

Jacksonville Community Association Meeting
Wednesday, September 10th, 7:00 p.m.
Hearth Room, Jacksonville Community Church

Notes:

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 by President Diane Hillmann.

The Treasurer's Report was given by Diane, in the absence of Dave Schurman. We presently have a balance of \$655.95, with payouts for ½ year of insurance on the park, a memorial contribution for Valerie Meeker, and rent on our P.O. box. Our second insurance bill of the year has just arrived. Diane thanked Sue Barnett for her support for the insurance (which has eliminated the need for constant fundraising and passing of hats at meetings.)

Old Business

Ulysses Comprehensive Plan Update (Dick Coogan)

Dick reported that there will be a public meeting in a month or two to present the report, which includes some very important recommendations for Jacksonville. The report will include things like recommendations for sidewalks, lights, etc. (assuming denser growth for the Hamlet). He noted that installation and upkeep for sidewalks in the Town will be different than those in the Village, in that they would be primarily the responsibility of homeowners, not the Town. Both the Comprehensive Plan and Corridor study assume that Jacksonville will be a "node" where development will be clustered. There will be a presentation by the consultants to the Town Board on Sept. 25 (tentative date, Dick will let us know when it's finalized). The draft plan is available on the Town website, and Dick is expecting to get a copy to the Ulysses Philomathic Library sometime soon.

Route 96 Corridor Study Update (Dick Coogan)

There will be a public hearing on the Corridor Study on Oct. 30, at PRI. Dick has a copy of that report as well, is also available on the County website.

TCat (incl. bus shelter) (Dick/Peg Coogan)

Jodi Marshall (who was not able to attend) reported to Dick that TCAT's promise of a bike rack, bench and pad has not yet happened. Dick will pursue the issue with TCAT. There was some discussion about the need to do some weeding at the bus shelter. Diane will send a note to the list about weeding.

New Business

Orson Ledger property on Rte. 96 (Dick Coogan)

Beaver's old property has been purchased by Orson Ledger, Sr., who wants to turn it into four apartments. In order to do so he has to bring the building up to current building code, and will eventually need a site plan review. Dick strongly suggests that the community show up for this when it's scheduled. Alex Rachun, Code Enforcement Officer for the Town, says that he would be willing to come and talk about code issues--we asked Dick to suggest a November date. The group discussed some topics for Alex: such as appropriate use of residential buildings, multi-unit conversions (particularly those that are substandard or will tend to

become so over time), inspection and enforcement power of the town, and whether more regulation might be needed. It was noted that the old Wilson property currently owned by Amy Grant (the red house on 96 near the gas station), which was also cut up for apartments, is for sale again by the current owner.

New Ulysses Water Commission (Diane Hillmann)

Diane reported that the Ulysses Water Commission had been approved by the Town, and that there are five members: one each from Water Districts 1, 2, and 4 (Cayuga Addiction Services on 227, ShurSave, and a small district at the south edge of the Town on Duboise Rd.) and two from District 3 (Diane Hillmann and Chip Martin). Diane volunteered to serve as chair and is in the process of setting up an email list for the group. There was an organizational meeting on the 4th and another scheduled for Oct. 9th (at noon, in the town offices). Minutes were taken and will be distributed when they've been reviewed.

Exxon/Mobil Property—New activity (Diane Hillmann)

Diane reported that she had gotten a name at Exxon/Mobil from Doug Austic, and had received a call back from this person during the afternoon. She was told that the Exxon/Mobil folks were working with a real estate broker in Syracuse to prepare the properties for sale, but she was willing to entertain a proposal for funding to renovate the church property (or at least provide seed money so we could explore grants, most of which require matching funds). Dick suggested that we explore working with the County on a proposal, and said he would put us in contact with someone in the planning dept.

Additional issues from the Town Board meeting of 9/10 (Diane Hillmann and Dick Coogan)

There was some discussion at the Town Board about the currently uninhabitable property on Swamp College Road, and the problems the current resident has been having. She reported then that she was having problems with a neighbor that was burning trash, and Sue Barnett confirmed that she's been bothered by it to. The Swamp College Road resident has trouble reporting the burning to the Health Dept. in a timely manner, as she has no phone, no car, and all the area public phones are non-functional. Sue agreed to try and report the burning when she can, to see if the offending neighbor can be persuaded by the Health Dept. to stop doing it.

The Town Board discussed the issue of gas drilling, and this was reported to the group. There are significant differences with this current rash of drilling, as they're using a method that has significant danger of damaging adjacent wells (and indeed anyone still pumping water from the aquifer). The town will be attempting to notify adjacent landowners when drilling is scheduled and recommend to them that they get their wells tested prior to drilling (requesting the full panel of tests including volatile compounds), so that they will at least be able to have verification of their well status beforehand. This, of course, will not ensure their protection, but without the testing there is no hope of proving harm.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30.

Notes by Diane Hillmann