

Saving Hillmoor August 2017

Once again, our City Leaders are presented with an opportunity. This is a golden opportunity open to all communities who face the encroachment of outside developers. But, the chance to save, preserve, and protect this space that we all know as Hillmoor is priceless because it gives our City Council the chance to say “YES” to our Comprehensive Plan which designates this area as Rural Holding.

This space has been an open and public space in the collective long-term memory of this community. It IS the last and largest gateway into our small-town Lake Geneva.

We have been lead to believe outside developers share our Vision. If that is true, then this developer, who may actually have local ties, can be on our side. He can see the benefit in using this property as it was meant to be used – with projects that are focused on our WHOLE community. Many ideas have been suggested including returning part of our beloved golf course which uniquely highlighted the geological features of this property, new home for the YMCA for their long list of programs yet to be implemented and future expansion, a public library satellite, preservation of our train history, and/or music venue.

Certainly, in conjunction with the developer’s profound vision of community, the help of the Lake Geneva Conservancy can be enlisted. The Conservancy has been instrumental in the preservation of White River County Park and construction of two bridges to access the complete property and, recently, the saving of the Geneva Shore Lake Path. Most certainly, this influential group can assist in consultation and procuring financing for Saving Hillmoor.

On Monday, August 21, the Plan Commission meets to determine the fate of the City’s chance to connect history with the future. Contact the Mayor and the City Administrator by phone or email the City Clerk, the official keeper of the records, with your comments, asking her to forward to the City Council along with hard copies for the Plan Commissioners. Democracy doesn’t happen without your involvement. Don’t let other people decide the fate of YOUR city!