for easy in and out of that stuff.

I have heard from the library folks that the two meeting rooms in the new library are in great demand. We love to meet in Hastings. The library has certain rules about which groups they will permit and which they will not. The Community Center has been, I think, a bit more open in terms of the groups that are allowed to use that facility. I assume that will continue to be the case, in which case we have to think about when we have a couple of groups meeting at the same time. I like the idea of making the meeting room and the activity room walls moveable so that this multipurpose area for youth could be expanded out into a T.

During busy times of the year the Community Center tends to get rather crowded on Saturday mornings. Right now it is set up with a glass pass-through window. I understand why that is functional, but I hope we do not do that in the new building because it is ugly. This is such a nice configuration with the lobby. I hope it is possible to make this an office into which you walk and transact business, and not a pass-through thing where people are standing out in the lobby and transacting their business. If that is not feasible for these especially heavy times, I would ask Ray to think about the possibility of temporarily moving the operation out into the

multipurpose room. But on an everyday basis, I would hope we could keep this looking like a walk-in office as little as possible, and hide that function as much as we could.

You mentioned that there are steps in the rear that are falling apart and are not usable. Do they go down to the Cropsey Museum area?

Mr. Lothrop: They go between the Cropsey Museum and the backside of Main Street. It actually would lead down to the Cropsey. We tried to do it, but it was impassable when we went there.

Trustee Jennings: I am concerned, particularly now that the former gas station, which has served as a freebie parking lot for the last couple of years, is going to be developed and will not be available, about the parking situation. I wonder if we might facilitate the use of the train station parking lot by making it as easy as possible for people who are able to walk the distance and do not have a problem with the stairs, to park in the train station parking lot and then come up to the Community Center that way. I do not know what all the issues are, if it would be trespassing on the Cropsey property or not. But let us think about the back of the building because the back has hardly ever been discussed. If we could make better use of that to get a connection with a parking area, that would be helpful.

Trustee Swiderski: I am less bothered by the lower large room because, in trying to put myself into the mind set of a teenager, the larger the room the less inviting it is. There is something to be gained from some intimacy, and a pool table sitting in the middle of a larger room is going to look abandoned. So that scale does not bother me as much, given the intended audience.

It would make sense to consider that third floor now for cost purposes while we have a chance to do it more cheaply; if we do, all the concerns about additional meeting rooms and larger spaces go away because we will have it on that upper floor. We would have more than enough space to address all concerns.

The view out the back is quite attractive. If it is at all possible, try to conceive of some way to bring the outdoors in or the indoors out: a balcony, a wall of doors that open up to a patio, on either the lower floor or the upper floor, so on a nice summer night you could open the windows and people could stand out there. I may be going overboard, but it is such an attractive space overlooking Cropsey that to ignore it or to continue to have our back turned to it seems like a waste. So in an ideal world not only would there be a staircase going down but some sense of pulling that attractive space into the building. Then it would truly be a grand place to have large meetings on a summer, spring, or fall day.

Mayor Kinnally: I am looking at maximizing the usable space. If there is a way of extending this building out, we have a lot of space here that is not being used. I know it is open space and you want to get light down below, but it seems to me space is at a premium. Is there a way of bringing the building out and curving it around, making it look somewhat different, so we pick up all of this space?

In the lower space we are losing a lot of open space and it is not usable. Is there a possibility of moving this down here? If we can move the rooms up to the other side and the multipurpose room, you are picking up the corridor area. The floor flows a little better, and this will be productive space rather than just a corridor. Or you can have movable walls to pick up space in this area. If you move this down here you free up this area and join it with the multipurpose room to give the area greater flexibility and greater utilization.

Trustee Apel: Even though you may have vending machines on the lower floor, the kids are a hungry group and they are not going to run upstairs to zap their microwave food. Also, if it becomes a multipurpose room, and food is served on that floor as well, you may need a kitchen space on both floors.

Mr. Lothrop: What is envisioned was a counter, a small unit-type kitchen. But if you feel a full kitchen would be warranted, it could be considered. The warming kitchen is not a cooking kitchen. It typically is a place where you bring in catered food or pizzas that are already made and you warm them. You prepare them, but you do not actually cook them.

Trustee Apel: Have we had people use the youth center for affairs where they needed to have food cooked?

Superintendent Gomes: Not often, but it happens. Some groups use the oven to warm things, but not to a great extent. But they use a kitchen.

Trustee Apel: Would you envision that people might want to rent the youth center for events and need a kitchen?

Superintendent Gomes: I think a microwave would suffice. You could even consider putting the vending machines in there. Almost what you would find in an office building; that type of pantry. Nothing extravagant.

Trustee Apel: The cooking area is designed to be stationary. You may decide you want to have it someplace else for events or meetings. I am sure they are going to have a coffee pot in there. But there are other things to consider in that space.

Mr. Lothrop: That is exactly the point. We were concerned about that, wondering whether this belonged out here or whether it should be in here. We need to get into those details.

Trustee Apel: We need to envision a little more about the machinery and the computers, and all the stuff that you are sticking in that area, plus there is going to be a big table and a couch. So it will fill up. I understand the idea of maximizing the space by filling in that triangular space. Although it sounds like a good idea, visually it is going to look squashed.

Mr. Lothrop: There is plenty of room in here to have things going on. It is more than just a corridor because it is sufficiently wide. But we will prove that by showing equipment in there.

We would like to start look at what the outside of the building could look like. We saw this as sort of a tower, a beacon, as you come down the street, and we were trying not to make it a big block. We were trying to give it the relief of this window, and being able to look down into the lower floor. We would like to give you a rendering of the front, and you will get a better feel for whether a recess is worthwhile or not.

Trustee Apel: And if we put the third floor on that will change the configuration also. That huge multipurpose space that you talked about could be on that third floor. I like the idea of a TV studio, or something with the equipment that Raf has, which would be helpful.

Trustee Jennings: Is your concept that the lobby and the stairway are going to be a three-story high atrium type of lobby?

Mr. Lothrop: Yes. We thought the tower should be the height of the buildings down the street. There is a small portion that we could see as being 2 ½ stories high. The main lobby is a story-and-a-half high, and this tower we are envisioning as a story-and-a-half high above that floor. There is a stair that comes down and goes to the lower floor. This piece, that little tiny sliver, is actually the lower floor. So at that one corner we would envision this as perhaps being 2 ½ stories high.

Trustee Jennings: I assume there is going to be a skylight. That is very nice, but it seems a shame that we cannot draw upon that design element for parts of the building that are going to be much more used. That is the transient part of the building. People are only going to be in there for a few seconds on their way to someplace else. A third story over the whole structure completely negates this, but if we were not to do that, have you considered a skylight dome over the multipurpose room that would give us that feeling in a space where a lot of people were going to be a lot of the time?

Mr. Lothrop: Our thought initially was that we should not have another story over that piece. We thought that it should have a pitched roof to get it into the scale of the buildings along Main Street. We thought that would give us a story-and-a-half height that could have skylights. There are a lot of architectural features that could be quite lovely with this building, and a little surprising. Not something that you would expect when you walk into a building that looks like the other buildings along Main Street. We are hoping to get something that is really a nice place for people to be in and something that they can be proud of, at the same time being reasonable with the cost.

Steve Zeitlin, 43 S. Calumet: For the last few years we have run a very successful table tennis program in the downstairs room of the Community Center, and it has grown. A lot more Hastings residents have been coming. We get a lot of kids coming to it occasionally as well. We were hoping that the downstairs room would be at least as big as the current room downstairs, so that it would be able to accommodate that wonderful table tennis circle we have created.

Village Manager Hess: I would like to introduce someone who is here tonight. John Black is an intern in my office from the high school. He has been working on the Community Center. He has been doing interviews of students at the high school and the middle school relative to this plan. John, why do you not let everybody know what kind of reactions you have gotten to the layout of the teen portion downstairs.

John Black: The feedback has been really good so far. With the people I have talked to so far, 95% of them have said that this is a very good idea. They are particularly interested in the activity room downstairs with the theater seating. A lot of them expressed a lot of happiness that there was going to be a study room with computers and after-school programs hopefully in there. A lot of kids said as long as there is still a pool table and ping-pong and everything like that they were still fine. But a lot of them said that the Community Center now is not something they express a lot of interest in, and they saw this and their jaws dropped. They expressed a lot of eagerness towards this plan. The only thing they were mad about is that for a lot of them this was going to be hitting the ground after they graduated. This is something I would come back from college for and hang out on weekends. A problem that you may face with this is how to get kids there. The more kids that are in there the safer our town is going to be.

Mayor Kinnally: We are going to take a recess to get the election results.

[RECESS]

APPOINTMENTS

Mayor Kinnally: The Board of Trustees is back in session. Jann Sterling has been appointed to the Tree Board. I thank Jan for agreeing to serve.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Trustee Apel: Page 19. There is a word missing at the end of the first sentence at the top.

On MOTION of Trustee Holdstein, SECONDED by Trustee Jennings with a voice vote of all in favor, the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of March 2, 2004 were approved as amended.

APPROVAL OF WARRANTS

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

Multi-Fund No. 55-2003-04 \$96,598.70

19:04 PURCHASE OF POLICE VEHICLES

Village Manager Hess: Both these vehicles are slated for replacement as they have excessive mileage. We have a build-out date which comes before the adoption of the budget. So we run into this dilemma every year where we have to order police vehicles prior to that build-out date, but they are not delivered until after June 1 and paid out of next year's budget. These are both Ford Interceptors marked police vehicles.

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

RESOLVED: that the Mayor and Board of Trustees authorize the purchase of two (2) police vehicles under Westchester County contract at a cost not to exceed \$47,100.00 to be paid from the General Fund.

ROLL CALL VOTE	AYE	NAY
Trustee Michael Holdstein	X	
Trustee Bruce Jennings	X	
Trustee Marjorie Apel	X	

Trustee Peter Swiderski X
Mayor Wm. Lee Kinnally, Jr. X

20:04 CERTIFICATION OF ELECTION RESULTS

Mayor Kinnally: Here are the election results: Trustee Holdstein 132 votes; Trustee Jennings 138 votes; Village Justice DiSalvo 160 votes.

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

RESOLVED: that the Mayor and Board of Trustees hereby accept the Election Results and that Bruce Jennings and Michael Holdstein are declared Trustees for a term of two (2) official years and that Joseph DiSalvo is declared Village Justice for a term of four (4) official years.

ROLL CALL VOTE	AYE	NAY
Trustee Michael Holdstein	X	
Trustee Bruce Jennings	X	
Trustee Marjorie Apel	X	
Trustee Peter Swiderski	X	
Mayor Wm. Lee Kinnally, Jr.	X	

Mayor Kinnally: Congratulations to everybody.

VILLAGE MANAGER'S REPORT

Village Manager Hess: We had a very extensive presentation from Lothrop Associates and a lot of good questions from the Board on the Community Center. Much the same as the library, which has a Friends of the Library, we are going to create a group called Friends of the Community Center. Over the next year and a half we will be raising funds for furnishings for the Community Center, and to be a support group for funding. If anybody is interested please contact us.

BOARD DISCUSSION AND COMMENTS

1. Update on the Waterfront

Mayor Kinnally: We are still awaiting an announcement from the DEC as to where they are on the PRAPs. OU-2 is a real quandary for them in light not only of the comments with

respect to OU-2, but also with the recent developments with GE. GE has decided it is going to sue, so as I said in the *Meet the Leaders* interview, where we thought GE would be a pilot program for Hastings, we may in turn be a pilot for GE. Our cleanup certainly may precede theirs. Everybody is making it up as they go along, and the debates with respect to GE are being repeated now within the DEC as to what to do with our site. We are hoping to have something by the end of March.

2. Request for Sale of Village Property - Ridge Street

Village Manager Hess: Steven Cuppek has requested that the Village consider the sale of two lots that border Ridge Street and Southside Avenue. We would refer this to the Planning Board for their recommendation to determine as to whether this be considered as excess Village property, and then it would come back to the Board.

3. Other

Mayor Kinnally: Even though the election was very low-key this year and everything was uncontested, it is as much a celebration of our democracy as anything else. The root of what is happening around the world with the bombings and wars is intolerance and hatred. Having said that, it is very disturbing to find out about two incidents of intolerance and hatred in Hastings: lettering on lockers at the high school of a racial context, and the affixing of a swastika to a door at Hillside School. It has no place in our community or anywhere in this world, especially in this country. The school will work with the Village in finding out who did it, and, more importantly, finding out why it happened. I hope the people who were involved can look deep into their hearts and figure out why it happened. But this has no place in our community and will not be tolerated.

ADJOURNMENT

On MOTION of Trustee Apel, SECONDED by Trustee Swiderski with a voice vote of all in favor, Mayor Kinnally adjourned the Regular Meeting at 9:55 p.m.