Councilman Fiore-Rosenfeld Moves for Acquisition of Historic Gentlemen's Driving Park in Port Jefferson Station

posted on 12/5/2013 1:47:14 PM

December 4, 2013

Farmingville, NY - Councilman Steve Fiore-Rosenfeld sponsored a resolution at the December 3 Brookhaven Town Board meeting to authorize the acquisition of land for the property known as Gentlemen's Driving Park in Port Jefferson Station which was unanimously supported by the Town Board. Gentlemen's Driving Park is located on the west side of Morgan Avenue, north of Canal Road and is the last Victorian era harness racing track on Long Island. The half-mile oval of track can be seen from Google Earth and was once part of the Grand Circuit of Harness Racing Tracks of the Northeast.

"Full acquisition of Gentlemen's Driving Park, a perfect historical site, will provide a location for Port Jefferson Station/Terryville residents, particularly those seniors in the abutting Woodcrest Estates, to enjoy a safe and healthful walking track. Working in conjunction with the local historical society, I am excited that this vital piece of history will be kept for future generations to enjoy as both tranquil open space and as a glimpse into Long Island's past," stated Councilman Fiore-Rosenfeld.

Jack Smith, the president of Cumsewogue Historical Society said, "The Cumsewogue Historical Society has been looking forward to the acquisition of the remaining parcels of land that encompass the Gentlemen's Driving Park in the hopes that this unique and colorful part of Brookhaven's history is preserved forever. It has been a major goal of the Society to have this beautiful and historical open space acquired by the Town of Brookhaven. We are grateful that through the consistent and diligent efforts of Councilman Steve Fiore-Rosenfeld, that goal has been achieved."

Division of Public Information * Office of the Supervisor
One Independence Hill • Farmingville • NY 11738 • Phone (631) 451-6595 • Fax (631) 451-6258