

Agenda, February 15, 2007
Draft—Don Reeb—Feb 11, 2007

Version 2, Monday February 12, 2007

Introduce yourself. Then start by welcoming everyone—then ask each person to introduce him/herself. Make special mention of the elected officials present—Supervisor Ken Runion, Town Council persons Dave Bosworth, Patty Slavick (not expected to be there), Michael Ricard (usually not present) and Paul Pastore—then County legislators Frank Commisso and Mary Lou Connolly and then Town Tax Receiver Jean Cataldo (almost always present).

Barbara Nichols Randall is the guest speaker—her brief bio was sent to you and a copy is **enclosed**.

It is always good to have some questions prepared for the discussion. Suggestions are:

- Any plans for expansion?
- Has the library considered the establishment of branch libraries in Guilderland?
- National news about teenage disruptions in public libraries? Any problems?
- What library service would you like to see more people using?
- Parking seems at times to be a problem at the library—any solutions?
- The lack of a traffic signal at the library—any prospects for a solution?
- Can you use more volunteers—doing what?
- The building next door that the library purchased—plans?
- Tell us more about Friends of the Library and how to make donations.

This might take about an hour. But let it run out on its own.

Then announcements.

- a. The next meeting of the Association will be March 15th.
- b. The Tree Committee—recognize Sue Brown, Sue Gutbezahl, Ellen Manning and Ricardo Lopez Torrijos—the Tree Committee—the prices for the trees range from \$55 to \$75, plus tax, and tree order forms must be in by March 30 to Sue Brown. Ask Sue Brown to further explain the tree order form and then thank them for their efforts. I will include extra order forms in your packet. **Enclosed**
- c. The Planning Board hearing last night (February 14th) had two items concerning McKownville---the Strassburg property on McKown Road--- and a request for a special use permit for a home occupation for a veterinarian—Laurie Coger—at 20 Shady Lane. Ask Alice Torda and Sue Brown to report on what happened. The site plan for the Strassburg parcel will be in your packet. **Enclosed**

- d. Today's Sunday newspaper carried a story about the sound barriers. Thruway said that they would be installed in September 2009-winter 2010. **Enclosed**
- e. The big stink. Save the Pine Bush has sent forth an announcement concerning the public hearing about the landfill—it is February 21 at 7pm at the Polish Community Center. Save the Pine Bush is looking for persons to enter into the suit with them against the City for inadequate management of the landfill. So if you have smelled the landfill and are annoyed with it, now is the time to sign on to suit and make your complaints count. Please attend if you can. **Enclosed**
- f. New uses of 1434 Western—next to Germano's auto repair garage—are Spraklin' Johns, a bathroom refurbishing service, and Hansen's Wood Flooring, a wood installation and floor sanding service.
- g. The Albany County Veterinarian at 1506 Western has a new owner operator, Dr. Virginia Jarvis.
- h. Starbucks, 1246 Western, is now open and with a new sidewalk.
- i. The Capital Lodge Motel, 1230 Western, is now a Days Inn and looks a lot better and with a great new sidewalk.
- j. The NanoTech site has added a new high-pressure gas line back through the woods, has cleared the site where the maintenance building once stood and will be building a new large building very soon. NanoTech is now a \$3.5 billion campus. It has set aside money to build a new sidewalk along Fuller Road.
- k. Harriman campus has been informed that Governor Spitzer has included \$7.5 million in the new budget for Harriman campus roadwork. We do not yet know what that may mean.
- l. The new sidewalks along Western from the City line to Fuller Road and the new McKown Road sidewalk are expected to be built during 2007.
- m. Jim and Cindy Barber are expected to return to the Passonno site to operate their wonderful farm stand for the season—roughly July 1 to October 15.
- n. The Denny's site is still empty. No word on any new construction to replace L'Ecole on the Stuyvesant land. (And no further word about the Shabbos--leave this out if you want—the Rabbi and his wife will probably be in the audience and there is no reason to give them an audience.)
- o. A past president of the Association and long time resident, Harry W. Reynders, passed away on January 10, 2007. Harry lived on Norwood Street for over 50 years having had his home built just after coming home from WWII and lived there until his death. Some

of you may remember Harry also as the past president of the men's clothing store McManus and Riley.

- p. Some may have noticed that we have a new bus patron waiting shelter in front of 1450 Western Avenue. Another will soon be installed in front of Passonno's. Again thanks to the efforts of the Town of Guilderland.
- q. The University at Albany is again talking about a new football stadium—to be located on either the Harriman campus or on the present site but running north and south. Both seem unlikely but we do not have anything more than rumors.
- r. The reconstruction of Schoolhouse Road to Blessing Road and Russell Road from the City line to Blessing Road together with a roundabout at the Blessing, Russell, Schoolhouse intersection, with sidewalks and curbs and gutters and storm water catch basins, to be done by Albany County, will likely go to contract this month or next. The \$6 million project is expected to be completed by November. Ask Frank Commisso if he wishes to comment about this.
- s. With the leadership of Assemblyman McEneny and Supervisor Runion NYSDOT is studying how to eliminate the flooding of Western Avenue near the McKownville Reservoir. No date for the report from NYSDOT is yet known, but this is very timely because---
- t. The greatest news that we have to convey this evening---Mr. Runion has secured a \$99,000 grant to make the reservoir site more useable as a park. The grant writer was Don Csaposs, a McKownville resident and the economic development officer for the Town. The idea is for a simple park—a walking path with a few benches and a few other improvements. **Enclosed** is a pasteboard mounted sketch of the Park that you can pass around. Thank Runion for his efforts. Ask Mr. Runion if he wants to add to this discussion. (Cindy Peaslee sent me a note about how the park will attract crime and criminals. A copy of her note is **enclosed**. I would respond to her by saying—the woods just north of where she lives on Providence might also attract criminals but at least Stuyvesant area is well policed—not only by the Town but also by Stuyvesant Plaza security. While we need be cautious we should not give in to criminals and stop doing those things, like outdoor recreation, which are good for us.)

20 NEWS ITEMS

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