

WALDEN COMMUNITY COUNCIL, INC.
Meeting Minutes, June 9, 2010
Monthly Meeting, Wallkill Masonic Lodge #627, Main St., Walden, NY

Present:

Mary Ann Landolina
Rod Freeman
Jean Winum
Brenda Adams

The June Walden Community Council (“WCC”) meeting was hosted by the Wallkill Masonic Lodge #627. The meeting was called to order by President Mary Ann Landolina at approximately 7:10 p.m.

Elliot Arnott Jr. welcomed WCC members. He thanked the WCC on behalf of the Wallkill Lodge for facilitating the Main Street Grant. As result of the grant funds, they were able to do a considerable amount of much needed work in the building. The annual Chicken Barbeque is August 7 at the Town Park in Pine Bush and tickets are now available.

Secretary’s Report:

Communications:

Brenda Adams read a thank you note from Mary Ellen Matisse.

A fundraising letter received from the Walden PBA was also read. Julie Bagnarol made a motion to send \$25 to the PBA, seconded by Jodi Lynn and passed unanimously.

A request for support of Walden’s National Night out was tabled until the July meeting to see what the monetary needs are at that time.

A request for support from Will Spay Pets, Inc. was also tabled until the July meeting.

Mary Ann Landolina gave Jean Winum a check from the Walden Women’s club for additional bicycle repairs for the Night Out raffle. Brenda will advise Stephanie Faso of the additional money in her bicycle repair budget.

The Minutes of May 12, 2010 were accepted by acclamation.

Treasurer’s Report:

Jean Winum reported the following bank balances:

Regular checking account at Walden Savings Bank \$5,308.56 which includes \$701.85 belonging to the Walden Veterans Memorial Park fund;

Scholarship account \$592.70;

WBA account \$10; and

Grant account \$1.

Committee Reports

Village Government:

Anita Vandermark reported the highlights of the May 25th Board of trustees meeting: A resolution to use CDBG funds for a Village sewer project that will span the next three years; a nine member committee to review the Comprehensive Plan was discussed and will include one representative from the WCC and one from the WBA; a Parks Planning Committee was also discussed and volunteers are being looked for from the community; Alpha Tech, Inc. will be providing computer server maintenance, approval to use Bradley Park was given to the Walden Rotary who is sponsoring a Skate Board event on Sunday, June 13 for the Joseph Savage Scholarship Fund; an Arborist examined the trees on Oakland Avenue again; the Ulster Avenue project was reviewed and updated by the engineer and DOT and has been rescheduled; a request to route trucks through Grant Street and away from the Route 208 and 52 intersection at the McKinley Monument was declined; the Village Manager will set a civil service hearing meeting; a new 60' x 60' firehouse on the West Side was discussed; and a joint Village-Planning-Zoning Board meeting will be held shortly.

The highlights of the June 8th Board Meeting: the Orange County Water Master Plan meeting was attended by the Village's Water Operator; a \$500,000 Bond was approved for various capital projects; Chief Brillant's request for a retirement identification was declined; approval was given to sell a surplus DPW truck; cell phones will be disposed of through an organization that can put them to good use; the Comprehensive Plan and Parks Committees were tabled; John Revella will be the interim head of DPW; Mike Bliss is the temporary Recreation Department head and will receive a \$100 per week stipend; the Board assigned the task of finding a place for the Farmers' Market signs to John Revella; a representative from RECAP discussed their plans to use the property on Ulster Ave for a homeless women veterans residence; the disposition of the Olley Park house was reviewed, Neighborhood Watch community meeting will be held on Thursday, June 10 at 7:00 p.m. on the 3rd Floor of the Municipal Building; and creating a fire lane behind Related Management Parking Lot on Orchard Street was discussed.

Community Image/PR/Website:

Rod Freeman sent the electronic newsletter out yesterday. If you didn't get it, please let provide a good e-mail address so the file can be corrected. Stephanie Faso sent word to remind anyone on Face Book to "friend" WCC so that our events show on their pages. Also please send new images and substance for the website. Anita will send some pictures to Stephanie.

Beautification Committee:

Jean Winum reported applicants for the Flower Garden Contest will be judged on Wednesday, June 23, rain date June 24. The flyers are out and it has been sent to Nancy for the Village's TV page. Gift certificates to a Village business of their choice will be given to the top 3 gardens. Winners will be invited to the July meeting.

Music in the Grove:

Jodi Lynn reported a nice series of concerts are booked from July 10 through August 28. The draft of the flyer is in process; she needs to confirm sponsorship. It still hasn't been determined if WCC will provide refreshments. Rocco's is an option but they have not been contacted yet. Nat Winum and Jodi will discuss the back drop and banner display.

Harvest Fest:

Jodi Lynn was pleased that the last meeting was well attended. The Village Manager is doing an inventory of all the banners and signs stored in Village locations. Mike Bliss has signs to go to Dickie Baxter for a new date. A photo montage of past festivals would be nice. Send Bobby Montanaro anything that would promote HF on Face Book. HF info is on the Village and Town of Montgomery websites. A farmer is interested but the fee is too steep. We might barter for decorations if the Village cannot purchase them this year. "Hot Rod Band" is playing at noon. An American Idol type contest is being considered with the grand finale at HF. Little Miss is on schedule, flyers for handing out at VC will be ready shortly and the Health Walk will be 3 miles round trip. A sponsor for the Health Walk would be great to purchase ads for more exposure. The posters are about ready for printing. Mike Ciardullo is printing water bottle labels with WCC, WBA and Food Pantry Logo's. The Recreation Department is taking over the Family Dance but we are not sure who is paying for the DJ. It will be at the Teen Center on Friday night, October 2 from 7:00 to 10:00 p.m. Meetings are the first Wednesday of every month – next July 7, 2010, 7:00 p.m. 2nd floor Community Room.

Walden Business Association: Stephanie Faso/John Revella

John Revella noted the last meeting was at Car Tech and a great raffle prize was given away. The Business Community and the Walden Police are making a special effort to keep unwanted activity down on the corner by the gas stations. Rod Freeman announced Christmas on Main St. will take place on December 3 and 4. Stephanie Faso e-mailed about the raffles which will start in August and continue up to the event. Drawings will be on December 3. Gift certificates of \$500 in "Walden Bucks" will go to the winners. Next week a new WBA website will be released. All businesses will be part of the Walden Directory, searchable by category. Regular meetings are the first Friday every other month – The next meeting is September 10, due to Labor Day.

Scholarship Committee:

Jean Winum noted a total of 14 applications were submitted, the most ever! Two of the fourteen did not follow instructions so they were disqualified. The rest were all very well written by worthy students.

By-laws Committee:

Mary Ann Landolina, Pat Eisley, Bobby Montanaro and Rod Freeman will be meeting soon to get the updated draft ready for distribution. The presentation will be in side-by-side formation for easy comparison. The procedure for maintaining the Minutes will be specified. Minutes are the history of the organization and will be handed down as each new secretary takes over.

Calendar Fundraising Committee:

Mary Ann Landolina and Anita Vandermark are working with Ciardullo Printing for the calendar cards. They may be printed for the next meeting. The game will run for the entire year of 2011 based on the evening lottery. The cost is \$20 per card and it should be profitable for the WCC.

Old Business:

Walden Veterans Memorial Park:

Brenda Adams asked anyone who had not checked out the Park to do so. It looks beautiful and more work is yet to be done. She reminded the Council that the Flag Day Ceremony will take place at the Park on Sunday, June 13, 1:00 p.m. A short program has been created around the history of the Flag, the Flag Day Ceremony, the Pledge of Allegiance and the National Anthem. Mayor Maher will Emcee. Nat Winum, Bobby Montanaro and Little Miss Walden, Jillian Rufino, will speak. The Pledge of Allegiance will be lead by Boy and Girl Scout troops and Amanda Rougier will sing the National Anthem. Reverend James VanHouten and Samuel Liebman will also participate. Refreshments will be served by the Committee. Please bring your family and friends to help Walden celebrate our American Flag. We are working on two fundraisers. One will be selling some type of engraved pavers with Veteran's names and set around the walkway. The other will be a Saturday night Dinner at the VFW. The details have not been worked out.

NY Main Street Grant:

John Revella provided a progress update on the Streetscape portion of the grant which plans to enlarge the circle around the monument in Municipal Square. Work is being finalized at 44 Main Street and all other projects are complete. The 2010 Grant has not been awarded yet. A question was asked if residential buildings in the target grant area are eligible. The grants are for the Business District only. However if there is commercial space in a home, it may be considered.

Soap Box Derby:

Mary Ann Landolina stated there was a good turn out.

Storage Shed:

John Revella confirmed the storage unit at Guardian is vacated. The key to the shed is at the WPD. Mary Ann will get duplicate keys made. Shelves are in and John will be getting the gutters on the shed shortly.

New Business:

Walden's National Night Out: – Tuesday, August 3, 2010

The committee meeting was a good meeting and attended by both the Town and Village of Montgomery Police. A fundraiser is in the works plus it is hopeful that more funding will come in by enlarging the area outside of Walden. Stephanie Faso has two

organizations working on bicycle refurbishing and is anticipating as many bicycles as last year, maybe more.

Farmers' Market:

Anita Vandermark stated Diana and John Lupinski are the managers again this year. The first date is Thursday, June 24 and will go to the last Thursday in October. The Village Board gave John Revella approval to place the signs at Village entrances.

Anita needs help! She cannot set up the Walden table every Thursday this year. See her if you can help.

Face Book Page:

Mary Ann Landolina wanted Bobby Montanaro to talk about putting WCC, Harvest Fest and other events on Face Book. She wanted more information about "friending WCC".

WCC Mixer:

Tabled until next month

Comprehensive Plan Review Committee Member from WCC:

Although the official letter has not been received from the Village, the Council is aware that one of the committee positions is a representative from WCC. Becky Pearson volunteered via e-mail to Mary Ann. The Council asked that it be put out to the membership before making the appointment so that no one feels slighted. Anita Vandermark made a motion for Brenda Adams to send out an e-mail with a respond by date of Monday and tRehat the Executive Committee should make the decision based on the response. It was seconded by John Revella and passed unanimously.

A second motion was made by Rod Freeman to allow the WBA to select their delegate to the Comprehensive Plan Review Committee, seconded by Bob Jansen and passed unanimously.

Comments:

Various upcoming events were noted by the membership, including a reminder about the Lodge's Chicken Barbeque at \$18 per person.

The meeting was adjourned by a motion from Anita Vandermark, seconded by Bob Jansen and passed unanimously at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Brenda M. Adams
Secretary