

ACQUISITION OF CSX LANDS PUBLIC HEARING
AUGUST 20, 2008

The Public Hearing on the above was held on August 20, 2008 at Watts dePeyster Hall. Called to order at 7:07 p.m.

Present: Mayor Cordier, Deputy Mayor Cranna and Trustees Ezrati and Leedy.

Public: Attorney Christine Chale, Brandee Nelson of Crawford Associates, Fred Cartier of PANDA, Richard G. Simmons, Harry Colgan, Kathryn Rebillot, Barbara Eichen, Doug & Jennifer Dundas, Dominic Scarpullo and Vincent Manna.

Mayor Cordier opened the meeting with remarks about the history of the efforts by the Village and the Waterfront Committee to develop a waterfront park and restore the bulkhead so that handcraft could dock at the Park. The Mayor also presented the map of the proposed acquisition and the proposed design of the waterfront park.

Mayor Cordier stressed that the Public Hearing was strictly about the acquisition of the parcels from CSX, and not about any further phases of the development of the waterfront park. Mayor Cordier then introduced Deacon (Richard G.) Simmons, who was born around 1920 in Tivoli, and asked him to speak about his experiences as a boy when the bulkhead was in use and there was active boat service, a train station and overpass at the Tivoli Waterfront. Mr. Simmons spoke at length and in detail about his memories.

Public Comment: Harry Colgan, a Tivoli resident and Red Hook Town Councilman, spoke in support of the acquisition, noting that when the park is completed it will be the only public access to the Hudson river in the whole town.

Doug Dundas spoke in support, noting that he and his wife bring their young daughter down to the river and would like to be able to picnic, etc., there when the Waterfront park is completed.

Barbara Eichen asked about the restoration of the bulkhead and Brandee Nelson, an engineer from Crawford Associates explained that the bulkhead would be restored by using steel sheets and would require heavy equipment, but that the dock itself when installed would be for handcraft (kayaks, canoes, etc).

The Public Hearing portion of the meeting was adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Queen
Village Clerk

