

RED HOOK TOWN BOARD MEETING

May 6, 2008

A meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Red Hook, Dutchess County, New York was convened in public session at the Town Hall, 7340 South Broadway Red Hook at 7:30 p.m.

Present: Supervisor Sue Crane
Councilman James Ross
Councilwoman Micki Strawinski
Councilman Harry Colgan
Councilman Robert Latimer
Town Clerk Sue McCann

Also Present: Attorney for the Town Christine Chale 8:20 p.m.

Supervisor Crane welcomed everyone to the meeting and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Ellen Feller – Wife of Bob Feller, Deputy Highway Superintendent, addressed the Board. Bob has been in ICU since April 3, 2008, being treated for a respiratory illness - source unknown at present. He is slowly improving and is supposed to retire in July. She was at the meeting to discuss the Town Highway Garage. For many years people have seen the need to replace the Garage. Superintendent Hildenbrand and former Town Supervisor Jack Gilfeather were instrumental in trying to have one built. When Marirose Blum Bump became Supervisor, she put the Highway Garage on hold. For 4 more years this was put on the back burner and nothing was done. The issue still remains. Her husband is very sick and she feels his illness was caused by conditions in the present highway garage. As she said before his diagnosis is inconclusive but deep in her heart she knows what caused this illness.

She asked an air quality test be done without the doors open. She would like to be notified when it is done. If not, she will call the NY State Dept. of Health, and the Department of Environmental Protection. She will pursue the matter.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- The Red Hook Recycling Center is having a Household Hazardous & Electronic Waste Disposal Day on Saturday, June 7, 2008. Anyone interested should pre-register and pre-pay \$5.00. The check should be made out to the Dutchess County Resource Recovery Agency. Call 463-6020 to register.
- The Memorial Day Parade will take place on Monday, May 26, 2008. The parade is sponsored by Red Hook VFW Post 7765. Lineup is at 9:15 a.m. at the High School and will proceed through the Village of Red Hook beginning at 10:00 a.m. It will be followed by the Memorial Day observance at the Red Hook Memorial Park on North Broadway. Everyone is invited to attend.
- Notification from Justices Jeff Martin and Jonah Triebwasser that they received two desk top computers, two laser jet printers, and two laptop computers which will be used to record court proceedings. The equipment was procured by a grant through the New York State Office of Court Administration at no direct cost to Red Hook Taxpayers. The value of the equipment is \$3,414.
- A certificate of appreciation was awarded to the Town of Red Hook and New York State Dept. of Transportation in recognition of valuable contributions to the landscape and arboretum at Bard College. We are grateful for that recognition.
- Last Saturday there was a wonderful community effort to celebrate Arbor Day with the planting of trees though out the Village and the Town. It was a great showing of volunteer support.

PRESENTATION OF RED HOOK CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT BUDGET FOR 2008

Supervisor Crane introduced School District Business Manager Bruce Martin and Red Hook School Superintendent Paul Finch.

Red Hook School Superintendent Paul Finch thanked the Board for the opportunity to present the budget. He started with their philosophy explaining that they try to balance the demand with the taxpayer's willingness and/or ability to pay. They think we have found that balance. They have a maintenance budget meaning no hiring of new professional staff and plan to use the

redeployment of existing staff if possible. They also asked the administrative teams to have no increase in overall building budgets for supplies and materials. Two exceptions are transportation and utilities. The Board of Education will change their bus replacement schedule though they would like to purchase a small wheelchair van which is a necessity. Essentially it is a maintenance budget. All of that leaves a 3.05% increase in the expenditure budget. To his knowledge it is the lowest expenditure increase in Dutchess County and the lowest in about eight years in Red Hook.

School District Business Manager Bruce Martin reported on the revenue part of the budget. He explained that State aid is the second most significant revenue source in the school's budget right after local property tax levies. About a year ago the Governor promised equitable, predictable and adequate state aid. The state had to spend less and the funding formula they put together sent the wrong amount of money to the wrong places politically. They tweaked the formula to get the money to flow where the legislatures wanted it to flow. As a result Red Hook didn't make out as well as they would have with the original formula. Red Hook knew this would happen so they looked at putting the expenditure budget together the way they did. The other significant thing going on is that the interest rate on investments decreased. The largest revenue source is property tax, the second largest is State aid and the third largest revenue source is interest earnings on deposits. In the 2007-2008 school year the district is looking at a relatively significant expenditure side surplus. That means at the end of the year the school district is going to have a relatively significant fund balance. The challenge in this year's budget was to use the fund balance enough to make a difference but not so much that you find out that the next year you have zero fund balance and zero surplus. On the expenditure side there is a 3.05% rate of growth. They upped the appropriated fund balance from the historic \$900,000 to \$1.5 million in an attempt to offset some of those deteriorating revenues. The tax levy is projected to go up 6.67%. They think on the actual property tax bill it will be smaller than that because of the real assessment growth. On average the bills will probably increase by a percentage in the 5's. The 3.05% rate increase falls beneath the contingency budget capping mechanism. A contingency budget and the proposed budget are essentially the same thing. The total expenditure and tax levy numbers are within \$4,000 of one another. There are some differences in the two budgets however. In a contingency budget instructional equipment and any kind of non health and safety equipment is not considered a contingent expense and therefore cannot be purchased under a contingency budget. The ability of the public to use the school district facilities would have to be curtailed or would have to be charged for the cost for the use of the facilities. An internal administrative item is that the flexibility to move appropriations within the budget during the course of the year is somewhat restricted by the rules of contingent budgets.

Paul Finch asked if anyone had any questions.

Councilman Colgan asked if they had a sense of what portion of the 2 billion dollars ever materialized.

Paul Finch said most of that money did materialize State wide but it fell a little short of the original 2 billion projection. The bigger problem is that it didn't materialize to Red Hook because of the tweaking of the formula.

Councilman Ross asked about the status of the roof project.

Bruce Martin answered that the roofing project did clear State Education and the district is out to bid right now with an anticipated bid opening date of May 22nd, although it might be extended to May 29th. There is no debt service in the 08/09 budget related to the roofing project.

Paul Finch explained when we got into the details of the roofing project we were originally into three years, and then to two, now back to three years. We will be able to make our time line.

Councilman Ross asked if we are still locked into the higher State reimbursable level.

Paul Finch answered yes.

Councilman Ross asked regarding our share, how much they anticipate it will affect the budget a year from now.

Bruce Martin answered it will line up nicely in the following year because the State aid will come in that budget year as well. It should be on target with what we talked about originally. Red Hook has always benefited from the reorganization incentives building aid from the 60's. It was set to expire, but it did get re-upped. We still benefit from that.

Resident Fran Donahue said that Senator Saland's office announced \$257,000 additional money. Is this also included?

Bruce Martin explained the high tax aid is part of the general revenue and is included in the budget. The \$110,000 is member money that Senator Saland every other year gets an opportunity to dole out to all the districts in his region. About half goes towards technology.

Fran Donahue asked about new buses being built by a corporation in this area that get nearly twice as many miles per gallon. Is the school district looking at the possibility of these busses?

Bruce Martin answered that they haven't seen them but will keep their eyes opened for when they become beneficial.

Councilman Latimer asked what the total tax levy is in dollars.

Bruce Martin answered approximately \$23 million.

Frank Stoppenbach said when the roof project was first proposed he suggested alternate energy. He was disappointed that the administration was negative about that possibility. Oil prices now are high and he thinks alternate energy still makes sense.

Bruce Martin answered that they've heard that comment from a number of fronts. He and Paul Finch both pursued it. Any design professional they spoke to told them that the cost benefit at that juncture was not in place. It certainly is more expensive now than it has been. This year's budget does contain a demonstration solar project. They have been talking to architects about alternate energy sources such as solar and geothermal. A problem is that the school district does not have the ability to push energy back on to the grid. There is discussion at the moment that is going to change and it is going to become an option for local governments and municipalities.

Paul Finch said that is something they are always looking at.

Supervisor Crane is wondering if this budget takes into account, those teachers that are retiring.

Bruce Martin said there are few if any. They are not anticipating any significant retirement.

Paul Finch explained there is no net increase in professional staff.

Supervisor Crane thanked them for their budget presentation.

WATER BOARD REPORT

Water District Director Hank VanParys reported on Town Water District No. 1. He started with the monthly report of April 2008.

- During the month of March they pumped – 126.4 gallons per day (Bard usage high), Well levels: well #1 – 55' and well #2 – 44'; coliform report – none detected; turbidity (NTU) – 0.079, required = < 1.0; chlorine residual – 0.5 at pump station, ideal range 0.2 – 0.5.
- On-going items: filtration status – 5-Micron cartridges are operating satisfactorily;
- 1-Micron cartridges are operating satisfactorily – they are awaiting a response from Harmsco regarding filter cartridge life.
- The Ghost Road culvert will need to be replaced in spring 2008
- Aspinwall Road: there have been leaks in an old water line for the past two years. Rich Cain will dig test holes to determine the pipe direction and where it hooks into the water main. He will then disconnect this old pipe. Work will be completed in the same time-frame as Ghost Road repairs.
- Radio antenna installed – The Highway Department needed a better antenna for their radio communications. River Valley Radio installed a new antenna on the Water Tower ladder on March 6, 2008. Rich Cain inspected the work and the antenna is working well.

- Problem reading the meter pit at 75 Kelly Road because the meter is frequently under water. Rich Cain will check this meter pit and may move it in the summer when the area is dryer.
- A spring hydrant flushing date has been set for May 8, 2008 from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Customers will be notified through local newspapers, PANDA, Town Web site and the 2007 annual Water Quality Report.
- Letter from Jim Napoli regarding Initial Distribution System Evaluation waiver – the purpose of this evaluation was to help locate areas within the water distribution systems with high levels of TTHM and HAA5 (disinfection by-products). Levels within our system are low enough to qualify us for a waiver of performing this evaluation. James Napoli, Senior Public Health engineer for the Dutchess County Department of Health accepted our waiver request of March 6, 2008.
- Empty Chlorine Containers owned by Duso Chemical Co. – there are 18 empty containers at the pump house. We will contact Duso to have these picked up and a credit issued.

Water Department Chairman Hank VanParys moved on to the Annual Report of Town Water District No. 1, 2007 Operations (copy attached). The content of the report is as follows:

- Organization – Water Board and Operations Personnel
- Highlights of 2007
- Goals for 2008
- Capital Improvements of Water District – none planned for this year
- Water Quality –met or exceeded all requirements in 2007
- Comparative Financial Overview 2003–2007; Income, Expenses, Reserves
- Comparative Operations Summary 2003–2007

Mr. VanParys told the Board that he really enjoys this job

Mr. Fran Donahue asked how many customers we have.

Mr. VanParys answered 484 customers.

Mr. Donahue asked if Bard College had light usage in the summer and if they pay per gallon like we do.

Mr. VanParys answered yes, relative to the rest of the year, Bard has light summer usage. They pay exactly the same rate that residents do.

Councilman Latimer asked if there would ever be a point in time that we would consider a rate reduction.

Mr. Van Parys responded that he supposes they would. They have been trying to build up those reserve funds. If they have no future needs, they would be forced to give a rate decrease.

Frank Stoppenbach asked about painting the tank. Is it the outside?

Mr. VanParys answered they would paint outside and inside. Scrape it, clean it and do whatever is necessary.

HANSEN REVIEW

Supervisor Crane said that Mr. Richard Hansen asked to speak the Board again in regard to recreation fees he was charged.

Mr. Hansen told the Board that on March 6, 2008, his lawyer, Andy Howard, addressed the Board on the Hansen's behalf regarding recreation park fees that were charged to his subdivision which he paid, requesting Mr. Hansen be reimbursed. He was charged in error. After reading the minutes of that meeting and reviewing comments and remembering what was said that night sounded confusing. He presented maps of his subdivision to clarify the configuration of his property. Mr. Hansen referred to the fee schedule of the Town's Code which includes a statement (in regard to dedication of recreation land), that no fees will be charged to lands left in agriculture districts after subdivision or for existing zoning. Mr. Hansen pointed out lots on the

map he presented. Lot #1 is an existing building and lot #2 is in a certified agricultural district. He provided information from Dutchess County verifying the claim that his property is in a certified agricultural district. If this is the case, he should not have been charged the recreation park fees. They paid them because they were in the process for a long time and had to do something about building a house, although at the time they did not agree with it. The same language has been in the Code since 2002 regarding the recreation fees.

Councilwoman Strawinski asked if once the property is subdivided does that change it from being in the agriculture district.

Mr. Hansen answered no a subdivision does not expel you from a certified ag. district, nor does building a house on it expel you from a certified ag district.

Councilwoman Strawinski deferred to Robert McKeon of the Ag & Open Space Committee.

Robert McKeon explained that each county administers the agricultural district program through Cornell Cooperative Extension. It is true that the parcel is currently in the ag. district, however, they do periodic reviews and pick out parcels. This is likely to be a parcel they would pick out because it has been converted to residential use.

Councilman Ross said this is a zoning issue and is a separate issue from the conservation easement issue.

Mr. Hansen said the crux of his argument is that this is what it says *now*, and this is what he has *now*. As Robert McKeon says down the line it may or may not happen and he feels what he said is a little "far-fetched". Mr. Hansen has researched quite far back regarding subdivisions which are consistent to what he planned.

Councilman Ross understands Mr. Hansen's perspective. The problem is that Mr. Hansen's lots are not alone. Exactly why we have that statement in our zoning is something we have to look at. We have to sit down with our legal counsel and look at that. He asked Mr. Hansen if he had an agricultural exemption.

Mr. Hansen answered that he doesn't. It is also not a prerequisite for being in a certified ag. district. The reason he doesn't have an ag. exemption is because he is in the conservation easement program where there is supposed to be an exemption for that. He doesn't take the exemption because that would mean taking on another partner that he would have to deal with.

Councilman Ross said we have to sit with legal counsel because the Hansen's lot is not unique compared to other subdivisions in the agricultural district at the time.

Mr. Hansen asked for expedience on this matter. He also brought up the fact that the Hansen's are senior citizens on fixed income, who wanted to give their son just one acre of property. Since the moratorium they've been through at least \$40,000 on issues like this, conservation easement, moratorium, hardship, and reconfiguration of his lots to oblige the farmland protection plan. There were 25 test holes put in two lots to satisfy Farmland Protection.

Councilman Ross sympathizes with what he's gone through, but that is a separate issue than the request before the Board now. He understands Mr. Hansen's perspective.

Mr. Hansen said the little bit someone gets for giving up the rights to their property because of this farmland protection plan and all of these obligations and the hoops they had to go through, isn't even a complimentary stipend compared to what they had to go through. He asked the Board to consider this expediently.

Supervisor Crane suggested meeting with counsel in this regard in executive session at the end of the meeting.

REQUEST FROM HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT WAYNE HILDENBRAND

Supervisor Crane referred to a request from Highway Superintendent Wayne Hildenbrand that notes there are three employees retiring this year. In January he hired Ralph Torchia, Jr. as a full time seasonal employee to see how he would perform in the job capacity. He's work out well and has other skills such as welding and heavy duty mechanical experience that would be an asset to the department. His seasonal time ends around the middle of this month and Highway Superintendent Hildenbrand would like to hire him full time effective immediately to replace one of the positions that is available. He is asking the Town Board to approve this request. Supervisor Crane discussed this with Business Manager Deb Marks who explained that because of the winter seasonal budget there is money in the budget for this personnel change.

On a motion of Supervisor Crane, seconded by Councilman Ross move to hire Ralph Torchia, Jr.

Adopted	Ayes	5	Crane, Ross, Strawinski, Colgan, Latimer
	Nays	0	

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Budget Director's Report – Rose Rider, Budget Director will meet with each Department Head in the coming weeks to introduce and familiarize herself. She will begin the budget process by looking at their budget lines and discussing any concerns. She and Business Manager Deb Marks have begun contract reviews. She attended the presentation by Morton Buildings with respect to the building of a Highway Garage. Rose also reported that she will attend a Town Finance School two day session in Saratoga. The class will cover the budgeting process as well as managing capital projects and other accounting issues.

Purchasing Report – Councilman Colgan gave the purchasing report for the period of April 9 – May 5, 2008. During that period 29 Purchase Orders were issued in the amount of \$55,349.21, the largest being to the American Ramp Company for \$19,282.18 for Skate Park Equipment. That was a result of a public bid. A purchase order was issued for \$7,140 to the Copeland Coating Company for resurfacing the roller hockey rink and skate park area. It was the lowest quotation we received. Purchasing Agent Ted Kudzy received the solar panel package from Morris Associates who prepared and issued requests for public bids to install the solar panels on the Town Hall south roof. These bids are due back May 23, 2008 so the Board can then make the decision to go forward on this project. The purchasing department prepared a Request for Quotation to perform an appraisal of the St. Margaret's property. Paula Schoonmaker and Purchasing Agent Ted Kudzy reviewed the three quotations that were received. The two lowest (2 required by NY State for a matching funds grant) were Hubbell Realty Services of Poughkeepsie, not to exceed \$3500, and Hudson Valley Appraisal Corporation of Port Ewen \$2950. Purchasing Agent Kudzy will be issuing a PO to perform the appraisals.

Recreation Department – Recreation Department Commission Chairman Doug Strawinski presented the report. The Summer Language Program has a new Director, Kelly Preyer. They are now taking signups for the program. He thanked the Interact Club at the Red Hook High School and their advisor Carl Dowden for raising \$2700 for a new score board for the baseball field. The maintenance department will install it and they hope to have it in during the summer. The summer program signups will occur on Saturday, June 7 and June 14 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at Town Hall. The brochure is on the Town website and there are a number of programs that are free to residents. The roller hockey season will be starting soon. Paul Parker, who started his Eagle Scout project at the Recreation Park, is organizing a backboard for the tennis court and another "wall ball" wall. He is also fixing the fences in the middle field. The Red Hook baseball, softball, and modified season are in full swing as well as little league, junior league and senior league and they are all using the park. The High School tennis team practices at the recreation park every day and are in the midst of their season.

Recycling – Councilwoman Strawinski reported that the highway department with the help of Morris & Associates did do grading at the recycling center. There are some areas that need to be expanded on where Item #4 is supposed to go. Pete Setaro did look at the recycle center and said that the bid that they gave them did include more Item #4. Some residents are still concerned with the configuration and the future plans of the recycling center. One concern is the congestion. A plan is to move the garbage truck so that those people who only want to use that can exit on the connector road without going around the goods exchange building. They will talk

to Highway Superintendent Wayne Hildenbrand. It should not impede the function of the Highway Department.

Planning Board – Patrick Kelly reported that in the month of April the Planning Board held two meetings. At the April 7th meeting the Board reviewed two ongoing applications, one for site plan approval and one for minor subdivision. They received two new applications, one for a special permit for an accessory apartment, and one for site plan approval. Both of these site plans are for auto part stores on South Broadway. One is an amended site plan, NAPA is moving out of the Village and the other is for the expansion of storage facilities at Ruge Auto on the corner of Old Farm Road. At the April 21st meeting a public hearing was held on the special permit application received at the April 7th meeting. The public hearing has been continued to the first meeting of May. The Board also reviewed an ongoing application for a minor subdivision for which a public hearing date has been set for May. It is for a one lot subdivision on Lasher Road.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Ag & Open Space Committee Report – Robert McKeon referred the committee's written report for the month of April, 2008. Regarding farmland protection, the committee is continuing to explore potential funding partners for the various properties that make up the West Kerley Corners project. They reviewed the criteria for the State and County programs as they relate to the individual parcels to ascertain which might qualify. The committee hopes to conclude this initial review prior to scheduling a meeting with the various preservation partners and Town representatives to discuss how best they would like to proceed. Landowners are slowly getting in their applications. The Ag & Open Space Committee also discussed the names being considered by the Town Board for potential inclusion to the Community Preservation Advisory Board. Several members expressed their concern that the provision guiding the make-up of the seven member board would not be complied with. The committee will write to the Town Board to convey this concern. In regard to Planning Board referrals, the committee reviewed development project proposals referred by the Planning Board. Relating to distribution, ideas surrounding transportation alternatives; distribution centers and their economic viability as we try to strengthen the connection between Red Hook farm products and the New York City market were discussed. Mr. McKeon personally commented that the Town Board discussed having Phil Seymour on the Community Preservation Advisory Board. Mr. McKeon thinks it is great that he wants to be involved, but he questions whether or not he is a good fit. His concern is that a few years back when a moratorium was discussed, Phil Seymour said his concern was that we have preserved too much land. Mr. McKeon feels that is an extreme position given the nature of the appointment.

Conservation Advisory Council – Brenda Cagle, CAC Chair submitted a report. Regarding the Highway Garage, Pat Courtney, outreach educator for NYSERDA mentioned that there is a possibility that the new highway garage would qualify for State incentives under the "new construction program". The CAC asked that "green" design be considered. Laurie Husted suggested a checklist be used so that sound environmental principles are considered and discussed. Denise Barton is getting information about alternative heating in a highway garage. There is a possibility of including Red Hook in a feasibility study looking at alternative heating sources. The CAC participated in Earth Day by providing information. Anne Rubin gave a presentation on our aquifer to some of the CAC members and she would now like to give the presentation to the Board and the public. About 25 people attended an "energy efficiency for small businesses" program at the Chamber of Commerce breakfast last month. The sponsor of the breakfast was Red Wing Sand and Gravel. They are willing to come to Red Hook and discuss the implications on our Town of the proposed new mine in Milan. The committee will review the application they received for the Ruth Oja Environmental Scholarship. An updated table and map regarding scenic roads were forwarded to the Planning Board. The next step is to have a professional work on code changes. Three CAC members attended a Rhinebeck CAC meeting to discuss formation of a stream alliance in northern Dutchess County consisting of Milan, Rhinebeck and Red Hook. Household hazardous waste day is June 7 and the next CAC meeting is May 14, at 7:00 p.m.

Disaster Preparedness Committee – Supervisor Crane reported that Disaster Preparedness Committee Chair John Douglas contacted her about the possibility of having a table top exercise about disaster preparedness with Ken Davidson from 911. The Board discussed possible dates

for the discussion. September 6th is a tentative date from 9:30 – 11:30. Councilman Ross will not be available. Supervisor Crane will contact John Douglas to decide on a date.

Economic Development Committee – minutes of April 17 meeting are available on line.

Intermunicipal Task Force - Supervisor Crane referred to the written report from Bill O'Neill, Chair of the committee. Councilman Colgan summarized the report. There has been a question about criteria for putting properties in the ag. business district. The committee is putting together a grid to explain to any property owners why they are included in the ag. business district and the criteria that applies to their property. Mayor Cordier of Tivoli asked the IMTF for a presentation to people in the Village of Tivoli. There was a meeting attended by about 50 people and Councilman Colgan felt that meeting was very positive.

St. Margaret's Committee – Paula Schoonmaker reported that the State requires two self-contained appraisals for the Historic Preservation Grant. Of three responses, two appraisal proposals stood out based on estimated fees and clarity of purpose. The St. Margaret's Committee asked the Board to vote to hire the two appraisers. Their fees will be reimbursed as part of the acquisition component of the grant. Paula informed the Board that Ted Kudzy, Purchasing Agent, is in the process of finalizing an RFP for a preservation architect. It will be advertised in the official Town newspapers as well as in some larger newspapers which was suggested at the grant orientation meeting in February. They hope to report progress with this selection by next month.

Councilman Ross said the Board should see the bids and proposals. He thought these things were supposed to come by way of the Board. The process is that it is sent to the Town Board, then to Ted Kudzy and the committee. The sealed bids are supposed to be done at one of the board meetings unless designated otherwise.

Attorney Chale said these are not sealed bids, they are professional services bids.

Supervisor Crane will talk to Purchasing Agent Ted Kudzy to clarify.

Councilman Ross would like to see the bids before the Board approves the people to go ahead and do the work.

The Board discussed the bids and the requirements of the State for the grants.

Senior Services Committee – Andrew Kehr, Chair of the Senior Services Committee, reported on the key issues currently being addressed. The committee is discussing the feasibility of a dedicated telephone number at Town Hall for the Senior Services Committee. The possible expansion of Dial-A-Ride to a joint Red Hook/Rhinebeck geographical area two days a week is also being discussed. The committee has spoken with Mary Kaye Dolan, Office of the Aging liaison for Dial-A-Ride in order to amass ridership information for Red Hook. They are coordinating one day a week whereby volunteers from the Senior Services Committee could be at the Red Hook Commons to facilitate signing people up for Dial-A-Ride and provide information regarding senior services. The committee is in the process of creating a brochure which would highlight important information pertinent to seniors residing in the community. A tentative date for the joint Seniors Expo with Rhinebeck is Wednesday, September 24, 2008 at the Dutchess County Fairgrounds. The possibility of having PANDA do a program to highlight various senior services and activities is in discussion.

Greenway & Trails Committee – Howie Callies reported that on Saturday April 26th in conjunction with Arbor Day they had a dedication of the Wetland's Walk at the Recreation Park. A plaque was presented to Ruth Oja and a copy will be mounted at the walk. He asked that if anyone has any suggestions about "fine tuning" the trail, he would welcome their suggestions. Howie asked if anyone gave any thought to the quadracentennial celebration.

Councilwoman Strawinski told Mr. Callies that the Board had a brief discussion at the end of their last meeting about information he provided about Bob Chandler and perhaps doing something where he used to have his amusement park.

Howie Callies has friends he can collaborate with. It can be expansive or very low key. If the Town wants to do something he'd like to get started because it will take some time. He is trying to get a map showing where the original rail trail went and where "Sheriff Bob's Pleasure Park" was. These are things we can accentuate. At a meeting he attended regarding the quadracentennial he was told to think about what historically you have and build a celebration around that. There a number of things we can do.

Councilman Colgan added that Tivoli had several meetings about the quadracentennial with Mayor Cordier. There are plans being made in Tivoli so he suggested that Howie Callies coordinate with Mayor Cordier.

Councilwoman Strawinski walked the trail between Bard College and Tivoli and she spoke to Ken Cooper, Bard security, about reactivating the trail. They'd like to have more bicycle traffic between Tivoli and Bard College. She thanked Henry Christopher for the article about the dedication of the wetlands park. She acknowledged the boy scouts who tidied up the trail and planted flowers prior to the dedication.

Tree Preservation Committee – Supervisor Crane referred to a report from Chair Nancy Guski who told her that this spring there were 90 trees and shrubs planted in the Town and village of Red Hook. The project was accomplished through the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Urban and Community Forestry Grant and the New York State Department of Transportation Annual Landscape Development Program. At the Arbor Day celebration the Tree Commission gave away 150 seedlings, two bluebird houses, gift certificates donated by Grandiflora, Phantom Gardener, Mac's Farm and Garden, and Holy Cow. Through Friends of the Red Hook Library, they had author/illustrator Barbara Bash talk and draw with children about trees. She thanked the Highway Departments of the Town and Village of Red Hook, the volunteer planting teams, the Red Hook Recreation Park, the students of Mill Road School and Linden Avenue Middle School, all the Town and Village officials, the Friends of the Library, Jean Duntz and Town Clerk Sue McCann for all their help and support. Their next meeting will be May 7, 2008 at Town Hall at 7:30 pm. They will discuss the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Urban and Community Forestry Program Grant and the Town of Red Hook Forestry Management Plan.

Zoning Review Committee – Supervisor Crane referred to minutes of the March 13th meeting and explained that they can be reviewed on line. They discussed density through central water, current zoning regulations, multi-family dwellings, and reviewed changes in the Code.

Bard College – Councilwoman Strawinski announced Bard's 148th commencement on Saturday, May 24th. The commencement address will be given by Congressman Charles Rangel.

Correspondence – Supervisor Crane received a letter from a representative from the Community Preservation Corporation inviting the public to attend a grand opening ribbon cutting of Red Hook Commons I and II on Tuesday, June 3, 2008 at 10:00 a.m. at the Red Hook Commons. The Commissioner of New York Housing will be in attendance which is a great kudos to have him come to our Town.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Supervisor Crane asked if anyone had any comments.

Paula Schoonmaker spoke to a young man who was on the new trail how he liked it. He responded that it was great and was thankful.

Supervisor Crane was told by Lisa Glickenhause, a music teacher in Red Hook that she loved to jog on the trail. It makes it possible for her to jog without going on the road.

On a motion of Supervisor Crane, seconded by Councilwoman Strawinski move to go into attorney/client discussion at 9:50 p.m.

Adopted	Ayes	5	Crane, Ross, Strawinski, Colgan, Latimer
	Nays	0	

On a motion of Councilman Ross, seconded by Councilwoman Strawinski move to close the attorney/client discussion.

Adopted	Ayes	5	Crane, Ross, Strawinski, Colgan, Latimer
	Nays	0	

On a motion of Councilwoman Strawinski, seconded by Councilman Colgan move to adjourn the meeting at 11:00 p.m.

Adopted	Ayes	5	Crane, Ross, Strawinski, Colgan, Latimer
	Nays	0	

Respectfully submitted,

Sue McCann, Town Clerk