

Hector Community Association

Summer Newsletter, 2007



Hector Community Association

Expenses 2003-2007

Submitted by Joan Merrill, Treasurer

Member contributions have been received at a steady pace and are deposited in the West Hector Community Association checking account. A detailed treasurer's report is available to members. Please email me at JBPilotess@aol.com to request. Expenses since our formation are listed below.

Budget Category	Percentage spent 2003-2007
Legal Services	45.7
Printing	12.2
Postage	12.2
Mailings	11.1
BY-WAY	9
Travel Expenses	4.6
P.O.Box Fee	1.4
Bank Charge	.8

A Word from the Chairman, Bruce Adams...

First of all, my apologies for being somewhat out of touch lately. To do a better job in the future, we intend to issue a newsletter on a regular basis. Let us know how we can improve it. AND, if you have not been getting emails from us, send us an e-address.

But for now, I'll note the following:

- The tax assessment task group has been doing a great job gathering information,(as you will note below.)
- At our annual meeting, a first draft of a plan for management of the proposed Hector-Lodi segment of a Seneca Lake by-way was presented for comment. Additional presentations and opportunities for input will be scheduled.
- We are short one board member. Nominations are welcome.
- We are planning two or three general meetings over the summer and fall. In addition to topics noted above, we will consider sponsoring discussions on lake issues (e.g. weeds, boating safety, pollution), as well as upland issues (e.g. farmland protection, highway speed, residential growth management). Let us now which of these topics, or others, are important to you.

We hope to see you at our next general meeting!!

P.S. Elections for 3 town board members are up this year. Primary endorsements are due in early July. Contact the Schuyler Co. Board of Election office at 535-8195 for details, if interested.

In Future Newsletters:

- How to prepare yourself for Grievance Day?
The Do's & Don'ts.
- A Review of the Property Assessment

Report of the Budget and Tax Committee

Over the past year, the Budget and Tax Committee of the Association has been very actively involved in both communication efforts, as well as tracking the activity of the Town's Office of Assessment. As the subject of property re-evaluation and assessment has been on every property owner's mind, we organized the review and discussion of the re-evaluation procedure held during last fall's Annual Meeting. Both prior to that meeting and, as a result of the meeting, we attempted to monitor the decisions taken by the Town Board as they affected the process. We were thusly very surprised and disappointed when the Town Board decided not to join the Schuyler County Assisted Real Property Assessment Program after having heard from the Town Supervisor that plans were to join this endeavor which would have resulted in a more standardized re-evaluation process. Association volunteer, Gary Wolf, quickly produced a petition that has been distributed widely and, when presented to the Hector Town Board, will address the displeasure of Town residents and urge the Town to join the County process.

Since the beginning of spring, we began to monitor the process of the re-evaluation results as they became known. Other volunteers of the organization, Walt Scheuer, Paul Wehrung, and Fred Tanneberger, tracked and recorded the new assessments and compared them to sales of the same or similar parcels of land. While this is continuing, the Hector Community Association Board of Directors has authorized funds to hire someone on a part-time basis to review all Town assessments to insure that this has been a fair and equitable town-wide process. At the conclusion of this review, we'll report our findings and determine if further action is warranted.

We welcome and urge your active participation in the Committee's work. Over and above the work detailed above, it will be important that the Town's Budget receives an Association review as it is this budget that drives the tax bill each year.

John Merrill, Budget & Tax Committee

Purpose of the organization: 1) To preserve, protect and promote the natural beauty, environment and resources of the Seneca Lake Hector watershed district through the development of a comprehensive land use/development plan, consistent with economic stability of the area. 2) To promote fair real property assessment and taxation practices within the Town of Hector.

Board of Directors:

Bruce Adams, Chairman

pbadams@empacc.net

Chris Kimball-Peterson,
Vice Chairman

Clkp329@aol.com

Joan Merrill, Treasurer

JBpilotess@aol.com

Directors:

Victoria Bond

Vb25@cornell.edu

John Flowers

Flower.j2@gmail.com

John Merrill

JhnHMerrill@aol.com

**Hector Community Association
P.O. Box 157
Hector, NY 14841**