

TIVOLI WATERFRONT COMMITTEE
Meeting – December 10, 2009
Village Hall
MINUTES

Attendees:

Joel Griffith, Chairman
Mark Bennett
Martin Clarke
Tom Cordier, Mayor
Bonnie Corrado
Harry Colgan
Barbara Eichin
Susan Ezrati, Trustee
Joel Griffith
Kathy Rebillot

Absent:

Phyllis Palmer

The meeting began at 4:30 pm. The recording secretary, Susan Ezrati, was late arriving. Therefore, Joel Griffith and Barbara Eichin took notes.

Members of the committee discussed some continuing organizational issues. They determined to continue meeting monthly on the second Thursday of the month at 4:30 pm in the Village Hall. By consensus and consent, it was agreed that Bonnie Corrado would assume the chairmanship beginning in February. Joel Griffith, the current chair, will be away from February through May 2010.

Joel Griffith brought up the need for clarity on what the parameters are for the Waterfront Committee. Discussion ensued regarding responsibilities and purpose of the committee. Mayor Cordier stated that he has informed the Village Board that the Waterfront Committee will lead the selection process regarding choosing engineering firms and reviewing design. Tom added that the village residents will also take part in giving input. Recommendations would then be given to the Village Board.

The mayor state that he will make engineering proposals available to members of the Waterfront committee. Harry and Marty reviewed the same earlier in the year and made notes on various firms. The mayor suggested that a next step ofr the committee would be for members to visit other waterfront parks, **starting** with Poughkeepsie. Marty and Barbara volunteered to join Tom on this trip. The mayor suggested that at some point we have the mayor of Newburgh speak on his waterfront experience.

Mayor Cordier suggested trying to get Bonnie Devine (DOS) to come and address the next Waterfront Committee meeting, but it was decided to wait until Tivoli actually owns the parcel. The mayor noted that Bonnie Devine was known for doing an excellent job in many communities of ensuring that the community get what they deserved from the expenditure of DOS funds. He expects that she will do the same for Tivoli.

Marty Clarke posed the question: “How soon will the closing take place?” Mayor Cordier explained that the binder had been paid and Tivoli was waiting for CSX to get back to the Village. He assumes that we are “in the queue of CSX business.”

Susan Ezrati arrived, apologized for being late and began taking minutes. The committee expressed gratitude to Susan for offering to take the minutes and for doing a comprehensive job of it. It was agreed that Susan would continue to draft the minutes, receive additions or changes and present the final minutes to be approved by the committee.

The members then discussed “visioning” strategies that might lead to a desirable design for the waterfront. They agreed to visit various similar waterfronts (Poughkeepsie, etc.) and return to the January meeting with their findings and impressions. The committee decided that at the next meeting it would begin to compile and refine a vision for the waterfront park’s design and usages. As the committee’s ideas come together, it can then present to prospective designers, the desires and vision of the Committee for the waterfront.

The Committee reiterated that it was important that everyone have a common understanding of the Committee’s purpose and responsibilities. It was suggested that the Committee draft a Mission Statement to achieve the common understanding. Marc Bennett volunteered to spearhead the process. Susan Ezrati offered her assistance in form and format.

The meeting was adjourned

The next meeting of the Waterfront Committee will take place on Thursday, January 14, 2010 at 4:30 pm in the Village Hall – 3rd Floor.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Ezrati
Recording Secretary