

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

January 7 2008

A meeting of the Board of Directors of the Edgemont Community Council, Inc. was held in the Faculty Lounge at the Edgemont High School on January 7, 2008. The following officers and directors were present: Bob Bernstein, Pamela Ray, Chris Klerer, Lisa Wexler, David Stern, Karen Kelly, John S. Blakley Sr., Madelon O'Shea, Robin Schaffer, Larry Rusoff, Neal Lerner, John Sganga, Todd Garvelink.

Officers and Directors not in attendance: David Younger, Michelle McNally.

Civic Associations represented: Longview (), Fort Hill (), Cotswold (Stuart Seeley), Greenridge (Paul Weinstein), Old Edgemont (Frank Kaiman), Northern Greenville (), Southern Greenville (), Central Park Avenue (). Guests included Margaret Goldberg President of the GNC Board and Kurt Hundgen GNC Executive Director, and Mr. and Mrs. Grodin, respectively Fire Department Chief and Hartsdale Parking District Board Member.

Bob Bernstein presided over the meeting and Pamela Ray took minutes. The meeting was called to order at 8:09PM. The minutes of December were approved unanimously.

Total Assets at 1/5/08 were \$9124.34. We have more than 250 paid members- a record number.

Zoning and Planning

Margaret and Kurt voiced their concern that the Town would seek to settle the Dromore Litigation on terms that would negatively impact the GNC and Edgemont. The GNC has retained counsel and put the Town on notice of its position. The GNC would like to keep the property as greenspace and would like the ECC's support.

Motion David Stern, second Todd Garvelink, approved unanimously

WHEREAS, a lawsuit has been filed against the Town challenging the Zoning Board of Appeal's decision that certain property near the Greenburgh Nature Center on Dromore Road is in the R-20 Single Family Residence District;

WHEREAS, the Greenburgh Nature Center Board of Directors has passed a resolution urging the Town to vigorously defend that lawsuit;

WHEREAS, Margaret Goldberg, the chair of the Greenburgh Nature Center's Board of Directors, and Kurt Hundgen, the new executive director of the GNC both appeared before the Edgemont Community Council at its regularly monthly meeting Monday, January 7, 2008, to express their concern that the Town might choose not to vigorously defend that lawsuit, but rather to settle the claim by giving the developer the zoning change it seeks;

WHEREAS, Mr. Hundgen underscored the concern that the Town is in fact planning to settle by telling us that, upon meeting with the Town Attorney, Tim Lewis, for the first time, Mr. Lewis presented Mr. Hundgen with a map showing him where, when the town and the developer settled their differences, the developer planned to locate ten units of luxury condominium townhouses near the Nature Center's property;

Member Associations

The Central Park Avenue Association
Greenridge Association

The Cotswold Association
Longview Civic Association

Edgemont Association
Northern Greenville Association

Fort Hill Association
Southern Greenville Association

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the ECC urges the Town of Greenburgh and all of its officers, boards, and departments (collectively, the “Greenburgh Parties”), to defend vigorously the decision of the Town of Greenburgh Zoning Board of Appeals denying any appeal from or challenge to the determination that certain property at 62 Dromore Road (the “property”) is in the R-20 Single Family Residence District;

RESOLVED FURTHER, that the ECC urges the Greenburgh Parties to refrain from supporting or entering into any settlement that would change the zoning of the property from R-20 or that would otherwise permit development or use of the property in a manner that is less restrictive than R-20 zoning.

Mr. Bernstein was directed to inform the Town Board of the ECC resolution at its January 9 public meeting.

Candlelight is on the Zoning Board agenda for 1/17. The Historic and Landmarks Preservation Board (HLPB) asked Candlelight to revise the façade of the proposed building to make it look more like the present house (furniture store). The HLPB meets with Candlelight tomorrow. The HLPB also considers the Inn to be of interest and would like to discuss its possible designation with the Tracys.

240 Old Army Road in on the Planning Board Agenda 1/16 for a hearing.
100 Old Army Road’s tree permit hearing with the Town Board will be continued in January.

SBNC

The SBNC has not yet received nominations to fill the two upcoming vacancies on the School Board. The current board members have each served two terms and are not planning to run again. An article in the Inquirer was suggested as a way to generate interest.

Town Affairs

The leaf removal law was approved. Bob Bernstein suggested directors send digital photos of leaf piles in their neighborhoods to him for forwarding to the Town, or to the Town directly.

Special East Hartsdale Avenue snow emergency rules were rescinded shortly after going into effect. Police Chief Kapica has scheduled a meeting for Monday 1/14 at 7:30 pm at Oporto Restaurant, for area residents and merchants to discuss the situation.

Ardsley Road sidewalk snow removal policy. Frank Kaiman reported that Supervisor Feiner had told him that effective January 1, 2008, the Town would shovel the Ardsley Road sidewalk from the Scarsdale border to the intersection with Old Army Road. Mr. Bernstein noted that the Town budget for 2008 did not appear to include any funds for shoveling the Ardsley Road sidewalk; nor did it indicate which taxpayers in town would be paying for the service. Mr. Kaiman also said Mr. Feiner was in favor of installing a handrail along the Ardsley Road sidewalk, and that the Edgemont Association supports installation of a handrail. Funds for the handrail would have to be included in the Town’s capital budget for 2008.

Old Business

Comprehensive Plan- Madelon O’Shea reported that the Town’s Comprehensive Plan Committee will soon be reaching out to specific geographical areas of the Town to get community input. Mr. Bernstein suggested that the needs of individual school districts should be taken into account when designing the plan. He also said that the committee should be made aware that the Edgemont School District’s Government and Demographic Committee had recommended seeking ways to enhance the commercial tax base of the Central Avenue corridor.

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Ms. O’Shea said the first outreach meeting would be held on February 2, 2008, and that civic associations are urged to attend.

Ms. O’Shea suggested that Edgemont may want to host a community meeting concerning the Comprehensive Plan and the specific problems Edgemont sees in its future. Problems include traffic, storm water management, the Central Avenue district, and the impact of new residential construction on the School District. Mr. Bernstein asked Madelon to inform her colleagues on the Comprehensive Plan Committee that they contact him about getting ECC involved in arranging for such a meeting.

Ms. O’Shea also reported that Mr. Feiner had called for a “land use summit” on January 15, at 7:15 p.m. to discuss ways the Town could increase ratables.

NEW Business

Priorities for 2008: Mr. Bernstein asked that directors e-mail him if they have any specific suggestions for priorities they would like to see ECC pursue in 2008.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:15 PM.

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