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## New hamlet signs tie it all together

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BSP Reporter

There is something new in Stone Ridge as people traveling routes 209 and 213 approach the hamlet. Colorful signs designate a place and within the next few weeks, signs will also begin appearing at High Falls, an effort by the High Falls Civic Association.

Stone Ridge signs are the outcome of meetings, discussions, and creativity of several Marbletown residents.

"There was a single idea that came from design goals set by the hamlet sign group within the PZC (Planning and Zoning Committee) and guided by the recently approved Hamlet Plan," said architect Peter Reynolds. "These design goals were to strengthen the commercial hamlets through signage that would also promote the historical and rural agricultural identity of the community."

Reynolds said he took his design cues from the existing signage for Catskill Park. Those signs, as seen along Route 28, have a strong colorful landscape image of the Catskill ridgelines. Reynolds said he wanted the signs to connect to the existing signage and identity of the hamlet and created it similar to the white colonial design of the kiosk located at Town Hall. Reynolds designed that in the 90's and recalls as that effort being a similar volunteer-based effort built by local contractors and financed from existing funding by the town.

"The continuity of process lies in both products," said Reynolds.

The small sign sub-committee met regularly as part of the regular PZC meeting agenda to review and revise the design, budgets, and details. There was approximately a year and a half from the initial



The principal contributors to the project: Peter Reynolds (North River Architecture & Planning, Stone Ridge) who donated his services as designer of the signs, Maggie Colan (Planning and Zoning Secretary) offered logistical support, Barbara Bash (Stone Ridge artist and author) created and painted the artwork (mountain scene) for the top panels, Brooke Pickering-Cole (Town Board), Henry Pra and Ken Gore (8-Point Construction) crafted and installed the signs at low cost which included a significant donation of time and labor and Mike Warren (Town Supervisor). Photo by Iris Colan.

design discussion to installation and there is still the possibility the signs you see are not complete. Reynolds said there might be a volunteer addition of a bluestone base but that commitment has not been finalized at this point.

Barbara Bash was the first local artist approached. Bash contributed to the Marbletown's Town Seal presence at the opening of Walkway Over the Hudson and Reynolds said her effort there was much

appreciated and well remembered. Bash also graphically recorded the Hamlet Plan public information meeting.

"Luckily she agreed to do the artwork on these signs as well," said Reynolds. "She worked quite closely with the original approved design for the signs."

Funding for this project came from monies remaining from a state grant, donations of work as well as high quality materials.

"Henry Pra and Ken Gore of 8 Point Contracting from here in Stone Ridge were the first team approached to build the signs," Reynolds said. "They had to meet a very tight budget and much of their work and high quality construction material were provided at cost."

Reynolds said that the community has a long-lasting contribution in these signs and thanks go to the entire team who worked on this project. **BSP**