

## **NEW SHOREHAM SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Block Island School**

**November 1, 2007**

**4:30 P.M.**

**The New Shoreham School Committee met in open session on Thursday, November 1, 2007, in the media center of the Block Island School. The following School Committee members were present: Annie Hall, Sean McGarry, and William Padien. Shea Butcher and Richard Tretheway were not present.**

### **Joint Meeting**

**The New Shoreham Town Council held a joint meeting with the Block Island Health Services Board, Block Island Housing Board, and the New Shoreham School Committee to discuss in general terms the potential uses of the Faulkner and Thomas properties. Town Manager Nancy Dodge submitted a packet of information on the Faulkner property that included the warranty deed from The Nature Conservancy to the town; an aerial photo showing the easement on the westerly portion of the property; a plat map showing the Faulkner property, the school, the medical center, the Davidson property, and the doctor's residence; a design by Filarski in 2000; a wetlands analysis done prior to the purchase of the property; and possible configurations and costs from Gifford Design Group.**

**William Padien reported that in 2003 the school department hired Gifford Design Group to look into what it would cost to develop the Faulkner property into an athletic field. Three scenarios were submitted, with two designs calling for the moving of Payne Road. The cost estimate in 2003 was \$560,000. The School Committee recently formed a subcommittee to develop a proposal to submit to the town regarding the use of the Faulkner property as an athletic field. Annie Hall stated that there is a need for more playing fields on Block Island. Sean McGarry feels that there is a need for teacher housing in addition to a field adjacent to the school.**

**Some agreed that more athletic fields are needed. If a parcel is available and suitable for a field it should be developed as such. Many parcels of land are available for housing, but not for use as an athletic field. It was suggested that one property may be better suited for housing than the other, especially if you throw the Davidson property into the discussion. Perhaps a municipal zone should be created for the Thomas, Faulkner, Davidson, and Medical Center properties. Mrs. Dodge suggested that money be put into the next budget for an engineering study of the properties.**

## **Adjournment**

**The meeting ended at 6:00 p.m.**

**Marsha L. Gutierrez, Clerk**

**Date approved: November 19, 2007**