

# *The Edgemont Community Council, Inc.*

*Founded in 1947 to determine community opinion on civic matters and coordinate community action thereon and to plan and promote the general welfare of the community embraced within Union Free School District #6.*

*Post Office Box 1161*

*Scarsdale, New York 10583*

## **MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE EDGEMONT COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

**March 7, 2011**

A meeting of the Board of Directors of the Edgemont Community Council, Inc. was held at the Edgemont High School, March 7, 2011, in the teachers' lounge. The following officers and directors were present: Robert Bernstein, Marc Ackerman, Karen Kelly, Todd Garvelink, Jonathan Kelly and Greg Adams.

Officers and Directors not in attendance: Jonathan Faust, John Sganga, John Blakely, Schuyler Kraus, Andrea Weiss, Larry Rusoff, Robert Klerer, Geoff Loftus, and John Coleman.

Civic Associations represented: Longview (Jim Lasser), Fort Hill (Robin Schaffer), Cotswold (Aubrey Daniels), Greenridge (), Old Edgemont (Jon Guttenberg and Lauren Ricci-Warren), Northern Greenville (), Southern Greenville (), Central Park Avenue ().

Guests: Arnold Laubich, Nick DeCicco, Frank Kaimen and Comencik Caratozzolo

Bob Bernstein presided over the meeting and Karen Kelly took minutes. The meeting was called to order at 8:10 PM.

**Minutes** – The minutes of February were approved.

**Treasurer's Report** – No report – nothing material to report. \$125 for ad for Spring Musical playbook ratified.

**Nominations Committee** - Geoff Loftus is chair of nominations committee. Geoff sent information as follows: Marc Ackerman, Jon Faust would be willing to continue as Vice Presidents. Greg Adams has agreed to be Treasurer. Karen Kelly has agreed to continue as Recording Secretary. The committee will work on additional nominations for officers and directors, as needed. Andrea Weiss has agreed to continue as director. This would leave four open positions for directors. Liz Silverstein, Alec Clarke, Mike Mellis and Monica Sganga would likely be willing to consider being directors.

**SBNC** – representatives being considered would likely be Carey McGee, Sara Botner and Jim Ballan.

SBNC is continuing interviews and will be finalizing its recommendations this week. Marc Ackerman said that participation on the committee is excellent.

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**School Tax** – The proposed tax increase would be approximately 4.5% -- about ½ of which is due to certerorias. Many people are expressing concerns about unfunded mandates – especially special education. The pension impact is dramatic. Unfunded mandates are estimated to be 16-25% of the budget. Concern has been raised about the impact of a possible 2% cap on increase in taxes. The first meeting to discuss the budgets will be March 8, 2011. Concern as to public acceptance of a budget in excess of 2%, even if state law does not pass. Last year no positions were cut. This year may involve draw down of reserves. Salary caps on superintends may also be an issue.

**The Silver Box Committee** – As is customary for the president to chair the committee, Bob will chair committee, Lauren and Aubry will join the committee.

**Annual Meeting** – suggestions for speaker should be forwarded to Bob.

Howard Hersch is stepping off of Police Advisory Committee, we are looking for an Edgemont resident to replace him. The committee meets once a month with liason, Kevin Morgan, and Police Chief. Lloyd Court chairs the committee.

## **Town Affair**

1. Dilmaghani health club redevelopment (correspondence with Town Supervisor, Dennis Dilmaghani and the School District

Dilmaghani wants to see Towns Comprehensive Plan. Bob has asked to see Comprehensive Plan. Jerry Stoutan, on behalf of Edgemont Board of Education, indicated interest and indicated that ECC is the appropriate body to consider zoning and planning, and agreed with need to see Comprehensive Plan. Feiner held a meeting in January with commercial property owners to come up with ways in which to be more business friendly, and is now suggesting Dilmaghani meet with civic associations. No information is available as to when the Comprehensive Plan will be available. Dilmaghani had proposed a plan at one point, but has withdrawn it. There could be a need for a retaining wall, to avoid erosion of the school playing fields. Additionally, there is an issue with contaminated land at the Spa.

2. Request to Sponsor Town Board “Outreach” Meeting on March 21.

Feiner had requested a room. The approval was improperly given as any meeting must be sponsored by an Edgemont group. The School District notified Feiner to contact the ECC for sponsorship. Feiner contacted some civic groups. The Edgemont Association was considering sponsoring it, but they would feel it would be fine for ECC to do it. Bob would moderate as ECC meeting, with School Board rules. A motion was unanimously approved for ECC to sponsor the Town Board outreach meeting.

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3. The Ethics Board had received complaints against ZBA member Nicholas DeCicco for allegedly accepting political contributions from representative of applicant for Deli Delicious who hosted political fundraiser for him, and against new ZBA appointee Jordan Glass for allegedly failing to disclose business relationship with owner of Deli Delicious (his landlord) and with Deli's ZBA representative and for failing to disclose that he had previously testified on Deli's ZBA application, and then not recusing himself when Deli's application was being deliberated. Nick DeCicco came to explain his position on this.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:10.

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