

June 26, 2018

Lorraine Walsh
Mayor, Village of Larchmont
Village Hall
120 Larchmont Avenue
Larchmont, NY 10538

Re: Larchmont Village Historic Preservation Task Force Annual Report 2018-2019

Dear Mayor Walsh,

On behalf of the Village of Larchmont Historic Preservation Task Force members, I respectfully submit for your review and comment, the HPTF's Annual Report describing the group's work and activities from May 2018 through May 2019.

Over the past year, the HPTF has engaged in the following activities:

1. May 17, 2019: The HPTF participated in the Larchmont Historical Society (LHS) Century Homes Club (CHC) Annual Member's Meeting by presenting an update of the group's efforts and NY State and Westchester County historic preservation precedents/ordinances with a focus on the Task Force's initiative towards commissioning an Historical Resources Survey (HRS).
2. June 5, 2019: Presentation at the Larchmont Historical Society annual members meeting, giving an update similar to Item #1, above.
3. August 18, 2019: We occupied the Community Table at the Larchmont Farmers Market with an exhibition of Larchmont historical photographs and maps and distributed HPTF HP brochures. HPTF members spoke about HP in Larchmont with community members and elected officials.
4. September 14, 2018: The HPTF participated in "Larchmont Day", with similar activities to Item #3.
5. October 16, 2018: Under the auspice of the Larchmont-Mamaroneck Local Summit, the HPTF held a panel discussion featuring HP leaders from the Preservation League of New York State, Ossining, NY and myself. We presented information regarding principles of historic preservation efforts in local, county and state-wide communities and the possible future of historic preservation in Larchmont. The event was videotaped by LMCTV for streaming on their website. Later in the day, the panelists met with Mayor Walsh and several VOL BOT members to discussed respected HP actions and processes and to plan next steps for the VOL in relation to HP.
6. February 25, 2019: As a first step in launching the effort to commission an HRS (which would act as a Village planning tool and a foundational document for the drafting of a VOL HP ordinance), the HPTF crafted an RFP for HRS services. After identifying several highly recommended firms, the RFP was issued.
7. March 7, 2019: Upon notification that three of the firms contacted were interested in submitting proposals for the HRS, the HPTF hosted representatives of these firms at a Village and Project Orientation. The attendees toured the VOL and met with the HPTF, Mayor, LHS Trustees and the LHS Archivist at the LHS Archive.
8. April 22, 2019: In order to pursue the commissioning of an HRS, the HPTF submitted a grant application to the Preservation League of New York State's (PLNYS) grant program. The application is currently under consideration by the PLNYS grant review committee. During my conversation with Frances Gubler (grant supervisor) on June 13, 2019, she reiterated the expectation that the grant will be awarded at the end of June or the beginning of July 2019.

9. May 5, 2019: At the LHS Annual House Tour, the HPTF participated in the reception held at the Larchmont Yacht Club with an information table that included exhibits, HP brochures and HPTF members speaking with attendees about HP efforts in Larchmont.
10. March-present: I was invited participate in the Mamaroneck High School Original Civic Research and Action (OCRA) program by its faculty advisor, Joe Liberti. This program has engaged four sophomore students interested in HP issues as they pertain to our local community. Having met with Mr. Liberti and his students, we are in the process of designing a curriculum which has already included identifying several HP topics for the students to address including: a) The economic impact of HP legislation on communities similar to the VOL, b) Economic benefits (grants, tax credits, etc.) available to owners of designated properties; c) The environmental impact of preservation vs (demolition and) new construction. The students presented their findings to the Mayor and BOT member Malcolm Frouman on June 13, 2019 at the Village Hall. Further planning is currently underway, including discussions with the State Historic Preservation Office's (SHPO) National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) coordinator for Westchester County, to develop a process by which the OCRA students will undertake research and nominating work for 3-6 VOL historically/architecturally significant properties.
11. June 17, 2019: Presentation to the LHS Annual Membership Meeting (see item #2).
12. May 2018-May 2019: HPTF members held monthly meetings and additional meetings as required to complete the HRS RFP and PLNYS grant application.

Future activities are being organized now and are likely to include:

1. July 2019: LHS CHC presentation (see Item #1).
2. Date TBD: Publicity event in the event of VOL receiving PLNYS grant money.
3. August 10, 2019: HPTF to participate at the Community Table at the Larchmont Farmers Market (see item #3).
4. Fall 2019: HPTF to participate and monitor the HRS process (if commissioned).
5. January/February 2020: In the event of the VOL receiving PLNYS grant money and the commissioning of the HRS, the HPTF will present another Larchmont-Mamaroneck Local Summit program to update the community on the HPTF's efforts to determine whether to recommend that HP legislation be enacted by the VOL.
6. Additional events will be planned as the year proceeds.

The HPTF members and I thank you and the Board of Trustees for the opportunity to have performed this volunteer work during the past year.

After reading our Annual Report, we hope that you and the Board of Trustees will consider our work to have been productive and instrumental to the ongoing process of addressing historic preservation concerns in our Village. We thank you and the Board for having voted to extend the original Resolution to Create an HPTF, enabling our work to continue for another year.

Sincerely yours,

Mauri Tamarin
Chair
Village of Larchmont Historic Preservation Task Force