

January 30, 2012

Village Board of Trustees
Stanley H. Kellerhouse Municipal Building
1 Van Wyck Street
Croton-on-Hudson, NY 10520

Subject: Public Hearing on 2/6 regarding the Farmers Market located at 44 Maple Street

Dear Board of Trustees, Village of Croton-on-Hudson,

I strongly object to Croton Farm Market being at Blockbuster on Saturday mornings. It will be a disaster for them and everyone else. I understand that the vendors will be parking at the skating park area. But where are the many customers going to park??? Even on weekdays the lots are relatively full and on Saturdays it is impossible. For example, on Friday [1/13] at 1 pm I was at the CVS parking lot [the lot adjacent to the Blockbuster lot]. It was completely full! I drove around and then eventually got a space by waiting for someone to pull out.

Last year I did go to the Briarcliff Congregation Church location. The church lot was quite full and there were police directing the increased traffic. I gather that part of the reason the Farm Market is not able to return to the Briarcliff location is because of the objections to the congestion in the area. I realize that [from Ann Gallelli as mentioned in an email] *'the smaller plaza was fully approved as a commercial location with the necessary parking when fully occupied. Now both Blockbuster and the Mexican restaurant are empty and thus not utilizing any parking spaces. That is not to say that parking is not an issue but rather that parking had been previously approved for those stores.'* If the customer base is anything like what was at Briarcliff – much more than what was at Blockbuster and Mexican restaurant – parking will be a mess.

The Farm Market is a wonderful addition to Croton and I hope it will continue.

Please help them find a suitable indoor location in Croton!!!

As a footnote -- Several months ago I spoke with Miriam Haas, Director of the Farm markets. We informally talked about locations in Croton. I suggested to her the social hall of Asbury Church. She said she needs 3000 sq ft and a minimum of stairs for easy access. I think Asbury is probably only about 2000 sq ft. I also mentioned the Wondrous Things storefront. She said she had had no luck contacting the real estate agent. Maybe some of you Trustees have contacts to find a better location!! What about Holy Name gym or the Dodge dealer showroom and garage building near the corner of Benedict and Rt 9a?

Sincerely,

Cynthia McNeal Plater
9 Cleveland Drive
Croton