

Water Mill Citizens Advisory Committee
PO Box 880 880
Water Mill, N.Y., 11976
watermillcac@gmail.com

Minutes for March 11, 2024

Members: Rachel Verno, Paul Griffin, Karen Sutton, Marlene Haresign

Guests: Councilmember Michael Iasilli, Andrew Rouff, Greg Tietjan, Jamie Wilson

Minutes for February 12, 2024 approved

Traffic Mitigation & Safety Task Force

- The CAC invited Councilmember Iasilli to discuss the newly created task force.
- Discussed who was on the committee. Tom Neely and Charlie McArdle will co-chair.
- The task force will meet for approximately six months, at the end they will provide a final report which will be given to the County as part of their traffic study.
- There will be a series of approximately 6 meetings open to the public.
- Some issues discussed:
 - what is the make up of the rush hour traffic, tradespeople, office workers, residents, seasonal vacationers
 - are there ways to incentivize tradespeople to leave trucks in safe locations
 - what is the reality of the bus and train as an alternative means to commute
 - how would people get from stations/stops to their place of business
 - how to convince the MTA to invest in the eastern end of Long Island
 - where is the data from all of the studies done and what does it show
 - for example, in Water Mill how successful was the blinking light and what was the cost

- discussed the Little Cobb project, the cost, the data re how much traffic was diverted to other roads with the closure of Old Mill and Upper Seven and how much time was actually saved vs cost
 - one resident asked about speed humps to slow down traffic and discourage using the back roads
 - discussed speed monitors and the hiring of more traffic officers
 - back road traffic
 - excessive speeding through hamlet center when there is no traffic
 - same speeding issue on the back roads
 - discussed that some residents have requested their roads be closed off to through traffic during the rush hour
 - how to balance trying to keep traffic moving and safety, specifically the light at Station Road which now services a major housing development
 - discussed that the light at Station Road is not the primary reason for the backup in Water Mill, the fact that there are two lanes on CR39 that have to merge into one lane on RT.27 is the primary cause
 - one member asked that the task force be bold with its recommendations, even if unpopular
 - suggested a moratorium of all building during the height of the season (this is done in some communities)
- The first public meeting will be scheduled on or around April 10

Other Business

- Discussed legislative appointments
- Discussed the Red Barn project which is before the Planning Board. The residents are hoping that the owner of the property will be open to selling the property to the Town and in turn would the Town consider purchasing the open lots with CPF. There is currently a conservation easement that the Town owns from the prior application. At the Planning Board session the lawyer for one of the adjacent residents has indicated that their position is that the applicant has to start the process over since the original approvals have lapsed. It is not clear whether the Planning Board agrees with this position. The previous application allowed for 5 buildable lots with the conservation easement, but starting over would only allow for two units.
- Since our meeting, the Trustees met with Solitude Lake Management to discuss a plan for 2024.