

**OPERATIONS MEETING, VILLAGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2012
5:00 P.M.**

PRESENT: Mayor Marty Hubbard, Trustees Marc Angelillo, Sue Jones, Jim Lanning and Mary Sennett

OTHERS Jessica Soule

Skaneateles JOURNAL

PRESENT: Jason Emerson

Skaneateles PRESS

Sue Dove

Chamber of Commerce Executive Director

Jorge Batlle

818 Franklin Street

Chamber of Commerce Sign Proposal – Trustee Sennett noted that the mock-up signs have been installed and she has heard from a couple of people that they think the signs are an excellent idea as visitors need visual guidance. Each location was reviewed separately, starting with the **Genesee Street and Jordan Street sign**, the following was noted: sign was moved & is now parallel with Jordan Street; good to have mock-up; pedestrian sign doesn't need to be so large – Executive Director Dove agreed that 6" can be taken off the width on each side to reduce the sign to 5'; location is good and better than on Genesee Street – located in a vacant area with good visual. Mayor Hubbard said he is confident that the Genesee/Jordan Street sign will be fine with the NYS D.O.T. Trustee Sennett said the sturdy, well-done mock-up is a great visual for community input. The lettering could be marked out and the mock-up left up for Dicken's - the merchants and residents could see how the sign works out and offer their input. Mrs. Dove confirmed for Trustee Jones that Mr. Traub could reduce the size of the mock-up sign. Jorge Batlle said he attended the Historical Landmarks Preservation Commission (HLPC) meeting last night and reported that they are convinced that a Building Permit is needed as well as a Public Hearing. Mayor Hubbard noted that the purpose of the sign is a directional sign for pedestrians. Mr. Batlle said the sign is not visible on Genesee Street, measures 40" by 72" and is only 6' wide now, so it is in compliance. The pole must be a certain height and it is also compliant. Mr. Batlle said a Building Permit is not necessary – it only needs a Sign Permit, and that gets approved by the Village Board because it is a directional sign. In answer to Trustee Lanning, Mr. Batlle said a public hearing is your discretion. Mayor Hubbard said he doesn't see any downside to having a public hearing to receive input. **Resolution #2012-198:** On the motion of Trustee Sennett, seconded by Trustee Lanning, it was resolved and unanimously carried (5-0 in favor) to allow the Chamber of Commerce to use the temporary mock-up sign at the corner of Genesee and Jordan Streets during the Dicken's Christmas event to January 1, 2013. It was further resolved that the mock-up sign will be altered to include lettering in gold and reduced in size to 5 feet. **Jordan and Fennell Streets sign:** Jorge Batlle advised that according to our Zoning Code, a permanent sign cannot be attached to a utility pole or light pole. A mock-up sign could be on a utility pole to show the general location and size. A permanent sign would have to be free standing. Mayor Hubbard noted that this sign is dual purpose for pedestrians and motorists. Trustee Angelillo asked if the size could be increased; Trustee Jones said it is too big in her opinion and doesn't want it getting bigger and bigger. Mayor Hubbard said Mr. Traub did a great job with the mock-up that serves a purpose. Trustee Lanning said he likes that the sign looks like a Village sign. Mayor Hubbard and Trustee Jones concurred that they don't want the Chamber and merchants incurring the expense if the sign is not useful. Mrs. Dove confirmed for Trustee Lanning that the sign would include a total of ten businesses - five on Jordan Street and five on Fennell Street. Trustee Sennett said she hopes that if the signs are approved the practice of sandwich board signs getting dragged out ceases. Mrs. Dove assured the Board that she has discussed this with the merchants. **Resolution #2012-199:** On the motion of Trustee Sennett, seconded by Trustee Jones, it was resolved and unanimously carried (5-0 in favor) to allow the Chamber of Commerce to install a temporary sign at the corner of Jordan and Fennell Streets during the Dicken's Christmas event to January 1, 2013. It was further resolved that the mock-up sign will be altered to include lettering in gold and that the size can remain as is. Mayor Hubbard noted that this sign won't be in front of the HLPC as it is outside the Historic District. He encouraged the press to "advertise" that the Village Board wants and welcomes input about the signs. **Corner of Route 20 and Route 41A:** Mayor Hubbard said this sign is going to be more difficult as no matter which corner you are proposing for the sign, the NYS D.O.T. will be involved as it is one state road to another. DMO Lotkowitz needs to contact the D.O.T. Trustee Sennett said she advocates for the sign that will advantage businesses down Route 41A, but this location may take longer to figure out. As was suggested, Mrs. Dove said she will attempt to get this sign photo-shopped. Mayor Hubbard said he thinks this will ultimately be a traffic sign and will have to meet D.O.T.

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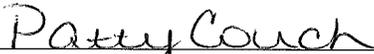
requirements. **Restroom signs:** Mrs. Dove showed the Board a mock-up of a restroom sign that is proposed for temporary attachment to light poles during Dicken's Christmas and then again in the summer, tourist season. Trustee Sennett said she is not crazy about this sign - the directory signs fit in, but not this "cutesy" approach. People tend to ask shop owners and there is currently a small, State Regulated sign across the street now. She suggested a solution might be to have that sign bigger, but still the blue and white standard restroom sign. Trustee Jones said she thinks that it is human nature for people to ask someone. Trustee Angelillo agreed with Trustee Sennett. Mayor Hubbard complimented Trustee Sennett for her work on all of the proposed signs.

Planting and Removal of Trees and Shrubbery in Village Parks and Lake View Cemetery – Mayor Hubbard noted that the Tree Committee is an advisory Board, but the parks and cemetery are the purview of the Village Board. Removals and additions need approval by the Village Board and the Tree Committee understands that. Trustee Sennett said she has the Tree Committee's list of proposed tree plantings and it includes relocating a Paper Bark Maple near the entrance to Shotwell Park. She said the tree was planted too close to another – it is a small tree and she is okay with it being relocated. Trustee Sennett further reported that Tree Committee Chair Ann Neibert talked to Mary Gardner about the new pine tree in Clift Park and that matter has settled down. Clerk/Treasurer Couch recalled that last year it was noted that when a tree is identified for removal a letter should be sent to the property owner advising them of such. While the trees in the public green space between the sidewalk and the street are street trees and village property, it is considerate to notify residents of removals and plantings if the area abuts their property. Trustee Sennett will provide Clerk/Treasurer Couch with the 2012 proposed fall tree plantings list.

Health Insurance – Mayor Hubbard reported that Clerk/Treasurer Couch met with Amber Gifford and Diana Rawden of Brown & Brown, our medical plan broker-of-record. Ms. Gifford again this year provided and reviewed a cost comparison of medical plans and renewal alternatives. She noted that an 8.5% increase in rates is actually quite good and recommended staying with the Excellus BlueCross BlueShield HealthyBlue Copay Plan. Trustee Lanning said he's concerned about the percent of employee contribution as it is not reflective of what's offered in the private sector and he'd like to discuss it sometime in the future. Trustee Sennett said the Village has a very good health insurance plan and is very good to the employees with the HRA that helps offset copays; Trustee Jones agreed. **Resolution #2012-200:** On the motion of Trustee Sennett, seconded by Trustee Angelillo, it was resolved and unanimously carried (5-0 in favor) to retain the Excellus BlueCross BlueShield Healthy Blue HB-C-46E 2 Tier plan for calendar year 2013.

Lake View Cemetery – Trustee Sennett reported that Cemetery Board President Bob Gray was pleased to report that there were no complaints this summer on the upkeep of Lake View Cemetery. Mayor Hubbard said he will contact Burt Jordan who expressed interest in working in the cemetery next spring.

Adjournment: Resolution #2012-201: On the motion of Trustee Jones, seconded by Trustee Angelillo, it was resolved and unanimously carried (5-0 in favor) to adjourn the meeting 5:55 p.m.



Patty Couch
Village Clerk/Treasurer