

MONDAY, AUGUST 23, 2010
PUBLIC HEARING – PLANNING PROCESS
PHILMONT RESERVOIR – SUMMIT LAKE
Joint Public Hearing – PB Inc./Philmont Village Board

PRESENT: Mayor Clarence Speed, Trustees Brian Johnson, Barbara Sagal, Douglas Cropper, Lawrence Ostrander, Clerk/Treasurer Eilene Morris, Sally Baker (PB Inc.) and Supervisor Robin Andrews.

COPY OF THE PUBLIC NOTICE THAT WAS PUT IN THE NEWSPAPER WAS READ BY MAYOR SPEED

Supervisor Andrews and Sally Baker gave an overview of the proposed planning grant aimed at future economic and social community revitalization use of the Summit Reservoir and the surrounding area to be submitted to the NYS DOS Division of Coastal Resources.

Charles Nichols spoke to the audience about the history and background of the reservoir and noted that the integrity of the body of water was dwindling.

Joe Haag offered memories of what the reservoir was like when he was a boy and how it has deteriorated since that time. He also voiced his concerns about properties surrounding the area.

Supervisor Andrews and Ms. Baker stressed that the proposed grant was only for the planning process and not for the actual transformation of the area. The grant would allow studies to be done on the effects and the needs of the area.

Ms. Baker noted that several small task forces could be set up to study and get input of the various interests of the community that pertain to the area of and around the reservoir. She noted that public input and community involvement were very important to the project.

Some of the key advantages that surround the reservoir area were noted such as the trestle, the Empire House (former American Legion Building) the Vanderbilt House, the Church Hall Building, the Summit Mill and High Falls as well and the proposed new Pine Haven Home and the proposed veterans' service center and the already formed trails in the area.

Ideas, comments and concerns were taken from the audience:

- Cost of the project
- Public safety - fire protection
- Parking problems
- Business stimulation
- Children's activities
- Development of area history
- Connection of already developed trails
- Renewable energy sources
- Relation to Pine Have area
- Lake changes/deterioration and current channel flow issues

It appeared that all believed that the reservoir (lake) needed to be the main focus of the project and the needs and desires of the surrounding area would have to be prioritized.

Ms. Baker felt the best way to get information out to the community was via a web site and will look into that possibility once the grant application has been filed and approved as funding for the site would be eligible through grant funds. For the present, she will e-mail correspondence to interested parties. She asked those present to put their names and e-mail addresses on the sign-up sheet that was passed around the room.

Mayor Speed thanked all for coming and for their interest in the project. With no further business to be discussed, a MOTION to adjourn the public hearing was made by Trustee Sagal, seconded by Trustee Cropper. ALL AYES, NO NAYS.

Respectfully submitted,

Eilene Morris
Clerk/Treasurer
VILLAGE OF PHILMONT