

## Spring 2022 Newsletter



### In person GFA Annual Meeting Notice

Please join the Board of Directors at our **Annual Meeting**, which will take place Tuesday, May 24<sup>th</sup>, 7:00PM, at Greens Farms Congregational Church (71 Hillandale Road). **Our guest speaker is first Selectwoman, Jennifer Tooker.** Per current CDC and state guidelines masks are optional, so do what is comfortable

**CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS!** We have room on the Board for interested neighbors who want to help preserve this great neighborhood. Please contact me at [art@greensfarms.org](mailto:art@greensfarms.org).

### Recapping 2021 and a look into 2022

We're not done yet with COVID-19, but pleased to meet in person this year. Our local assets of Burying Hill Beach and Sherwood Island State Park have continued to provide a place to escape to the outdoors. We thank all our essential, healthcare, and public safety workers keeping us safe and supplied with what we need.

**Affordable housing continued to be a state and local level topic.** Last year we hosted at our Annual Meeting a panel of local and state representatives to share their views of policy and state legislation. We again want to thank Planning and Zoning chair **Danielle Dobin** for leading efforts to drive innovative solutions in Westport. Our strategy is to stay engaged with local and state representatives to ensure reasonable legislation preserving local control is passed. We will continue to advise neighbors on best ways to engage developers and shape development projects. The Town of Westport is negotiating with the State of CT to carve out a portion of the Department of Transportation site next to West Parish for a project. We will work with local neighbors to help ensure the project accommodates their concerns such as traffic impact.

**1076 Post Road East (Post Plaza) improvements:** Numerous improvements for the arrival of an Amazon Fresh store were successfully opposed by the Association. A "temporary" curb cut onto Morningside South was proposed and approved by the Fire Department. This is the third time the Association has successfully opposed this (first time dating back to the 70's!) due to traffic safety concerns directly across from Greens Farms elementary school. Amazon also proposed a store sign that exceeded local regulations. Our testimony along with local neighbors in front of the Zoning Board of Appeals made Amazon go back to the drawing board and revise their sign. Our compliments to the Architecture Review Board and ZBA for providing constructive comments to Amazon for revisions.

We continue to work with the town on the issue of **traffic on Greens Farms Road plus Morningside South** in front of Greens Farms elementary school. We are providing comments at the upcoming District 5 traffic meeting.

The proposed sub-division of **Kowalsky property (109 Morningside South)** is moving forward and we are providing testimony to the appropriate town boards about the need for open space and better flood control.

**Muddy Brook** flooding has reached a level that local neighbors have signed a petition (over 160 signatures) asking for solutions. The GFA hosted a meeting for the group to air their concerns and how to move forward. This will be a long-term project addressing a number of inadequate culverts, starting with the one that has failed at Hillandale Road. We will work to ensure a higher degree of collaboration between the town engineering staff and local neighbors for workable solutions. Dating back to the 1970's numerous efforts have failed due to the lack of alignment between all stakeholders.

The **Burying Hill Beach jetty** is now being replaced! After 5 years of lobbying this project went forward tapping \$1.3M of federal government COVID stimulus funding. Credit to local neighbor **Mike Naylor** for his patient and relentless lobbying for this much needed improvement. Credit to the Department for Public Works Director **Pete Ratkiewich** and District 5 RTM members (especially **Karen Kramer**) for getting this through all the town boards for approval.

The state of Connecticut has commissioned a study to inventory historic resources including funding for staff to conduct it. GFA Vice President **Norman Kramer** has volunteered work with the Historic District Commission to review and ensure the inventory of resources in Greens Farms is complete and accurate.

### Annual Membership

Please consider sending your annual membership fee of \$35 to Green's Farms Association, PO Box 10, Green's Farms, CT 06838. A strong membership allows the Association to better lobby on your behalf. You can also pay with PayPal at our web site, [www.greensfarms.org](http://www.greensfarms.org).

Art Schoeller  
President – Green's Farms Association