

January 22, 2020

Dear Mayor Pugh & Croton Village Trustees,

Thank you for asking the RAC to discuss the possibilities of bringing back a Farmer's Market to our Village. We met on Tuesday, January 14, 2020 and a discussion was had.

The recommendation for the Market, was for either Croton Landing or Senesqua Park, and which of these two options presented to us, did we think would be best. If we are forced to choose, the one we would pick would be Senesqua Park. The pros for this are the bath house, parking is available, the park may not be used as much on a Sunday morning. The cons for this would be, loss of revenue should the pavilion want to be rented. We don't believe anyone would want to try and have a gathering and compete with a Farmers Market at the same time. The necessary functions of the park staff, such as garbage collection and cleaning and stocking of bath house would increase and should be a consideration in this decision. Also, twenty-five Sundays is a long time to lose our park for the Farmers Market.

To have it at the Landing; the pros are, there is a bath house there and that is about it. The cons for this area are that on any given Sunday that park is heavily utilized by sports organizations as well as the general public, making parking and traffic a serious issue. It could potentially be unsafe with little children running around as well.

During our discussion, the RAC, did not like either venue. We did, however, discuss a few other options.

One option presented, was the upper lot of the train station, which would provide and ample amount of parking, and would not disturb any businesses.

It was mentioned at the meeting, that bringing an event to the south end of the village might be nice for our residents. Closing Riverside Avenue, between Benedict Blvd and Clinton Street was suggested, and we liked this idea very much.

Vehicular traffic would still be able to circumvent the Market by simply going around it, via Clinton Street to Wayne Street to Benedict Blvd and vice versa. Our only concern would be the businesses open on Sunday. If the store owners were agreeable, as we wouldn't want to disrupt their Sunday business, this could work. There is parking along Benedict Blvd, in the municipal lot behind the firehouse and on Oneida Ave.

There were two ideas that were brought up to me, but not at the meeting and they were to utilize the first entrance to Senesqua closest to the boat ramp as that area is usually empty of stored boats from the winter and would not interfere with potential gatherings over in the park. With this idea the same con would be involved. The functions of the park staff would also happen in this instance.

The final idea was perhaps the parking area for Van Cortlandt Manor. There would be plenty of parking and the other stores in the Shoprite Plaza could possibly benefit from this as well. This would mean that the Farmers Market folks would have to get in touch with the Historic Hudson Valley to discuss this option, as that is not something, we can offer to them as it is not controlled by the Village of Croton on Hudson.

Respectfully Submitted,
Missy Corvinus
RAC Chair