

PROPERTY OWNERS' ASSOCIATION OF GARDEN CITY ESTATES

MEETING – SEPTEMBER 12, 2012

The September meeting of the POA of Garden City Estates was called together by President William Slattery with the Pledge of Allegiance to the American flag. After welcoming everyone, he asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the May meeting. It was moved by Matt Abrusci.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Library: Randy Colahan reported the Library Board met several times over the summer months. The Village has agreed to assume some of the needed building repairs. The library plans to open the same amount of Sundays and hours starting on Oct. 14th. They would like eventually to move back to full service. The board voted to look into the ability to get a special counsel, someone who specializes in library affairs; someone they could call as needed. They are meeting with the CBAC early this year. They are operating on a 13% reduced budget. – have reduced part-time staff by 67%.

Circulation numbers are up. You can now download MP music. The library is supported by the Friends of the Library. The very popular movies for seniors needs a retiree to volunteer to continue the program.

Schools: Colleen Foley reported the schools opened on Tuesday with 4000 students. They are going to have an Open House for the residents to highlight how the \$38 million dollar bond the schools was used. There are still a few minor things to be done. She was very pleased with the Construction Manager.

The School Board will be putting together a Technology Committee. There are term limits for the Audit Committee.

CBAC: There are two new members of the CBAC. They are Mark Hadlock and Christine Rio.

President's remarks: President Slattery said he would like to highlight talented students from our schools at POA meetings in the

future. Next month we are having Rev. Jim Adelman from the Community Church speaking at the meeting. At the last meeting, we had the Rabbi from the Garden City Jewish Center speak.

Guest speaker: Oscar Basso of Milena's Garden Center in New Hyde Park spoke about landscaping, lawn fungus, shrubs, and the fungus disease attacking the impatiens plants. There were many questions from the members, which Mr. Basso answered.

Recreation: Pat Manley reported the pool was very successful. The numbers were up from last year. They made \$50,000 more than last year – more members. Phase II: The plan is to get the pool committee back together to decide on Phase II. The Senior survey results are back and will be reported to the public soon. A general survey will be going out soon to see what people would want in Garden City from the recreation facilities.

Traffic: Committee member, Doug Singer, was absent. However, there were a number of residents in attendance who would like a crossing guard on Kildare Rd. and Stratford Ave. They presented their reasons and have a petition to present to the Traffic Commission. Bill Slattery called for a motion to support having a crossing guard there. The motion carried. They have the support of the Board of Directors of the POA of Garden City Estates.

Another gentleman said he lives on Tanners Pond Road and Greenridge Park Rd. He asked for stop signs on Tanners Pond Road. He also has a petition going. The board suggested they would support one stop sign on Somerset and Tanners Pond Road, not two or three stop signs.

Senior Advisory Committee: Kathy Auro is on this committee, which represents the different Senior organizations in the Village. They also have a survey to see what seniors really need. They have organized trips and other things to get people out of their houses. They would like to meet with the Continuing Education people to see if they could work together. Kathy is also part of the focus group discussing the expansion of the Senior Center on Golf Club Lane.

Village matters – Villages Trustees - Brian Daughney and John DeMaro: The new building on 7th St. and Franklin Ave. has started renting apartments. South of the Doubleday property, ground is due to be broken soon. **Fire Department:** The Village hired a consultant to look over the Fire Department at a cost of \$35,000. The report came up with 14 recommendations that would save the Village up to a half a million dollars. Garden City is the only department on Long Island with paid firemen. We have 31 total at a cost of \$3.1 million each year in salaries. We have 100 volunteers, 65 – 70 are active.

Of the fourteen recommendations, they only changed one so far. They have changed the way calls are processed. This has cut the time in getting trucks on the street. They are looking at some of the other recommendations. They are in the middle of contract negotiations. They haven't had a contract for three years.

They are thinking about changes and are talking to the chiefs. Everyone is part of the discussion.

Cathedral Nursery School located in the houses behind St. Paul's. There will likely be discussion about this at the Board of Trustees meeting on Sept. 20th. New York State law says because the St. Paul's property was designated at Parkland, the law does not provide for an enterprise to be located on Parkland property. There are certain issues that will have to be addressed.

Question: In answer to a question posed by a director as to why they don't have the minutes – the minutes are posted on the POA website.

Minutes submitted by Jerie Newman for Mike Holland