

To: Supervisor John Salisbury and Town of Lysander Board Members

Subject: Annual Report of the Historian for the Town of Lysander 2013

From: Bonnie P. Kisselstein – Town of Lysander Historian

Once again this has been a busy year for history. I continue to collect information on the town. I'm please to say that people seem to be listening to me when I say: "If you are downsizing and or cleaning out a property, please don't just toss. Especially if you find anything about Baldwinsville, brochures, old programs, yearbooks, etc, etc., etc. Ask the historians first, your copy just might be the only one still in existence. It might be worth keeping in one of our archives. "

An ongoing project of mine has been collecting the high school yearbooks. We now have a database of the existing copies of B'ville's yearbooks that exist is in the Baldwinsville Public Library, Baker High School, Shacksboro Schoolhouse Museum, the TOL, and at OCPL's genealogy department in Syracuse. I'm pleased to say that we have a locked fireproof cabinet at the Baldwinsville Public Library where a whole set from the late 1800's to the present year are kept. Hopefully, we will be able to round out the other collections as well for posterity.

I'm very happy to say that another project that I have been very involved with for the past couple of years is now completed. That is, the Four Corners Mural project. I acted as an advisor to Senior Girl Scout, Emily Eckross from the very beginning. It turned out to be much more complicated that she first thought, but I'm sure you all agree, very worthwhile. I'm also pleased to say that I was able to attend her Gold Award ceremony. This award is the equivalent of the Boy Scout Eagle Award.

I also helped with Boy Scout Brandon Hart's pursuit of the Eagle Award. Though research, he was able to refurbish and honor those that are buried in a cemetery that had been pretty much obliterated. Through his efforts there is now a monument to those interned there; one was a Revolutionary War soldier. Although this cemetery is located in Van Buren, I felt that the information he was seeking deserved my time and effort. The history of Baldwinsville and the Town of Van Buren and Lysander certainly overlaps.

This year the Village of Baldwinsville has been very fortunate to receive a grant from City Lore of New York City to collect oral histories and design signage that will be erected throughout the Baldwinsville area – in all municipalities. I have been working very closely with the group that has become known as B'ville Voices, advising them by teaching them about our area and people they should interview for the project. This has been a very awarding experience. I'm looking forward to the erection of the signage next year.

As a New York State historian, I am a member of APHNYS (Association of Public Historian of New York State). We held the state conference in Liverpool this year. I'm very pleased to have been a presenter this year. My topic was "Presenting a Colonial Festival." As most of you may know when I was teaching in the Baldwinsville School District, I started our Colonial Festival for our fourth graders. It has been going for 31 years. I wanted to present it to the state historians because it's something that anyone can do in their own community. The presentation was very well received. Thank you for letting me go to the conference – it was the first time in a number of years that I have been allowed to go. I always learn so much from other historians when I go. Hopefully I will be allowed to go to the conference in March at Saratoga Springs.

Since July of 2011, I have been co-writing the History Mystery column in our local newspaper, The Messenger. Sue McManus, from the Shacksboro and I, representing the Baldwinsville Public Library and the Town of Lysander take turns with the articles. We submit a photo with questions for the first week and follow up with the answer for the second week. It has become quite a popular column and increased the public's awareness of our varied history.

In late August I was approached by one of the principals at C.W. Baker High School, to put up a large display depicting the history of the current school. The display is located across from the auditorium and has been very well received.

As you know I just love local history. I'm always learning something new.

TOWN of LYSANDER
8220 LOOP ROAD
BALDWINSVILLE, NEW YORK 13027
(315) 638-4264

December 19, 2013

Lysander Town Board
8220 Loop Road
Baldwinsville, NY 13027

Re: Cottages at Timber Crossing

Subj: Road & Utility Acceptance

Dear Town Board Members:

I conducted a final punch list inspection of the following streets and utilities which compromise Phase I of the Highland Meadows Subdivision. Phase I of the Highland Meadows Subdivision contains the roadway and associated drainage facilities and sanitary sewer utilities for the street listed below.

<u>Street</u>	<u>Length</u>
Autumn Ridge Path	0.187 miles

The streets were designed and constructed to conform to the Highway Construction Specification Ordinance of the Town of Lysander and are in satisfactory condition.

Attached is a punch list of work items which remain to be completed. The value of the punch list is \$39,000 which I recommend as the amount of the performance bond or other security to be established by the Town Board and deposited by the developer.

Please note that in addition to the street, this project will involve the deeding of sewerage and drainage facilities. It is my understanding that the necessary special districts are in place, however I am not aware that the required deeds, utility easements, or other legal documents have been tendered to the Town Attorney. The developer has provided as-built drawings for the roads and utilities. I recommend that the Town Board require the developer to submit the documents referenced above to the Town Attorney prior to final acceptance and dedication of the roadway and utilities by the Town Board.

Concerning the portion of the Highway Ordinance dealing with signs, the Town Highway Superintendent will purchase all required street name signs as well as the following signs and ancillary posts for installation by the Town Highway Department with funds from the developers escrow account held by the Town.

<u>Location</u>	<u>Legend</u>	<u>MUTCD No.</u>	<u>Size</u>
1. Autumn Ridge Path entering Deep Glade Drive	STOP	R1-C1	30"x30"

The designated stop intersection must be approved by Town Board resolution.

The Town Code allows the Town Board to set the amount of the required maintenance guarantee between 25% and 100% of the project value. I estimate the value of the roadway, sewer and drainage to be approximately \$372,430 (estimate attached), such that the guarantee could range from \$93,107 (25%) to \$372,430 (100%), at your discretion.

Regards



Allen J. Yager, P.E.
Town of Lysander Engineer

Attachments

- Cc: Julian Clark, P.E., Plumley Engineering
Carlyle Smith
Gene Dinsmore, Town of Lysander Highway Superintendent
Lisa Dell, Town of Lysander Clerk