

Hugh A. Butler, President, Chautauqua Property Owners Association

RE: Chautauqua Institution Trustees Meetings May 4-5, 2012

Following are my notes from the recent sessions held in the Colonnade and Bellinger Hall with most of the Trustees and senior staff in attendance.

As CPOA President, I enjoy observer status at these meetings. The four Trustees who were selected by the CPOA board and then elected by property owners represent us well and, along with other Trustees who are also property owners, promote a fair hearing of concerns which impact us all.

Items of interest to property owners are the only ones I report here, though I was privileged to hear about program elements and other interesting matters.

Bus for Tram Route Funded

An addition to the tram route, a 27 passenger bus, is expected to greatly expand capacity on this important north-south loop during the upcoming season.

The two 9 passenger electric trams will continue to operate as before, pacing themselves to stay separate from each other and the new bus, providing more frequent boarding opportunities all along the route.

In addition to this service and capacity expansion, the tram loop will continue to operate during the evening events, making it possible for tram riders to leave during concerts rather than being required to wait until the end. Busses will operate at the end of concerts as usual, leaving for south and north destinations.

2012 Capital Improvement Projects (Report from Operations)

“Four roadway projects will occur yet this Spring before season opening: Hurst from Hedding to Palestine, Wythe from Longfellow to Hawthorne, upper Park off of Massey, and Miller from Roberts to Terrace. Although a start date has not yet been determined for each, we expect that construction generally will start within the week. CUD will start an advance repair on Hurst on May 21.

The roadway will be excavated, a new base installed and then asphalt top coats applied. We are pleased to be able to utilize this method instead of simply surface coating as has been the situation in the past. A more durable roadway will result. The surcharge on the sale of properties makes this possible.”

Director of Operations Doug Conroe also reported that certain of the materials used in this project were new to Western New York, particularly the rock underlayment.

The “On the Grounds” tab (<http://www.ciweb.org/on-the-grounds/>) is updated periodically to display project status and other items of interest to property owners, including a link to the CPOA website at www.cpoa.ws.

The new brickwalk from the Garden District to the School of Dance will be completed pre-season, as will the “roundabout” which, though at grade (not raised), will provide a traffic calming effect. This work will significantly enhance the pedestrian friendliness of this very active area while at the same time alerting automobile and bicycle riders to the presence of pedestrians.

Repairs to the brickwalk at Peck are also included in the 2012 budget enhancements.

New Opportunities Promote Reduced Parking in the Core

ALU Administrator, John Shedd, reported that 33 of 39 owners contacted (who did not have a parking place at their property) accepted the offer to buy a location in the south or north lots for the 2012 season. A second program was launched asking property owners who have a second or white stake parking spot to "Trade" a spot for a dedicated space in the south or main lot. George Murphy tells me that 2 people have traded so far. The North lot capacity will be preserved even as the new brickwalk landscaping is completed.

Burglaries and Security

Announcements concerning indictment of the suspects occurred subsequent to the board meetings; gate security measures continue to be balanced with efficiency concerns under the direction of vice-president and treasurer, Sebastian Baggiano. Sebby announced the re-opening of Elm gate on May 1 and promises to observe resident demand in regards to a similar opening of the Bryant gate pre-season. Season gate policies remain unchanged.

Lake Quality

As a prelude to week 4 "Water Matters," local associations will gather on Bestor Plaza Sunday afternoon to begin the week with a focus on our own lake and its challenges, opportunities and the centrality it owns in our venue and, thus, to our quality of life. Plan also to attend the daily and evening events that week, including nightly walks along the lake with watershed and lake association experts sponsored by the Chautauqua Bird, Tree and Garden Club.

Storm water management efforts continue and are often coordinated with road repair projects. The drainage along Pratt from Bestor Plaza to the Scott ravine was completed recently and "bay saver" catchments installed to reduce the high speed flows which have in the past eroded the ravines and

shorelines, encouraging nutrient settlement while also improving drainage all along the newly paved section of Pratt.

The Chautauqua Utility District is awaiting approval of a facility plan to upgrade the wastewater treatment plant. If approved, a vote will be taken in August. At the CPOA July 14 meeting, CUD and Institution representatives will be present to answer questions concerning this very large and important project.

Amphitheater Renewal

Design diagrams and site layout maps will be part of the public comment process during the 2012 season. Look for opportunities to give feedback to the design group at several points during the season.