

Village Residents Party

Brookville, Long Island, New York

tam-committee@villageresidents.org

October 2024

Fellow Brookville and Upper Brookville Residents,

We are writing to follow up on our July 2024 letter concerning the Tam O'Shanter project. Upper Brookville residents can catch up by reading it on our website <villageresidents.org>. We have already pointed out that there is a general lack of communication regarding the project and the planning process. We are particularly concerned that the documents released on the village government's website lack specific details about the arsenic and mercury contamination. There is nothing that we could show to an outside expert.

Various alternative proposals for the property have been discussed. Several were mentioned at the March 2024 public meeting. We favor the village park proposal. Claims that such a project would be unaffordable by a village the size of Brookville are contradicted by the success of the Village Club of Sands Point. Adjacent villages could be involved, thereby increasing the pool of members. At a minimum, the idea is worth exploring. The mayor's August 23 letter seems to indicate an unwillingness to do even that.

Whether any of the proposed alternatives win, lose or draw, the chemical contamination issue remains central. No matter what happens to the property, we are looking at a truly massive cleanup project. We are determined that this process must be carried out properly and with independent, outside oversight. We are exploring the options and are actively seeking out other organizations that have the same interests that we have.

We are very uncomfortable with the role of State Senator Jack Martins in this matter. He is the attorney that represents the applicant who wishes to develop the property. This property is located in Martin's district. We do not have the ability to appeal to our State Senator to stop this ill-advised project because our State Senator is being paid by the developer to advocate in favor of the project. Your right to have your elected officials represent your interest has been compromised. Working for a client who is building a controversial project that is located in your own electoral district seems like the definition of a conflict of interest. The Village Residents Party has endorsed Jack Martin's opponent **Kim Keiserman** <kimkeiserman.com>. Please consider supporting her campaign. Let us know if you do so, so that we can compile a tally, which can be a very effective tool in a close election held in a small district, like this one.

We are also looking for volunteers. We would like to hear from the residents regarding their hopes for the property. As concerned members of the community we need to effectively and persuasively voice our concerns to the planning board and to the rest of the village leadership. We ask for your input and participation in planning the next steps to get a full assessment of the impact upon our community and a proper exploration of alternatives to this project. We are planning on holding a residents meeting this autumn at a location to be determined. All residents who have provided us with their e-mail addresses will be notified of the meeting date, time and agenda. If we do not yet have your e-mail address, please go to <villageresidents.org> and sign up for the e-mail list. We do not expect to send much more postal mail.

Village Residents Party

We are very appreciative of the monetary contributions we have received to date to support our efforts. A few residents have been extraordinarily generous. If you have not already done so, please contribute to the efforts to stop or modify this development that would take some of the last green space in Brookville. We hope that every resident will help with this expense and not leave it to a generous few to carry the full burden for them.

As we mention numerous times on our website, the VRP is an independent organization. It is odd that the mayor finds it necessary to point out that we are not affiliated with the village government. It would be very strange indeed, and probably illegal, for a public governmental body to have a formal affiliation with a political action committee. Still, they cannot claim that they do not know who we are.

- The VRP filed about 30 years worth of state-mandated financial disclosure forms (CF-01's) with the village clerk before registering to file electronically at the state level.
- We sent mass-mailings, like the July 2024 mailing, to Brookville, Upper Brookville and Old Brookville several times per year for about 10 years.
- Our website contains notes that we took when we attended eighty (80) Village of Brookville Board of Trustees' meetings.
- Our complaints to the Committee on Open Government about the village government's flouting of the Open Meetings Law and the Freedom of Information Law resulted in an official response that was adverse to the village government officials.
- Former mayor Galgano specifically mentioned us in his letter of resignation.
- Indeed, when the current mayor moved into Brookville, there were already several years of our CF-01's in the village clerk's filing cabinet.

Perhaps the mayor is just not comfortable with a private, village-level organization that he doesn't control pursuing an agenda that may be at odds with his own.

Thank you for your time and please stay in touch. We welcome your comments at tam-committee@villageresidents.org.

Sincerely,

The Tam O'Shanter Committee
of the Village Residents Party

Village Residents Party

Donation Form

Mail to: Village Residents Party, PO Box 105, Glen Head, NY 11545

<input type="checkbox"/> Standard donation:	\$50
<input type="checkbox"/> Additional donation:	\$
Total amount enclosed:	\$

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

E-mail: _____

- Your e-mail address is essential in order to place you on a low volume (typically 1 or 2 items per month), announcements-only mailing list. We will probably not be able to send much more postal mail. Your e-mail address will be kept confidential.
- Please make your check payable to “Village Residents Party” and mail to:
Village Residents Party, PO Box 105, Glen Head, NY 11545-0105
- We can accept cash, but only up to \$100 per person per year and it cannot be anonymous.
- You can pay dues by credit card using our website at **villageresidents.org/contact**
Payment options include credit cards, debit cards, Apple Pay, PayPal, e-checks and more
- You can use your phone to **text VRP to 888-444-8774**
- Please feel free to give us your comments on the back of the form or via e-mail at:
staff@villageresidents.org Please send address corrections there, as well.



Village Residents Party

The Village Social Hour

The Village Residents Party will take over the Village Social Hour, which has not been held for a number of years. We hope that we will see you at the next one, which we plan to hold in October 2025. We will get the specifics to you ASAP so that you can mark your calendars and save the date. Please sign up for our mailing list so that we can keep you informed about the planning and preparation for this event. Go to villageresidents.org. We do not expect to send much more postal mail.

Village Residents Party
PO Box 105
Glen Head, New York 11545

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