

Water Mill Citizens Advisory Committee  
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Minutes for December 11th, 2023

Minutes for November 13th, 2023 were approved.

Members: Gloria Rabinowitz, Rachel Verno, Jamie Egerton-Warburton (via Zoom)

Guests: Olivia Motch, Tsewang Motch, Adam Halsey, Ed Kush, Cindy Corwith, Jamie Wilson, Sandy Raynor, Aaron Halsey, Kristin White, Judith Verno, Helen Verno (via Zoom)

**Firehouse Update:**

- Rachel reported information from the last Fire District Commissioners' meeting since some guests had not been in attendance for our last CAC meeting.
- Reported that the North Sea Road firehouse proposal is being discussed with the Village and while the Commissioners are optimistic with those negotiations, there is nothing definitive expected for some time.
- The Commissioners reported that the North Sea Road project would take priority over the Upper Seven Ponds project (which they said would be on the back burner) but the Water Mill project is definitely still in play.
- Ben Chaleff had presented revised plans for the Upper Seven Ponds Road project.
- Commissioners rejected the Station Road property as being too expensive, too difficult to get to and too small. The Willow property had previously been rejected as being too far east.

**Climate Action Plan:**

- Reported that the plan can be found on the Town's web site and a public hearing would be held on December 12th at 1pm.
- The CAC has not discussed the specifics of this plan.

**Extended Term Limits;**

- Public hearing is being held on December 12th at 1pm.
- The CAC discussed this issue last month when the Supervisor and Councilman Schiavoni were guests.
- There was no consensus on the issue of extending term limits.

**Park Proposal:**

- Ceremonial ground breaking on December 13th at 2:30.
- Representatives from the Community Club, Museum and CPF committee reported that they had not yet seen any revised plans for the park and they had expected another CAC meeting to get an update.
- Discussion as to how the CAC could better participate in this process and better inform the community in the future.

- One guest suggested that Chris La Guardia be invited to a meeting so the community could see how their comments from the initial presentation had been addressed.
- Discussed that Water Mill would be getting a new Town Board liaison and when the CAC learned who that was, we could ask what the appropriate steps would be to be kept informed.
- Discussion regarding the differences between being a CAC member and guest and how to become a member.

#### **Community Housing Fund:**

- Public hearing on December 21st to discuss approving this plan.
- Discussed some of the objectives of the plan.
- Discussed the Euell property and the proposal for affordable housing at that location. Several guests who had not attended last month's meeting showed support for that location.
- There is a Town Board public hearing on January 9th at 1pm to discuss the acquisition of the 3.8 acre Euell property for \$4.3 million using CHF.

#### **Planning Board Public Hearings:**

- Proposal for an 8000sf medical building behind the diner will have a pre-submission conference on January 25th. Plans are online.
- 4 Whispering Pines horse farm has a public hearing on January 11th. Plans are online.

#### **Marijuana Dispensary:**

- The Town has adopted zoning for dispensaries. Currently there is no legislation/zoning regarding consumption bars.
- A number of letters of intent have been submitted to the Town Board and there are a number of locations in Water Mill being presented as potential sites for dispensaries.
- To date, the one proposal that is before the Planning Board is at the Carvel site in Bridgehampton.
- Locations in Water Mill that have been identified are Calissa's, the new Scuttlehole Business complex and the old antique store on the Northwest corner of Willow (next to the gas station). It is unclear if the owners of any of these locations have actually agreed to sell or rent these properties for this use.
- Current zoning limits how close dispensaries can be to schools, museums, parks and residences and also limits how close they can be to each other. There are no limits as to how many dispensaries can be within the hamlet and that is something that should probably be looked at.
- The zoning can be revisited.
- The ag reserve property on 7 Ponds that was going to be purchased for cannabis growing did not go through.
- CAC had discussed asking CPF to purchase this property in the past, but it is already preserved from when the subdivision was approved.

#### **Membership:**

- Steve Lerner is stepping down from the CAC.
- All other members will stay on.
- CAC will submit list to Paula Godfrey in January.

Minutes taken by Rachel Verno