

RED HOOK TOWN BOARD MEETING

June 24, 2009

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 McKeon
Town Clerk Sue McCann

Also Present: Attorney for the Town Christine Chale

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

Tim Muldoon, Chair of the Disaster Preparedness Committee, introduced himself. He explained what the Committee wanted to accomplish this year. Animal preparedness is one that Dick Franklin has been working on and the other is communications. He is also on the Health and Safety Committee for the Red Hook Central School District. In discussions with them, there has been talk about being able to communicate during disasters. He understands that the Town Board does not have a good way to communicate with outside agencies if the power is out. He would like to schedule a table top drill where they would invite the Board and do a real drill to assimilate a disaster.

Supervisor Crane thinks that is a great idea and asked if he would set it up.

Councilwoman Strawinski asked what agencies would be involved.

Tim Muldoon responded that the plan would be to set up a scenario where we would have to communicate. The Board would have to be able to get in touch with the Fire Chief other than by landline telephone or cell phone. It could be by messenger, radio or something like that. They would look at alternative plans to be able to communicate during disasters.

Councilman McKeon thanked him. It is important information and can be a challenge to get the word out in a disaster.

Doug Strawinski informed the Board that the Recreation Park was hit with damage again. Trees planted three weeks ago were pulled out. He thanked Officer Patrick Hildenbrand for trying to get a handle on it. About half of the 150 trees planted were pulled out and thrown either in the creek or around the area.

Councilwoman Strawinski said this had to take a while because of the way the trees were planted. We do need to come together as a community to get a handle on this.

Supervisor Crane introduced the guest speaker for the night but before that she commended Patrick Hildenbrand, Officer in Charge of the Red Hook Police, who has done incredible work and put in long hours regarding the recent vandalism. He's done more than anyone expected him to do in order to try to identify who the children were and the others who caused so much damage with graffiti around the Recreation Park and the Village of Red Hook. It is heart wrenching and she is angry over this. She hopes parents know where their children are and provided a few suggestions. We have invited Captain Scott Brown from the New York State Police to discuss the consequences of these kinds of actions once people have been found guilty.

NEW YORK STATE POLICE – CAPTAIN SCOTT BROWN

Captain Brown said he was grateful to be invited to speak at the Town Board meeting. He apologized in advance for "preaching to the choir". He told everyone that Supervisor Crane asked him to speak at the meeting about the NY State Police and their role in the area. Captain Brown's position is Zone Commander at Troop K for Zone 1. It includes the northwest part of Dutchess County, including Hyde Park, Town and Village of Rhinebeck, the Town of Pine Plains, the Town of Clinton and the Town and Village of Red Hook. Red Hook is a beautiful

community and a lot of law enforcement officers from different agencies live here. They take stock in the problems going on right now and are interested too. We do have some allies here. We support and work with the various agencies. For routine patrols, midnight shifts, and day patrols they have sectors or precincts. On any given day, the State Police in Rhinebeck will have as few as three patrols and as many as five. It depends on the day. Dutchess County 911 does a tremendous job with the State Police and the DC Sheriff's Office. There are contractual issues and safety issues the State Police adhere to. They work closely with local agencies in Dutchess and Columbia Counties. They also work closely with the Dutchess County Sheriff's Office. When it comes to an accident, or an issue like what Red Hook is dealing with now, he assured everyone that the State Police supports the local police 100% as far as working with them and sharing information. If any information is discovered it would go right over to Officer Patrick Hildenbrand. As far as patrols, the State Police strongly support the local officers. He suggested that an option would be for the Red Hook Police Department to work 24/7. Captain Brown explained that he cannot commit to extra patrols with a guaranteed handshake. He can meet with the DC Sheriff's Office and the Red Hook Police Department to come up with a plan. Summer is here and with warm weather we have more crimes and incidents. Right now there is a pattern in Red Hook with the tree damage and graffiti. The State Police have responsibilities in Pine Plains, Clinton Corners, Hyde Park, and in the Town and Village of Rhinebeck. They do dedicate a car to Red Hook during the day time. The police work together as one big cohesive unit.

Councilman Colgan asked how 911 calls function. He is under the impression that if 911 is called one of three different police organizations would show up.

Captain Brown responded absolutely. He explained that if a serious accident occurred, the closest car would be called. For rural towns it is the closest car concept.

Captain Brown explained that Supervisor Crane asked him to touch upon some things about consequences and repercussions. There is a Family Court which is for ages under 16 and ages 16 and older are treated as adults. There is lack of individual or family values and what ties in with that is a lack of parental or guardian oversight and guidance. Graffiti crimes and property damage crimes are non-personal; they are quality of life crimes. That is what a lot of this is. Red Hook is a beautiful community and you can do without quality of life crimes. There is also a perception that there are no consequences. When arrests are made, there are consequences, as long as different entities are working together including the parents and child. He is a firm believer that you should be held accountable for your actions. Once the individual has been arrested or petitioned in family court people agree that the crime cannot just fall by the wayside. There are punishments, but what about the victims? Laws have changed to take care of the victims. What about restitution? Who will pay the Town back to clean that mess up? That is where he is going with this. No one wants to see their child go to jail. He hopes if the perpetrators of the graffiti in Red Hook are found the different entities work together and say everybody pay up. It has to be a learning lesson. He gave an example of a crime in Dover Plains which had over \$100,000 in damage. Who pays for that? There has to be education and intervention. He believes people have to be accountable for their actions and there have to be consequences. He is confident that soon there will be information about who is responsible for the graffiti. The Chief has great ideas that are fantastic prevention security measures. He asked if the Town has a neighborhood watch area.

Supervisor Crane explained there is one in a very discreet neighborhood.

Captain Brown said Red Hook is becoming a bigger community. He suggested that someone take initiative and get a formal neighborhood watch together and have protocols about contacting the police if in fact something is seen. He thinks it is time for the Town to get aggressive. The Town has invested a lot of money in the Rec. Park. Volunteerism and neighborhood watch is something to consider. Talking about intervention when you involve kids, they need to clean up or perform community service for their punishment. Education of parents and children is important. These crimes are cyclical and he said that things will slow down but part of getting things to slow down is to identify who is committing the criminal acts and take care of them, then it gets quiet for a while. He suggested getting the word out to the public that enough is enough. It is back to consequences and restitution. Somebody has to pay financially; it should not be the Town to clean this up. Otherwise people aren't going to learn, if there are not consequences, they will do it again. In conclusion, the police departments will get a plan

together to help the Town out. They will have to look at numbers. He said not to worry, we will conquer this.

Rosemarie Zengen thanked Captain Brown for his presentation. She thinks it is important for the viewers to hear what he has to say because she thinks the State Troopers have a bad reputation. She asked why the State Police can no longer plead down to a lesser crime.

Captain Brown responded that the State Police's position is this: In September of 2006 a stand was taken by the State Police executive staff to no longer allow Troopers to actively engage in plea bargaining. No other agency he knows of does this. For tickets State Police write, they cannot knock it down to a lesser violation anymore. It is a very controversial subject with the general public, the judicial system and within law enforcement. Is it a fair system? He can't comment on that.

Rosemarie asked who to contact if you feel this is an incorrect procedure.

Captain Brown responded a local congressman or legislator.

Rosemarie Zengen said we always hear about quotas, and if it is true that police have to meet quotas.

Captain Brown answered that they can write as many as they want. There are no quotas. He has been on the job for 29 years and that question has been posed many times.

Rosemarie Zengen has known several State Troopers personally who go above and beyond the call of duty. There are some that are great but a lot of people she spoke to feel that the Troopers have a cocky attitude about them.

Captain Brown responded that the State Police have a very structured and rigorous six month academy. Some may have a little bit of an attitude until they learn to relax a little. He is not saying that is what it is; it is an individual character trait. We have about 4,000 Troopers, and they probably do have a few hundred people that have attitudes. He said they have measurements with service complaints or personnel complaints that are made. They don't tolerate nastiness. He is sorry she feels that the Troopers have attitudes. In a lot of cases we have wonderful men and women working. If there is a complaint in the Dutchess County area, go right to Rhinebeck to complain. They will listen to both sides of the story. If someone is having an issue with one of his officers, he wants to know about it.

Supervisor Crane is excited to hear that the three organizations of police officers will get together in a collaborative effort to try to provide coverage to the Town as best they can. The amount of damage done is devastating to all those volunteers, the children who play at the park and the parents who take them there. She thanked Captain Brown for coming, and then introduced Patrick Hildenbrand, who she called the muscle behind the scenes in all of what was discussed that night. He has done a tremendous job. She asked Patrick what if anything he can tell the Board and she also asked him to introduce the new Police Chief, Jim Truitt.

Officer Hildenbrand announced that Jim Truitt is now the Chief of Police in Red Hook who came from the Town of Poughkeepsie. Regarding the incident of graffiti, it is being investigated. He did a brief press release. At this point the investigation is going in a positive direction and should be closed out by the end of next week. He will meet with the Recreation Director to estimate damages. They have a good handle on who was involved in the incident at the Recreation Park. Regarding the CVS and Library, they have a handle on that as well. Regarding the tree damage, he will start on that investigation tomorrow. He reiterated that all of the police organizations are working together and are sharing information. Once the investigation is complete the Board will be advised. Patrick introduced Jim Truitt, new Chief of the Red Hook Police Department. He said that Jim brings a tremendous amount of experience to Red Hook.

Jim Truitt explained that he has been a public servant for 29 years. He currently teaches at SUNY Ulster full time. It is not just a job, it is his entire life. He and his family live in Red Hook and he looks forward to helping in the efforts of the dedicated police here.

Supervisor Crane thanked him and told him it's nice to have him on board. It's good to know that the police are approachable and willing to have an open mind to people's concerns and information. This is a serious situation here and she is grateful for the police's contribution.

WALKWAY OVER THE HUDSON

Supervisor Crane introduced Kari Feurer, a local artist selected to represent Red Hook at the celebration of Walkway Over the Hudson.

Kari explained that this is part of the Hudson/Champlain Quadricentennial Celebration program. The Walkway Over the Hudson, which is the long pedestrian bridge that is being made from the old railway bridge, will open October 3rd and each Town along the Hudson will be sending a delegation and art to the procession. She is representing the Town of Red Hook. They will be doing a community art project and she showed an example of the art. She asked that anyone who would want to walk in the procession sign up on sheets she will leave with the Town Clerk. She asked if anyone had ideas of how to get the word out to let her know and she is open to any other suggestions.

ENERGY EFFICIENCY & CLEAN ENERGY ALTERNATIVES

Supervisor Crane introduced the Energy Efficiency & Clean Energy alternatives presentation.

Denis Collet gave a brief background. He and Laurie Husted are on the Conservation Advisory Council and he expressed an interest in trying to take some of the skills and resources he has in renewable energy, solar, geothermal and others, and try to elevate consciousness in the community. Laurie Husted had a couple of students, Dan Raskin and June Harada who wanted to create a school project at Bard that would basically create a tutorial on local renewal energy initiatives. About 7 or 8 months ago he met with them and they decided to investigate what kind of municipal solar energy projects were going on around the country. The topic is to go through three models of municipal sponsored renewable energy and sustainability projects that are representative of what other communities are doing. He reviewed the three models. One, a weatherization program, one a solar panel individual residence supported project and the last a solar farm. He then introduced Dan Raskin who talked about the Long Island Green Homes program, a home weatherization program based in Babylon, NY.

Dan Raskin explained that Babylon is a city about the size of the population of Dutchess County. He gave a presentation on the Green Homes program. The benefits of the program are available to all owners of single family units regardless of income, so it complements some of the already existing weatherization programs in New York. He explained the benefits and some common measures of weatherization. After filling out information about your home, an energy auditor will go to your house and explain what measures the homeowner can take to fix up their house. The audit itself cost \$250 but that gets deducted from the first payment. Then you receive a report of suggested changes and costs, and if you choose to go forward you can make the improvements through licensed contractor. Following that you would receive your benefit assessment which is essentially a payment plan. There is a 3% interest for administrative costs. The cap on renovations is \$12,000, but the average cost is \$6,800. There is a payback cap of ten years and the average period of payback is 7.75 years. Dan gave examples of weatherization, the benefits and the challenges.

Laurie Husted explained the Berkley First program. It is the financing initiative that Berkley came up with to put small scale solar panels on homes and businesses. It is voluntary and funding comes from the Berkley's municipal bonds. The Town received the money from a special tax on their properties. The ownership of the panel stays with the home. She explained the challenges and benefits of the program.

Denis Collet presented information about the Ellensburg Municipal Solar project. It is designed to optimize photovoltaic/solar panels for residents to participate in the program. Net-metering is putting the energy back onto the grid causing the meter to run backwards. The net result is what you either pay for or get credit for. Virtual net metering is instead of producing individually, there would be a solar farm. People would have shares in that solar farm and your portion of that share would be credited against your bill. The Ellensburg model is municipally operated to monitor the activity of the solar farm. He reviewed the two phases of the project. Once the initial infrastructure is established the cost will continue to go down. Panels are becoming much more efficient and we are going to see a rapid decline in the cost of solar panels. He explained

challenges and benefits of net-metering for community solar. He suggested looking at the full spectrum of renewable energy alternatives and to start harvesting as a community. Ellensburg is in Washington State and he is not sure there are initiatives in New York, but believes there are in Vermont and Massachusetts.

Councilman Colgan thinks the intent is to get the municipality involved in energy production and energy efficiency and provide a system to help individuals in the community to participate. He feels the devil is in the details and the details are profound and substantial as he sees it.

Denis referred to the Berkley model. It is really an energy assessment on their property. The association of attaching it to the property makes it easier to fund. Financial institutions use a 20 year loan. He explained the financing and how most financial institutions don't find this a high risk. There is no increase on the burden of the community for those who don't participate.

Councilman Colgan clarified that this is a community program, a voluntary program and the municipality would help place the financing and the community at large would not be responsible for the financing.

Councilman McKeon thinks we should take a look at the initiatives and see what we can do in Red Hook. For too long we have heard about the balance between the environment and economic development. That paradigm has changed and economic development is about the environment. We have an opportunity to create additional jobs. He would like to see if there is a way to deploy construction people in our community. He is interested in the Berkley First cost and tax incentive. It seems like a stimulus package in and of itself and any stimulus should be explored.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT TASK FORCE

Michelle Martin, Chair, gave the presentation about Economic Development. The Task Force was created to define what the process, the responsibility and the organization of the committee should be. They started their work in March of this year. Members are Michelle Martin, Chair of the Task Force, Beth Jones, Edward Pruitt, Mary Ann Johnson, and James Brudvig. The Task Force was charged with creating a new vision for an approach to economic development in Red Hook. They conducted research on how other Towns are forming economic development and what is working. In depth surveys were sent to each of the Town advisory committees asking for feedback. They distributed 13 and received 4. The four they received were from the Ag & Open Space Committee, Ethics Board, Greenway & Trails Committee and the Zoning Review Committee. In their research they found that economic development means something different to all sorts of individuals depending how you were raised and how you live. Their duty was to set forth what the Economic Development Committee should be focused on and what their purpose and responsibility should be. She went through what they see the responsibility as being. The EDC should be the agency for managing a comprehensive strategy to strengthen the local economy. It must be broadly represented. It should be the central entity to manage the flow of information and communication pertaining to economic development in Red Hook. An area identified as needing improvement is managing the flow of communication between all of the committees that have something to do with economic development. Partnership with the committees should be established. The EDC needs to be accountable and responsible to keep all activities progressing as it pertains to economic development. With all of the responsibilities combined they formulated a mission statement. Basically the mission statement of the EDC should be something like the following: To support the economic health of the community and to promote the development of business as performing services which will provide job opportunities, diversify and broaden the tax base, enhance the quality of life in the Town of Red Hook, including the Villages of Red Hook and of Tivoli.

Michelle explained that the Task Force realized the following responsibilities that the EDC should assume: The primary responsibility is to foster community wide visioning. That is a process through which individuals, citizens, businesses and government leader's work together to create a shared vision of the future of the community. The EDC would spearhead the process and provide the structure for the implementation. The second responsibility they felt the EDC should be accountable for is to facilitate and organize all the resources for economic development. The third responsibility is to work together with the advisory committee to implement the Centers and Greenspace Plan. This plan proposes for multiple district and sub-districts within the community and it is the feeling of the task force that this plan should be a

valued principle as the advisory committee and the EDC work together to determine what types of businesses would fit as it pertains to the community vision and also the Centers and Greenspace Plan. Each district and business should be viewed for stability to support a local tax base and to fulfill a community vision. In addition to the three responsibilities there are several points the task force feels are important for the EDC to work on. One important point is that the EDC establish a business incubator program. A lot of businesses in our community could benefit from that support. It would be a program and/or location to foster and help support small businesses. The second point would be to reach out to the largest employers in Red Hook to identify their needs. The third is to work closely with Town advisory committees to address taxes as it relates to the business community and to residents. They would also assess the advantage and opportunities of new potential businesses and how it might affect the tax base. Some other focuses of the EDC are to be the resource to the potential business owner, to help them and direct them in the right direction if they want to establish a business, to collaborate with organizations such as the Chamber of Commerce, the Northern Dutchess Alliance and the Dutchess County Economic Corporation. Other help would be to offer business planning, provide direction for location of businesses, and help provide a venue for marketing.

Beth Jones told the Board that the Task Force did a lot of work creating what they feel is a solid structure for an Economic Development Committee that would really be a vital organization, or a hub for helping people with business throughout the community. They feel the members of the EDC should present a vision and commitment to facilitate economic development in the Town of Red Hook. She continued to explain the type of experience the Task Force would like to see to fulfill the vision for membership on the committee as well as term limits for members of the EDC. It would be important for members to have a business background, a Chair appointed by the Town Board who would have excellent communication and organizational skills. They feel the EDC should consist of nine members, one of whom should be a government liaison who will actually keep track of changes at the State, regional or county level and monitor how those changes may affect economic development in the Town of Red Hook. Ideally, the EDC members would bring strong expertise in areas to fulfill the vision. Suggested terms are five year staggered. The Task Force requests letters of interest from various sectors of the community then those sectors could decide who would represent them. The sectors they recommend the EDC draw from would be agriculture, cultural and entertainment, education, both public and private, finance, non-profit organizations, professional, religious, restaurants and retail establishments. The EDC has to be a very active committee with bi-weekly meetings and ten month sessions. Sessions should include agendas for the particular session. They need very dedicated members and will have an attendance policy. Quarterly meetings with each committee as its business pertains to economic development will be held to keep each other in the loop. It will take communication and dedication for this to work. She feels the recommendations are sufficient to proceed with the economic development of Red Hook. She thanked the Board for giving her the opportunity to serve on that task force.

Councilman Colgan asked if they had a work product. He hopes that all of the Task Force members will stay in an advisory position while the Town moves on to the next step.

Supervisor Crane asked what they see as the first step.

Michelle Martin responded to appoint a Chairperson to the EDC and go through the process of finding committee members. After that she thinks you have to address it as a couple of steps happening at the same time. Community wide visioning is critical. Also, in addition to that is to start dialog with other committees to get everyone on the same page.

Beth Jones explained that their report details what they feel the initial focus of the committee should be.

Councilwoman Strawinski asked if the information from the four committees who responded will be included in the report.

Beth Jones said it will be.

Supervisor Crane found the sectors to be very interesting.

Beth Jones agreed that is very important.

Councilman McKeon asked if the report has short term recommendations. It sounds like what the Task Force is describing will take a little while. Are there recommendations about what could be done in the mean time?

Beth Jones explained the Task Force spent a lot of time on how to market Red Hook. They researched different programs in the northeast. They have to find money to do this. If there was an EDC website people could utilize it to get information to support businesses. A directory is really important.

Councilwoman Strawinski asked if that was talked about with the Chamber of Commerce.

Michelle Martin said they would like to see the EDC work closely with the Chamber of Commerce.

Supervisor Crane asked who would lead the community visioning.

Beth Jones would like the EDC to do that and they think it is critical to get it done.

Michelle Martin reminded everyone that the EDC Task Force was to determine the purpose, structure and responsibilities of the EDC. The actual EDC itself then needs to take that and determine what the first steps should be. They all think that community wide visioning is a critical step. Then starting dialog with committees and having the EDC Chair determine and set forth an agenda and short term and long term goals for that committee.

Councilman McKeon commented then that committee has to be constituted. The general public should be aware that they can volunteer as well as former EDC members.

James Brudvig added that it is important that you begin and end committee work. It would be a good thing for the EDC too.

Supervisor Crane thanked all of the EDC Task Force members for all of their work.

RESOLUTIONS

Supervisor Crane asked the Board's permission to add one more resolution to the agenda regarding the naming of a street for 911 security purposes.

Supervisor Crane started with the two resolutions supporting the Smart Growth Grant Program application that the Town is making. One is for the Town signatures. She read the resolution regarding the Smart Growth Grant. Supervisor Crane met with Linda Keeling and she believes the Town has all of the elements needed to submit the application on time. She thanked Linda for her hard work in pulling this together.

RESOLUTION 2009 # 23

RE: SUPPORT OF THE TOWN OF RED HOOK'S APPLICATION TO NYS SMART GROWTH GRANT PROGRAM IN THE LOWER HUDSON VALLEY AND THAT THE TOWN OF RED HOOK SUPERVISOR SUE T. CRANE SHALL BE DESIGNATED AS REPRESENTATIVE TO ACT ON BEHALF OF THE TOWN OF RED HOOK IN ALL MATTERS RELATED TO THE GRANT APPLICATION AND PROGRAM.

On a motion of Supervisor Sue Crane, seconded by Councilman Robert McKeon, moved to accept the resolution as read.

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

Copy attached

RESOLUTION 2009 #24

RE: VILLAGE OF RED HOOK'S NYS SMART GROWTH PROGRAM AND BRENT KOVALCHIK SHALL BE DESIGNATED AS REPRESENTATIVE TO ACT ON THE BEHALF OF THE VILLAGE OF RED HOOK IN ALL MATTERS RELATED TO THE

VILLAGE OF RED HOOK'S NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF SMART GROWTH GRANT PROGRAM IN THE LOWER HUDSON VALLEY

On a motion of Supervisor Sue Crane, seconded by Councilman James Ross, moved to support the Village of Red Hook's Smart Growth Grant application.

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

Copy attached

Councilman McKeon asked Supervisor Crane if the Village of Red Hook will support the Town's application for the Smart Growth Grant.

Supervisor Crane responded that they already have resolved to support the Town's application. We have their resolution as part of our package and all Board members will get a copy when complete.

Supervisor Crane introduced a resolution for the Lamplight Court Mobile Estates. They have not had a 911 designation and are requesting that the private common drives be named Lamplight Court and Lamplight Court Extension. She read the resolution.

RESOLUTION 2009 #25

RE: APPROVING THE NAMES OF "LAMPLIGHT COURT" AND "LAMPLIGHT COURT EXTENSION" AS PRIVATE/Common Drives to provide a means of identifying mobile home units for emergency response purposes

On a motion of Supervisor Sue Crane, seconded by Councilwoman Micki Strawinski, moved to accept the resolution as read.

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

Copy attached

REORGANIZATION

Supervisor Crane brought reorganization issues to the Board.

Ag. & Open Space Committee - There are now two vacancies on the Ag. & Open Space Committee. She asked Councilman McKeon, liaison to that committee, if he knows if there are recommendations for those two vacancies.

Councilman McKeon told the Board that the committee hasn't gotten back to him. He knows that two people expressed interest in the committee and he will bring this to them at their next meeting.

Supervisor Crane said there are no minutes from any of those meetings this year and she asked if the Ag. & Open Space Committee has a secretary.

Councilman McKeon said they have the same secretary they've had. He knows that they've met because he was at one or two of their meetings and he's expressed to them that they need to get the minutes in.

Supervisor Crane asked that he address that with the committee. It is important for everyone to be able to stay abreast of what is going on in those meetings and they really should be part of our website agenda and minutes.

Councilwoman Strawinski asked if there is a Board liaison to the Highway Department. She doesn't see Highway listed.

Supervisor Crane explained that it must be an oversight. She and Councilman McKeon will be liaisons to the Highway Department.

Councilman McKeon thanked Miriam Latzer for her service on the Ag. & Open Space Committee. She arranged for and spearheaded the winter farm market.

Town Clerk McCann brought some points to the Board's attention. Susan Ellis is not secretary of the Assessment Review Board so she eliminated that and Carl Dowden should be noted as the Chair of the Assessment Review Board.

EDC – The Board will review the report from the Task Force before they strategize as to how to handle that committee.

Councilman Ross explained that we never disbanded the EDC; we just put them on hold.

Councilwoman Strawinski responded that certainly needs to be part of their discussion.

Ethics Board – Supervisor Crane explained that there is a vacancy and recommendations from that committee.

Councilman Colgan read a letter from the Ethics Board recommending Susan Simon as first choice and Reverend Thomas Theilmann as their second choice.

Supervisor Crane referred to a lengthy letter from Ethics Board member Linda Keeling. Because of that letter, she asked the Board to take the time to review it before the Board makes any decisions regarding the vacancy. Supervisor Crane will put it on the next agenda.

Councilman Colgan doesn't think there is an Ethics Board meeting before the next Board meeting.

Councilwoman Strawinski said the packet presented by Linda Keeling is things she's commented on at previous meetings. She doesn't see why the Board just can't go ahead and make the appointment.

Councilman Colgan said it isn't urgent.

Councilman McKeon is happy to wait.

Attorney Chale recommended that the Board reference five year staggered terms for the Ethics Board members.

Farmland Protection Committee – has two vacancies. Councilman McKeon commented that they meet infrequently. There is nothing on the horizon in the near future for that committee.

Greenway & Trails Committee – Chair Howie Callies submitted a proposed mission statement. Supervisor Crane read the mission statement.

Councilman McKeon commented that is the best mission statement he's read.

Supervisor Crane has no problem with that mission statement. She presumes they would want it on the website.

On a motion of Councilman McKeon, seconded by Councilwoman Strawinski, moved to accept the mission statement as written.

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

Intermunicipal Cooperation Task Force – Supervisor Crane asked Councilman Colgan the status of the Task Force.

Councilman Colgan has had a number of conversations and he will have an organizational meeting very soon.

Recreation Committee – Supervisor Crane read a letter from Yvonne Turchetti. Supervisor Crane has known Yvonne for a long time and would be supportive and pleased to nominate her.

On a motion of Supervisor Crane, seconded by Councilman Ross, moved to appoint Yvonne Turchetti to fill Bob Bowman's vacancy on the Recreation Committee term to expire December 31, 2009.

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

Planning Board Alternate – Councilwoman Strawinski asked if we submitted letters to solicit members for the position.

Supervisor Crane said she has not other than mentioned it. She hopes that anyone interested comes forward to be on the Planning Board as an alternate. It is not a voting position unless there is not a quorum.

Councilman McKeon would like to have the role of the Planning Board Alternate on the agenda for the next meeting in order to discuss it. He thinks the Board should take a look at whether or not they should have the ability to vote if they are showing up for meetings.

Councilman Ross said then we would have to revisit our policy.

Councilman McKeon is suggesting that. It was a trial and he doesn't think it was successful.

Councilwoman Strawinski has a couple of letters of interest received in 2008 and she would be happy to contact those people after the next meeting.

Zoning Review Committee - waiting for an Ag & Open Space member and an EDC member.

CORRESPONDENCE

Supervisor Crane referred to correspondence she received regarding the Rokeby Road site.

- A letter from Red Hook Mayor David Cohen to her saying that at a special Village Board meeting on June 11th, the Board affirmed their interest in exploring options on shared services with the Town. However the proposed Rokeby site for the Highway Garage has been found to be generally unacceptable by the Village Board. There are a number of alternative sites available to the Town and it should be noted that the Village Board does embrace shared services but in an open, equally weighted manner without any pre-selected garage location. The topic is open for further discussion and he is available at her earliest convenience.

- A letter was received by way of Attorney Christine Chale through Attorney Joel Sachs as a result of his letter of request from the owners of the Rokeby Road site, known as the Lippert property. She read the letter from the Lipperts that said they would consider the request for a Phase II investigation under the following conditions: 1) a detailed description in writing of the work being performed prior to the Phase II investigation from the Town's Engineering consultant and licensed and insured contractor 2) A written copy of the results of the Phase II investigation after its completion 3) A Hold Harmless Indemnification Agreement to cover Charles & Roxanne Lippert for any/all potential losses/claims as a result of this investigation. The letter was signed by Roxanne & Charles Lippert.

Supervisor Crane told that Board, as they know, she wrote to Attorney Joel Sachs indicating that since the Town has an Attorney on retainer, the Board prefers that all further legal work be done by Christine Chale. When Supervisor Crane received the letter she was concerned about the "hold harmless" clause. What happens if during the Phase II process we do uncover contamination that requires remediation? Those results must be reported to the New York State DEC. If the Lipperts are held harmless who is responsible for the cleanup?

Attorney Chale suggested any further discussion regarding the Lippert property be held in Attorney/Client session.

Supervisor Crane put more correspondence in a file to be circulated among the Board members. She did receive a letter from farmer Joe Rossi. He asked the Highway Department to stop cutting the grass on his hay field. He doesn't want the grass to get into his hay.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Town Clerk Sue McCann announced that the Senior Picnic has been set for September 16, 2009 at the Red Hook Recreation Park.

Councilman McKeon made a number of announcements of events in and around Red Hook.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Supervisor Crane opened for public comments.

There were none.

On a motion of Supervisor Crane, seconded by Councilman Colgan, moved to go into Attorney/Client session.

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

On a motion of Supervisor Crane, seconded by Councilman McKeon, moved to adjourn the Attorney/Client session at 10:45 p.m.

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

On a motion of Supervisor Crane, seconded by Councilman Colgan, moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:46 p.m.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Sue McCann, Town Clerk