

BOARD REPORTS

April 3, 2018

Belmont Park – Trustee Kevin Fitzgerald

Trustee Fitzgerald reported that he and the Board attended both sessions of the public hearing regarding Belmont Park held at the Elmont Public Library on March 22nd. Trustee Fitzgerald thanked the Board and the residents who attended the hearings and for taking valuable time out of their day to attend this important meeting. Approximately 75% of the speakers at the hearings were residents of Floral Park. The deadline for comments is April 12th. Trustee Fitzgerald recommended residents read through the scoping document and ask the Empire State Development (ESD) as many questions as they can. The Belmont Task Force is working to put together a list of questions based upon letters previously received which will be mailed back to the ESD this week.

Fire Department – Trustee Lynn Pombonyo

Trustee Pombonyo expressed appreciation to the residents and businesses of Floral Park and our neighboring communities for the outpouring of sympathy and support following the tragic line-of-duty death of FDNY Lt. Michael Davidson. Of special note are the heartfelt dedication and work of our Village of Floral Park staff including Village Hall, the Police Department, the Department of Public Works, and the Fire Department.

In acknowledging the Fire Department, Trustee Pombonyo noted the tributes to Lt. Davidson, his family, and fellow FDNY firefighters with the arches and American flags accompanying Lt. Davidson into and out of our Village; hosting hundreds of FDNY and other out-of-town firefighters at our Fire Department Headquarters and serving all with food so generously donated by our residents, restaurants, and other businesses; participating in the ceremonial tributes; and caring for all in our Village, both those who live and work here and our thousands of guests, through those very sad days. We continue to offer condolences to the family and friends of Lt. Davidson as well as his FDNY family, and great appreciation to all who cared for and supported them.

Trustee Pombonyo also thanked the community for the positive response to the 2018 Keith Fairben Memorial Blood Drive on Friday, March 30th. The generous donations of blood totaled 273 pints which will help to save 819 lives as each pint can save up to three lives. Appreciation also goes to the many volunteers who assisted at this important blood drive as well as all who publicized it.

This coming Sunday, April 8th, the Floral Park Fire Department will be honored at a special Mass at Our Lady of Victory Church. Also honored that day will be our firefighters who passed away in 2017. We thank Ex-Chief Hugh Berta III, James Ahern, Charles Gederberg, Fred Herbert and Henry Sieban, Jr. for their decades of service to Floral Park.

Third Track Task Force – Trustee Archie Cheng

Trustee Cheng said borings are being installed at Plainfield and Tyson Avenues. These borings are structural, not environmental. The Board is currently reviewing the renderings of the sound attenuation wall which will extend the entire length of the track on both sides of the main line.

There will be a meeting of the Architectural Review Board on Wednesday, April 25th. Residents are welcomed to attend to hear about the finishes for the sound attenuation wall. The meeting will be held in the courtroom at Village Hall rather than the Recreation Center.

Police Department – Trustee Archie Cheng

Trustee Cheng said he echoed the report of Trustee Pombonyo. Trustee Cheng thanked everyone who worked so hard to show their support to the family, fellow firefighters and friends of Lt. Michael Davidson, including the Fire Department, the Police Department, the Department of Public Works and all the resident and local merchants who brought food, water, cakes and cookies. The entire community showed a tremendous outpouring of support to the family of Lt. Davidson.

Trustee Cheng sent a letter of thanks to Police Commissioner McAllister, PBA President Pedley and Police Communications Operator Supervisor Abbruzzese:

‘I am writing to express my thanks for the wonderful job done by the entire Floral Park Police Department during these past few days. The exemplary work done by the Department during the wake and funeral of Lt. Davidson demonstrated your professionalism.

Every aspect of your collective performance from comforting and safeguarding his family; studying, arranging and implementing every detail; cooperating and coordinating with numerous outside Fire and Police agencies; preparing for all unknown details while doing your everyday Village responsibilities, was handled in a way that truly shone light on what a great Police Department we have. Moreover, it showed the County of Nassau and City of New York how blessed we are to have a Police Department that not only protects and assists us every day, but also a Department that can rise to an extremely difficult and fluid situation.

On behalf of the Village Board, I again commend and say thank you for a job, not just well done, but a job that was superlative. I hope that you will share this letter with every member of the Police Department, our Dispatchers and Neighborhood Aids.

Sincerely,

Archie T. Cheng, Esq.’

Recreation Center – Trustee Frank J. Chiara

Trustee Chiara reported that the Recreation Center is being prepared for the upcoming season and that he is hoping the weather will change to assist us with this preparation.

Little League will be starting shortly and we are hopeful that the fields will be suitable for play.

The tennis courts are also being prepared for play and they, too, will be opening shortly.

The Tiny Town project is moving forward and all the necessary paperwork is being completed so that it can go out to bid.

Trustee Chiara thanked all of our Village Department for the fantastic job they did so that our Village was prepared for the funeral of Lt. Davidson. Dealing with such a tragic loss, all the services that were provided for the family and friends of Lt. Davidson made our Village shine at such a dark time. Trustee Chiara also thanked the residents for everything they did to support the Davidson family.

Mayor's Report – Mayor Dominick A. Longobardi

Mayor Longobardi said it was truly amazing to see the outpouring of love and support shown to the family of Lt. Michael Davidson by our Village family and residents. Everyone in the Village dropped what they were doing to help. According to Michael's wife, Eileen, the strong sense of community is what brought them to Floral Park and that she will continue to raise her children here. Mayor Longobardi thanked each Village Department including the Fire Department, Police Department, Department of Public Works and Village Hall. He thanked all the people who dropped things off to the Fire Department including water, food and gifts for the children and that the Village will continue to support the family of Lt. Michael Davidson.

Mayor Longobardi thanked all the residents who came out and supported the Village at the Belmont Park public hearing on March 22nd at the Elmont Public Library.

Mayor Longobardi reported that a Visioning Session will be held on Tuesday, April 12th at 7:30 pm in the court room regarding residential units at Centennial Hall. All are invited to attend.

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