

Board of Trustees Reports March 21, 2018

Prior to the start of the meeting, Mayor Longobardi asked for a moment of silence. The brother of Police Commissioner McAllister and father of Superintendent of Recreation Kurt Meyfohrt passed away. The Mayor expressed his sincere condolences to their families on behalf of the Village Board and residents of Floral Park.

Belmont Task Force – Trustee Kevin Fitzgerald

Trustee Fitzgerald began by thanking all of the residents that came and voted for Trustee Cheng and himself. He was truly honored and humbled to be elected to serve this Village and its residents.

Trustee Fitzgerald then reminded all residents that tomorrow the Empire State Development (ESD) will be holding a public hearing to allow interested parties to comment on the recently released scoping document. As the scoping document and comments made form the basis of what the ESD needs to address in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement, he urged all residents to attend and provide any comments they would like to address to the ESD. The meeting is at the Elmont Public Library on March 23rd. There are two sessions, one starting at 3:30 pm to 5:30 pm and the other at 6:30 pm.

The Village Board and the Belmont Task Force will be speaking on various topics. Separately the Village will be submitting in writing a comprehensive list of areas and topics that will need to be addressed. The deadline for comments to be submitted in writing has been extended by one week until 5:30 pm on April 12, 2018.

Last week, representatives from the Empire State Development and New York Arena Partners met with the Belmont Task Force. Based on the extensive dialogue that occurred, Trustee Fitzgerald said the meeting was constructive and our concerns are being understood. Trustee Fitzgerald thanked the representatives for taking the time to meet with members of the Task Force and thanked the Empire State Development for extending the comment period by the previously mentioned week.

Trustee Fitzgerald also thanked County Legislators Nicoletto and Muscarella for writing to the Empire State Development to extend the comment period.

Department of Public Works – Trustee Kevin Fitzgerald

Trustee Fitzgerald stated that once again Floral Park was named a Tree City USA by the Arbor Day Foundation in honor of its commitment to effective forest management. Residents of Floral Park should be proud to live in a community that makes the planting and care of trees a priority. Floral Park achieved Tree City USA recognition by meeting the program's four requirements: a tree board or department, a tree care ordinance, an annual community forestry budget of at least \$2 per capita and an Arbor Day observance and proclamation.

As approved earlier tonight, the Village will be planting approximately 150 trees this spring throughout. Trustee Fitzgerald thanked the members of the Tree Committee which consists of Lucille Zimmer, Kevin Flood along with Superintendent of Public Works Steve Siwinski for their time. In addition, Trustee Fitzgerald thanked the members of our Tree Department and Tree Supervisor Russ Mazzola for their work each day in maintaining our trees.

Fire Department – Trustee Lynn Pombonyo

Trustee Pombonyo began by congratulating Deputy Mayor Kevin Fitzgerald and Trustee Cheng on their re-elections to the Village Board. She noted that both Trustees are skilled and hard-working leaders.

Trustee Pombonyo then reported that in addition to a very busy fire-related and rescue response schedule and rigorous training program, our Floral Park Fire Department continues to be an active participant working with the Village Board, residents and businesses on issues and initiatives important to the community. Included are participation in the Belmont Task Force activities in response to the plans for the redevelopment of Belmont Park; looking ahead to emergency response planning for the LIRR third track construction; and, most recently, joining the Floral Park Police Department for a very comprehensive School Safety presentation at the March meeting of the Floral Park-Bellerose School District Board of Education. Our Fire Department also enjoys productive working relationships with other Departments in the First Battalion.

Our Floral Park Fire Department will continue to demonstrate strong leadership with all our Village partners so that Floral Park remains a great, safe place to live, work, and raise our families.

Library – Trustee Archie Cheng

Trustee Cheng thanked the residents for coming out to vote in yesterday's uncontested election. He said it has been a pleasure to work with the Mayor and Board these last few years and he looks forward to continuing the work with them despite the serious challenges we have with Belmont Park and the Third Track.

Trustee Cheng stated that the Library cancelled all programs tomorrow (March 22) due to the storm. Please check the Library's website for the new schedule.

Third Track Task Force – Trustee Archie Cheng

Trustee Cheng said the Village was provided with artistic renderings of the sound attenuation walls. The Board has several questions and so we are inviting the Chairperson of the Architectural Review Board to come before the Long Island Railroad and look at these renderings and ask questions. We will then start to engage the public on what these renderings look like. The railroad is not doing environmental borings but structural-type borings to determine how they are going to build the new areas at Tyson and Plainfield Avenues.

Recreation Center – Trustee Frank Chiara

Trustee Chiara reported that the fields are being worked on so that they will be ready for the opening of the baseball season. They have been aerated and seed the Recreation staff. Hopefully all the snow or rain will help with the growing process.

Tennis lessons will once again be offered for both beginners and intermediate level. Registration or applications will be available by April 1st at the Recreation/Pool Building. A tentative start date is April 15th for the lessons. They will be conducted on Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 11 am to noon and on Saturday mornings at 8 am.

The Easter Egg Hunt will be held this Saturday, March 24th. For children under 5 years old, they should meet at Tiny Town Park at 9:30 am and for children 6 and over, they should meet by the stage area by 9:45 am. If the area is not suitable for the hunt, it will be relocated indoors at the pool building.

Centennial Gardens will be opening in April with daily hours of 12 noon to 5 pm – weather permitting.

Lastly, Trustee Chiara congratulated both Kevin & Archie on their successful re-election as trustees. Thank you for all that you do for our Village, thank you for your mentorship and I look forward to working with you for our common goal of ‘Keeping the Village of Floral Park a Great Place to Live’.

Mayor’s Report – Dominick Longobardi

Mayor Longobardi said he sincerely hopes the Easter Egg Hunt is not snowed out on Saturday!

Mayor Longobardi congratulated Trustee Fitzgerald and Trustee Cheng on being re-elected. The Mayor said we all work well together and try to do the best for the residents of this Village. These two individuals put their hearts and souls into everything they do, as do Trustees Pombonyo and Chiara. Mayor Longobardi said he is pleased to work with everyone on the Board along with all the Village employees and volunteers.

Mayor Longobardi said the man who makes it all happen, Village Administrator Gerry Bambrick, today is his birthday! The Mayor wished him well.

Mayor Longobardi said to everyone to get home safe!

Mayor Longobardi thanked Felix Procaccia for filming this evening’s meeting.

On motion by Trustee Fitzgerald, seconded by Trustee Pombonyo, and carried unanimously, Mayor Longobardi recessed the meeting at 8:25 pm.