

June 9th, 2014 Meeting Summary

Members present: Steve Abramson, Marlene Haresign, Steve Lerner, Rachel Verno, Gloria Rabinowitz, Joe Kraszewski

Non Members present: Supervisor Anna Throne-Holst, Councilwoman Christine Scalera, Christine Fetten of Town Engineering Dept., Tom Halsey, Artie Muller

Minutes of May were amended per the following:

Under PHILLIP YOUNG RPDD: (Water Mill Townhouses) – item # 4

It is to be corrected to: “A Water Mill Hamlet Study recommended a bypass road, south of the railroad tracks, connecting Market Square with Station Rd. This is private property so the owners would have to agree to the taking of their land, although as properties change hands and come before the Planning Dept. for changes, land has been put aside for this road.”

MILL POND and STORM WATER ABATEMENT UPDATE:

The Town is waiting for DEC to give results of its sampling done in March in order to evaluate results from the first Phoslock application. That report is still not completed. The Town felt the first application did not perform as hoped due to heavy rainfall, no storm water abatement in place, and runoff from undeveloped land. Because the DEC reports are two months late, the window for a second application of Phoslock was missed. No application of Phoslock will be administered this year. A resident indicated he has been trying to get results of previous testing going back 5 to 7 years, Supervisor Throne Holst said she would get that information to him.

Before considering a second application of Phoslock, the Town felt the run off into the pond had to be dealt with. The CAC had asked for a plan that could address up to 4 inches of rainfall. Given the limitations of available land, that would be impossible. The most rainfall that could be addressed would be up to 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ inches. This plan was explained by Town Board members and Christine Fetten. Drawings were shown indicating the swales on either side of Deerfield Rd that would be required and it was explained that much of the vegetation would need to be removed and guardrails would need to be installed for safety reasons. All of this will thoroughly alter the look of Deerfield Rd and will only handle up to 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ inches of rain runoff. The CAC and residents in attendance agreed that this was not a viable design plan. In addition, all felt that until the source of the storm water runoff was addressed, phase 2 should be put on hold.

Phase 1 is shovel ready. Christine Fetten said she was hoping to start on June 13. The project involves the removal of 3 existing pipes and merging them into one. There will be check dams to catch the sediment. However, if we get a 2” rain, it will still be problematic. Phase 1 does not address containing the source of the storm water runoff and that continues to be a problem given the topography of Deerfield Rd. It was reported that all the property owners on Mill Pond have been asked to pump out their septic systems regularly. It was suggested that the Town legislate mandatory pumping out of septic tanks. The Trustees should also agree to a fall harvesting of the lily pads.

Floating Islands Proposal:

On June 2, a presentation was made to the Town Trustees on the concept of installing a floating island in Mill Pond at the funnel input point on Deerfield Road. The would absorb the nutrient content of storm water runoff at the point of entry to the Pond. The island would be about 130 feet long and vegetated with native plantings and harvested annually to remove the nutrients from the Pond. Each year about 2600 lbs. of Nitrogen and 308 lbs. of

Phosphorus would be harvested. The cost of the island would be about \$75,000 planted. The Trustees were urged by CAC members to evaluate the concept quickly, so that if approved, there would still be time to install the island in July of this year.

Trustee Warner asked if the residents would be paying for this island, and he was told that would be unlikely as residents had paid \$90,000 for the SolarBee water circulators that were erroneously blamed for the fish kill (2008) and prematurely removed by the Trustees. Trustee Warner suggested that the cost be split equally among the Town, Town Trustees, and residents. There is a principle problem with a residential contribution in that the Deerfield Road storm water pollution should be the responsibility of the handful of property owners on Deerfield Road not containing their storm water runoff. It has been suggested that the Town solidify code requiring all property owners to contain storm water and that the code be backed up by stiff penalties for non-compliance. The Trustees will be getting a proposal for their review from the company that installs the floating islands.

Carriage House Resolution:

A Town resolution will be presented to incentivize owners of historic homes to preserve these structures instead of demolishing them in order to build larger structures. All members agreed to support this resolution. Since our meeting, the resolution was passed.

Proposed CVS in Bridgehampton:

This is proposed for the vacant parcel at the corner of Montauk Hwy and Sag Harbor turnpike. The Bridgehampton CAC has been active in bringing this issue to the press and retaining legal advice. Plans for the building at this site have already been approved by the Planning Board, but there is a size limit for stores in the hamlet center. In order for CVS to inhabit all 9,000 sq. ft. of the building, they would need special exception approval from the Planning Dept. There are 13 points required in the Town Code and CVS would have to meet that threshold in order to get a Special Exception. The CAC feels there are at least 4 or more points that cannot be met. Specifically, Point B, C, G and I. Discussion about the historic nature of this corner and the possibility of the Town using CPF funds to purchase this property. Eminent domain has also been discussed in the press. The CAC agrees that in terms of safety, traffic flow and limited parking, this property cannot handle the volume that would be generated by a 9000 sq ft.CVS.