May 26, 2012

Updates: Spring Picnic, FASNY and Open Space/Recreation District

Dear Neighbor-

First, some fun: The Gedney Association's **Annual Picnic will be held on Sunday**, **June 3 from 4PM to 6PM.** We are holding the picnic **at the Woman's Club** this year. The Woman's Club has plenty of parking for those who prefer to drive. You should have received an email flyer with all of the details a couple of weeks ago. The flyer is attached in case you missed it. Let's all hope the weather will cooperate! If the weather is wet, please visit our website www.gedneyfarms.net for news of any cancellation.

News about the FASNY Application: The French American School's application for a special permit to construct a multiple building educational campus on the property formerly owned by the Ridgeway Country Club is progressing through the environmental review process. In accordance for NYS Environmental Quality Review Act ("SEQR") regulations, there are certain necessary steps to be taken. The regulations are somewhat complicated. However, the process boils down to the following:

- FASNY submitted its Preliminary Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) to the City in April.
- The City's Planning Department, in conjunction with other city departments, reviewed the DEIS and recently submitted it to the Common Council. The Common Council is acting as Lead Agency and will be making decisions relative to the application.
- The Common Council has 45 days from receipt of the DEIS to determine if
 it is complete this brings the process to the last week in June. The Council
 will be assisted by the City's Departments of Planning, Law, Building, Public
 Safety, Traffic and Public Works among others.

Please Note:

- Completeness is not equivalent to approval. The SEQR process calls for FASNY to offer information in response to the items contained in the Scoping Document. As you may recall, we, along with many others interested in the FASNY proposal, contributed to making the Scoping Document as comprehensive as possible.
- A determination of completeness is not a determination of agreement with the conclusions contained in the Preliminary DEIS, it is only a

determination that the DEIS has addressed the matters contained in the adopted Scoping Document.

- The Council will review the DEIS and either (i) determine that it is complete
 or (ii) advise FASNY of the DEIS's deficiencies
- If the DEIS is deemed incomplete, FASNY will be given time to submit the missing information.
- Once the additional information is submitted for FASNY, the Council has 30 days to respond. The Council will then determine whether the DEIS is complete. If is it not compete, the process repeats itself
- When the DEIS is deemed complete, the Council will adopt a Notice of Completion and the public review process will begin.
- When the Common Council issues the Notice of Completion, it will also schedule a public hearing and set time frames for the receipt of public comments on the substantive issues addressed in the DEIS.

Obviously, there are several variables to consider. However, it is likely that the public hearing will be held sometime in the Fall.

Although it has not yet been fully reviewed for completeness, the Preliminary DEIS is available through the City's website to a link to FASNY's consultant.

The link is: http://johnmeyerconsulting.com/fasny/deis/index.html. The Preliminary DEIS is being made available for information only.

We will be reading and analyzing the DEIS to prepare written comments to be submitted to the Council at the appropriate time.

Open Space/Recreation District: The process continues in connection with the potential establishment of an Open Space/Recreation District in the City's zoning ordinance. If adopted, the zoning change would affect the Fenway Golf Club, Maplemoor Golf Course, the former Ridgeway Country Club property now owned by FASNY and Westchester Hills Golf Club. On May 14, the Common Council voted to extend the moratorium on approvals on development on these properties. The moratorium has been extended through September 17, 2012.

Of course, we will continue to keep you advised of any more information concerning these important issues and other issues which may arise.

See you at the Picnic!

-Terence

Terence Guerriere

President, Gedney Association