

Donna Conkling

From: Lika L. Levi <lika@save-scarsdale.org>
Sent: Saturday, January 28, 2017 8:51 AM
To: Lena Crandall; Mayor; Matthew Callaghan; Jane Veron; Carl Finger; dpekarek@verizon.net; marc.samwick@verizon.net; Bill Stern; Johnathan Mark (JMark58@aol.com)
Cc: Steve Pappalardo; Attorney's Office; Clerk's Department
Subject: The Gravel Strory and Another Story...

Village Board and Lena,

Yes, Lena you were the only one during the meetings about the gravel proposition. Because no one else had/has the time to attend all these meetings. You were the only one (representing residents in favor of less development) in a town of more than 17,000. You will be ordained St. Lena soon, like St. Theresa, the former Mother Theresa...And of course, Bobby Ben Simon of KOSL building now, made himself heard loud and clear over and over again. In the local newspaper and I suppose at meetings. I was not there. I could not attend.

Our system is flawed. It depends too much on resident participation. Further it assumes people have the time *and energy* to attend, follow all these meetings. But, how are we going to follow these meetings ? Attend personally ? No. Depend on media coverage ? Certainly "No". Just read the latest Scarsdale Inquirer and you will be hard pressed to call it a newspaper. Joanne does not report till much later, if she does...She can't cover everything. I couldn't even cover all the land use, preservation meetings properly for two months in a row in 2103 having taken a leave from my regular job...

It is not the 1930's any more. Nobody has that kind of time. The internet has changed the world forever. Making life easier at times, but much more complicated, competitive at others.

Second this system is built on the premise of "Free Lunch". That residents will volunteer to do all this. Well, again residents do not have the time. Households have two income earners now, plus kids, aging parents to take care of. Who has the time ? So, they try to allocate fringe benefits or the door is left open to assume such activities. In comes Mayra, clearly hurting after her assessment and she looks for possible wrongdoing. Favoritism. At least she sheds light on our non-functional system. Wake up call ringing loud and clear. Thanks to Ryan. (Our assessment went down with Ryan. So, I had no reason to investigate Ryan. On the contrary I felt finally there was some justice done. I was too busy to grieve and certainly I had Village Hall fatigue.)

A committee to elect a committee is wrong. School Board Nominating Committee to elect School Board Committee. Why not another committee to elect the SBNC ? Ad infinitum ? Where will this stop ? Where does the buck stop ? If this is such a great system, how come no other town has caught on ? Why is this beast only here ?...

An election where there is no voting does not make sense. Still secrecy, still closed doors after so much criticism raises red flags a mile high. Questions unanswered ad infinitum, again.

Why aren't you, the Village Board taking care of our Village ? What is going on ? Your wife, husband , acquaintance, friend, colleague on the Procedure Committee ?... Conflict of interest anyone ?...

There is a member of the Board now who was the Chair of the Planning Board not too long ago. Now that she is a Trustee why doesn't she initiate reform in our land use laws ? She certainly cannot say she has not heard

from me... Unless she has not had her hearing checked lately. That did not seem to be the case Tuesday evening at Village Hall.

Why upon attending the latest CHP meeting I was hearing William Silverman say “ We can’t do anything, we can’t change the code..” The VB certainly cannot say I have not contacted you enough times on this.

Mayor Mark was a Trustee in 2010 when he first started hearing from me on all these issues. He can show you all the e-mails I wrote. I certainly have them as well. No need to FOIL.

And **still, nothing.** Are you all in a black hole, or something ?

Even if you don’t see each other, you can write e-mails. Let your views be known, right ? Why do you act like you are paralysed ? Last I saw you, you are all very healthy and able individuals.

Time to show us all what you are capable of.

Other story:

When we moved here in 1991, William G. McCreery was Mayor. We met him at the new residents’ reception at the Woman’s Club. I was impressed I was meeting the Mayor of Scarsdale, a real mayor in the United States. Not like the ones in Turkey...

I said “Surely , this is a big job, being the Mayor of such a town”. No, he said, it is “nothing,. it is mostly ceremonial”. “We do not do much”. I could not understand. I did not know that a Mayor in Scarsdale is indeed totally different. Their system here does not exist anywhere else. Time to change, finally.

Lika

Lika L. Levi

Office: (914) 722-0004

Fax: (914) 722-0005

Home: (914) 725-9119

www.save-scarsdale.org

Lika@Save-Scarsdale.org