

WALDEN COMMUNITY COUNCIL, INC.
Meeting Minutes, February 17, 2010
Monthly Meeting, Fox Hill Community, Coleman Road, Walden, NY

Present:

John Revella
Mary Ann Landolina
Jean Winum
Brenda Adams

The February Walden Community Council (“WCC”) meeting was hosted by The Fox Hill Community. The meeting was called to order by President John Revella at approximately 7:08 p.m.

Tim Maendel welcomed the WCC to Fox Hill. The meeting was the first to be held in their new dining room. Mr. Maendel reminded the members of the community dinner held every Saturday evening at 6:30 p.m. All are welcome. If possible please call ahead to let them know how many are coming. The 7th and 8th grade students of the Woodcrest School has produced a film, *Eberhard*, that will be presented on Friday, February 26, 7:00 p.m. at the Ulster Performing Arts Center in Kingston. Eberhard is the founder of the Communal Movement. The performance is a fundraiser for the earthquake victims in Haiti. Fox Hill Community also sent volunteers to help in the relief mission.

Secretary’s Report:

Communications:

Brenda Adams read a memo from Stephanie Faso, member and web designer. The WCC website has been getting a fair amount of visits over the last year with October, 2009 being the peak month at 186 visitors.

A letter from the Village of Walden Police Benevolent Association was also read. The PBA is asking for financial assistance to repair the historical clock on the Municipal Building. A motion to donate \$25 was made by Patricia Eisley, seconded by Bobby Montanaro and passed unanimously.

The minutes of January 13, 2010 were accepted as read by a motion from Anita Vandermark, seconded by Mary Ann Landolina and approved unanimously.

Treasurer’s Report:

Jean Winum reported the following bank balances: regular checking account at Walden Savings Bank \$6,059.31; Scholarship account \$92.62; WBA account \$10; and the Grant account \$1.

Committee Reports

Village Government:

John Revella reported on the -

January 26th Board meeting: presentations were made to 30 year employees, Sgt. Ronald Schwandt, Charlie Thompson and Jan Wiener; presentations were also given to Veronica DeGroot for assisting the Fire Department and to Stephanie Faso and the members of the *Christmas on Main Street* Committee; ABLE Children's road race was approved; Village elections will be held on March, 16, 2010 at the Firehouse; the Mayor received a call from Assemblywoman Nancy Calhoun to discuss including Walden in the *I Love New York* tourism campaign; and public input was taken regarding pre-budget planning.

February 9th Board meeting: the Walden Land Development Corporation (WLDC) made a presentation about their involvement and possible future plans for the former Package Lighting property; the WLDC is looking for Housing Development Action Grant (HoDAG) funding; the Board is looking for a 0% budget increase; action was taken for the Village to clean up 36 Sherman Ave.; approval was given to the Building Inspector for access to legal counsel regarding noncompliant properties; a contract between the Village and Orange County for a vehicle locator dispatch unit was approved; a bid was accepted for sludge tank cap removal; John Katonah made a presentation to supply the Village with a sound system for the Bradley Assembly room at a cost of \$8,000; and a Comprehensive Plan Review Committee was created.

Community Image/PR/Website:

Anita Vandermark noted Rod Freeman is about to release the last printed WCC Newsletter. Hereafter it will be on the website and sent by e-mail. Sign up on the website to receive the newsletter by e-mail.

Beautification Committee: - No report

Music in the Grove:

Jodi Lynn noted the concerts will be Saturdays, 6:30-8:30 p.m. again this year. Bands have been contacting her through the Village website. One band is booked. Jodi and Ginny Neidermeier will be meeting shortly to set up the dates and select the performers. Solicitation letters for sponsors will be going out shortly.

Harvest Fest:

Jodi Lynn reminded the members that the first Harvest Fest planning meeting will be Wednesday, March 3, Municipal Building 2nd Floor Community Room, 7:00 p.m. Help is needed. The Health Walk needs a committee by itself.

Walden Business Association:

John Revella noted the State Attorney General Office repeated their presentation at the February 5th meeting. Mr. Bradley, Assistant Attorney General, was very impressed with the turn out at the WBA meeting as well as the WCC meeting in January.

Scholarship Committee: No report

By-laws Committee:

Mary Ann Landolina expects the committee to begin shortly.

Old Business:

Walden Veterans Memorial Park:

Jodi Lynn reported on the committee meeting held on “topper night” at the VFW. Vern Spencer was there and the plan is to pour the cement late March, early April. The benches will be set in the concrete. Chris Adams approached Mr. Burgess about making a sign for the park. The committee liked the sketch he prepared. The solar light is working better and we are looking forward to seeing the tulips in the spring. A motion to purchase the sign from Mr. Burgess was made by Jodi Lynn, seconded by Anita Vandermark and approved unanimously.

NY Main Street Grant:

John Revella met with Kerron Barnes and the target area for the next grant was mapped out from the Walker Building to the Diner, including Orchard Street. The application will be submitted in April and has the potential of bringing \$500,000 to the Village. Administration costs are allowable and the grant covers 75% of the project with the recipient portion at 25%.

Storage Shed:

Nat Winum reported that the storage shed has been delivered and the key is at the Police Station. A list should be established for those that can have access to the shed and need keys. WPD will always have one key. The shed may need shimming before moving in. John Revella will get a team together to install shelves.

New Business:

Dona Adler, CFO of St. John Bosco Child and Family Services discussed their upcoming Fundraiser. The organization was founded in 2003 by Executive Director, Renee Fillette as a haven for abused and neglected children. It is an agency of boarding houses, each having six residents. There is a nice article in the *Wallkill Valley Times* (2/17/10), pg. 17, describing the Talent Show fundraiser to take place on May 1 at the Wallkill High School auditorium. They are selling ads for the program. Mrs. Adler also distributed materials for placing an ad.

Comments:

Meet the Candidates night is Thursday, March 11, 7:00 p.m. Municipal Building, 3rd Floor, Bradley Assembly Room.

Village Elections are Tuesday, March 16.

A motion was made to place an Almanac ad in the *Wallkill Valley Times* (1/4 page, \$115) by Bobbie Montanaro, seconded by Jodi Lynn, passed unanimously.

Tiffany Tubens, owner of Westwood Day Care, introduced herself and her assistant. Their unique quality is accepting children three and under and those with special needs. She needs more children.

Ginny Neidermier announced the library will be on the ballot this year. They are asking for an increase of \$15,293. The library did not ask for additional funds last year and has been following a two-year cycle for budget increases. There will be an informational budget session at the next Library Board meeting on Monday, February 27, 7:30 p.m.

Mary Ellen Matisse is setting up a display case on the 3rd Floor with WCC memorabilia. Please share your WCC treasures.

The Friends of Walden Youth is having their 5th Annual Indoor Yard Sale on March 21. They are looking for donations to sell.

The meeting was adjourned by a motion from Anita Vandermark, seconded by Bobby Montanaro and passed unanimously at 7:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Brenda M. Adams
Secretary