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VILLAGE BOARD MEETING
FOURTH TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH

VILLAGE OF TUXEDO PARK
80 LORILLARD ROAD
P.O. BOX 31
TUXEDO PARK, NEW YORK 10987

Mary Jo Guinchard
Mayor

July 31, 2015

Mr. & Mrs. Christian Sonne
207 West Lake Road
Tuxedo Park, NY 10987

Dear Mr. & Mrs. Sonne:

On behalf of the Board of Trustees and all the residents of the Village of Tuxedo Park, please accept a huge thank you for the very generous donation of \$200,000 from the Vincent Mulford Foundation for the establishment of a Trail Maintenance Fund. This gift is for the exclusive purpose of establishing and maintaining the old bridle paths that are owned by the Village of Tuxedo Park and would also include the purchase and installation of picnic furniture in designated places.

Thank you again for the donation that will be a benefit to all the Village residents.

Very truly yours,



Mary Jo Guinchard
Mayor

I have here a check for \$200,000, which Sally and I would like to present to the Village of Tuxedo Park from the Vincent Mulford Foundation. It is to establish a Trail Maintenance Fund, to be placed in a Village Escrow account and to be used exclusively to clear and maintain the old bridle paths that are owned by the Village of Tuxedo Park, and may also include the purchase and installation of picnic furniture in designated places. Enjoying these trails was an important part of life in the early days in Tuxedo Park, and we would like to renew that possibility. We may not ride horses, but we can hike, cross-country ski, ride mountain bikes and snow-shoe. We understand that the Village budget could not possibly handle trail maintenance, and this gift is meant to save the trails from extinction.

We suggest a Trail Maintenance Committee, made up of at least one Trustee and three Village residents. They will decide which trails to address, and oversee the work. Any work that is done by the DPW, using equipment or personnel, must be approved by the Committee.

We ask that the Eagle Mountain Trail be the first priority. Some of the trail is already a fairly clear carriage road; other parts are narrow and overgrown; and then there's a very uneven and grassy place. There is a lovely picnic place at the top, and the views over Tuxedo Park are spectacular. We would like to see the picnic area revived.

There are other trails in Tuxedo Park, and also some in the land that is to be donated by Related, previously owned by the TPA. This includes Fox Hill and the path that goes up Warwick Brook to Potucket. On the east side, a bridle path extends from the south end of the Tuxedo Lake to Tuxedo Road. There are maps of the original trails, and a new up-to-date map should be created and made available to residents.

We hope that in the future, if there is a need, other residents will add to the fund. We also suggest that people contribute to this effort by helping, maybe once a year, in the fall, on what we will call "Trail Day". Residents of all ages can give a few hours in a specific location clipping brush and branches, clearing the way. This beats lifting weights in the gym, and it's certainly more useful and a way to bring the community together for a purpose.

This donation is not meant in any way to bail out the Village of Tuxedo Park and relieve its shaky financial condition. That, you still have to do....somehow.

In the meantime, even if the Village roads crumble, we, and others, will enjoy ourselves hiking around on the beautiful trails in Tuxedo Park.