Report on Actions Taken to Improve Cell Phone and Internet Service in the Village of Tuxedo Park

To: Board of Trustees of the Village of Tuxedo Park

From: Communications Committee Chair person, Paola Tocci

Date: November 17, 2021

Background:

When the committee began, it was always a common goal that cell phone and internet service be improved for all the interested parties. The interested parties are the Village residents, the Village personnel/Police force, etc., the Tuxedo Club and the Tuxedo School. There may exist some confusion as to the scope of the goal that we would like the BOT to clarify. Is it the goal that cell phone and internet service be improved for all the interested parties, or is the goal more limited in scope.

Currently and over the past two years, we have had numerous entities (Verizon, Tilson, ATT and currently Crown Castle) expend a great deal of effort and time presenting their options to the Communications Committee, Representatives of the Village, The Tuxedo Park School and The Tuxedo Club. We would hate to see the effort and time these parties are spending go to waste. The Communications Committee all also feels that above all else, we need to be totally transparent in our methodology and decision making. In order to maintain and achieve transparency, the Communications Committee feels that The Village BOT must hire an independent consultant.

Many months ago, the Communications Committee provided the CV of Walter Cooper, an independent specialist on internet and mobile phone issues for communities, to the BOT. The Communications Committee recommended that we hire this independent consultant. We were told that there was money in the budget at that point to do so.

Request:

At this point, the Communications Committee respectfully requests the BOT make the following determinations:

- 1. Decide whether we need to revisit and restate the common goal of improved internet and mobile phone connectivity for all; and
- 2. Approve the hiring of an independent consultant as recommended by the Communications Committee.

Thank you for your time and deliberation on this matter.

Respectfully submitted, Paola Tocci Chairperson of the Communications Committee