

Shoreline Times (Shorelinetimes.com)

Opinion

No regrets about Griswold Airport property

Monday, December 28, 2009

To the Editor:

On Jan. 26 a conclusion regarding the final chapter in the Griswold Airport saga should be reached. From my own experience almost everyone says "we should have bought it years ago at such and such a price." It seems therefore that most people agree that we-the Town of Madison, should own the property for conservation and recreation purposes.

The only sticking point seems to be the money. The median value home will be taxed an average of \$68 per year for 20 years. For this modest investment, our town can add another jewel to accompany our great school system, Surf Club, and the Garvan property. Along with the location on Long Island Sound, these things create strong reasons for property value appreciation, the present economic downturn notwithstanding.

The Griswold property is a totally unique 42 acre parcel, bordering the Hammonasset River, salt marsh, and the state park. It is not likely that any future conservation opportunity will match or approach it in either size, proximity to water, or habitat significance. Let's not pass it up. Please vote yes on Jan. 26. Your grandchildren will thank you for your foresight and most generous gift.

Ralph Dykstra

Madison

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