

Inc. Village of Floral Park
May 7, 2019
Board of Trustees Meeting

At the beginning of the Board Meeting, Floral Park's newest Police Officers were sworn in. Police Officer Brian Greene was sworn in by his father, Former Mayor Kevin Greene and Mayor Longobardi swore in Police Officer Joseph Sawicki. It was a special ceremony with family, friends and many members of the Floral Park Police Department made even more special by a rousing rendition of Happy Birthday sung by everyone in attendance to Police Officer Sawicki!

Police Department – Trustee Kevin Fitzgerald

Trustee Fitzgerald said, as previously mentioned, there were 'Do Not Block the Box' signs and street paintings done at various intersections in the Village where drivers were blocking the intersection thus causing cascading traffic congestion. For the month of April, there were 17 summonses issued.

Beautification Committee – Trustee Kevin Fitzgerald

Trustee Fitzgerald reported that this all volunteer group, led by Donna Sanchez, who met last week, are responsible for planting various plants and flowers in the many pocket parks that exist in our Village. They are in the process of planting different varieties of flowers and sprucing up the pocket parks. If you see them working in the next few weeks, please stop by to say 'thanks' as they certainly put a little more 'floral' in Floral Park.

Four Village Studio – Trustee Kevin Fitzgerald

Trustee Fitzgerald said May 20th will be the initial airing of a program in which he and Deputy Superintendent of Public Works Kevin Ginnane were interviewed. Residents are urged to watch the program to see how our Department of Public Works operates. Trustee Fitzgerald thanked Kevin Ginnane for helping to put together this informative program.

Belmont Project – Trustee Kevin Fitzgerald

Trustee Fitzgerald said that although there have been numerous news reports inclusive of statements from the Nassau County Executive and the Islanders, the project is on track but the final FEIS has not been released. This important document contains responses to numerous questions and significant concerns raised by the Village and its residents. To date, the Village has not received any information as to responses to these hundreds of questions and concerns. There have also been no details about a new station on the mainline that was mentioned in the aforementioned media releases. Trustee Fitzgerald said he would like to point out that a full-

time train station is one of the many separate concerns raised and may not necessarily be a panacea to the traffic concerns. The Village Board and the Belmont Task Force remain vigilant and will advise residents when other significant information becomes available, including when the FIS is released and scheduled to be voted on by the ESD Board.

Recreation and Pool – Trustee Lynn Pombonyo

Trustee Pombonyo announced that the recreation and pool season is here in Floral Park. The Pool and Recreation Books will be delivered during the week of May 13th and will be on the Village website as well. Registration for the pool and park programs with fees will be Wednesday evening, May 22nd from 7-9 pm. Registration for all programs will continue on Saturday and Sunday, May 25th and 26th, and June 1st and 2nd. Registration for the pool season is currently Mondays to Fridays, 9:00 am to 7:00 pm. Park hours on Memorial Day will be 8:00 am to dusk. All are reminded that Village of Floral Park 2018-2019 free leisure passes or 2019 resident pool passes are required for use of the recreation center programs and facilities including Tiny Town and the tennis and basketball courts. Leisure passes must be presented at the request of Village staff members. We wish all in Floral Park a most enjoyable summer at our own recreation and pool facilities.

Conservation Society – Trustee Lynn Pombonyo

Trustee Pombonyo invited all to visit Centennial Gardens to enjoy the blossoming trees and flowers, the unique and colorful birds, and all the beauty of the spring season. The Gardens are open noon to 5:00 pm daily, weather permitting.

Thanks to all the dedicated volunteers, in particular, the Floral Park Conservation Society, for caring for the Gardens and continually enhancing its beauty. The Department of Public Works continually lends their support to the Gardens maintenance program as well. Individuals, families, local organizations and businesses are invited to join the Rotary Club volunteers at the Gardens monthly weed-outs, the first Saturday of each month, 9:00 am, at the Floral Parkway gates. Next weed-out, June 1st.

Save the date to celebrate and raise funds for Centennial Gardens at the Conservation Society's annual Garden Party, Friday evening, June 7th at 5:00 pm. The Floral Park Conservation Society is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization. Check out the website at www.fpgarden.org for interesting photos and information.

Covert Chamber of Commerce – Trustee Lynn Pombonyo

Trustee Pombonyo reminded all to SHOP LOCAL during the Long Island Railroad's third track construction project. All of our fabulous Floral Park and Stewart Manor establishments are OPEN FOR BUSINESS!

Fire Department – Trustee Archie Cheng

Trustee Cheng reported that the Fire Department held their Installation Dinner on Saturday, April 27th. It was a wonderful affair where all present thanked outgoing Chief David Maickel and welcomed incoming Chief Sal Arrigo.

During the month of April, the Fire Department responded to 67 calls, of which 49 were rescue calls.

There is an excellent program on the Four Village Studio Website regarding the history of the Floral Park Fire Department hosted by Ex-Chiefs Brooks, Cantreva and Zuba and also Firefighter Larry King.

Third Track Project – Trustee Archie Cheng

Trustee Cheng reported that at the present time work continues at South Tyson Avenue and the right-of-way from Plainfield Avenue to the hockey rink. At Tyson, part of the abutment wall had to be removed which required a significant amount of loud pile driving to remove the 12-18 inch thick rebar reinforced wall. That type of work should be completed very soon.

Along the right of way, great progress has been made with the support of the excavation wall. Plainfield Avenue to the Linden Street tunnel has been completed. Retaining wall work should begin soon. In the next couple of weeks, the beginning of the elevator work at the Floral Park Station will commence.

Library – Trustee Frank Chiara

Trustee Chiara reported that The Friends of the Library held a book sale over this past weekend and raised nearly \$1,500 to be used for a renovation to the young adult section of the Library. Thank you to all that supported the sale and thank you to the Friends of the Library for organizing and staffing this worthwhile event.

On May 23rd, the Library will be supporting the Red Nose Day by the staff wearing red noses. Red noses will be available for all who would like to give support and to make everyone aware that there are many children in need. Flyers with information explaining the purpose of Red Nose Day will be available. It is a fun day with a charitable message!

New Resident Committee – Trustee Frank Chiara

Trustee Chiara reported that last Sunday, May 5th, the New Resident Committee hosted a Meet & Greet at the Recreation/Pool Building. New residents were invited to come and were welcomed to our Village. They received information from community organizations and our local

businesses. The new residents that attended were greeted by committee members, our Mayor and Board of Trustees along with over 15 organizations sharing information about our great Village. Everyone who attended really seemed to enjoy the event. Trustee Chiara thanked all the New Resident Committee members, especially Darlene Lanza, Betsy and Lisa Boutis, the Recreation staff and all the organizations who set up tables with information on their groups. What makes this Village such a great place to live is all the volunteers who took time out of their weekend to welcome and share information with our new neighbors. It was a great event – thank you!

The organizations that attended were: Four Village Studio, Floral Park Library, Floral Park Fire Department, Floral Park Conservation Society, Floral Park Historical Society, Floral Park Junior Woman's Club, Floral Park Wednesday Mother's Club, Covert Avenue Chamber of Commerce, World Church of God, St. Elisabeth's Church, Floral Park Beautification Committee, Floral Park Lions Club, Floral Park Knights of Columbus, AHRC, FISH and Rotary Club.

Mayor's Report – Mayor Dominick Longobardi

Mayor Longobardi thanked the residents and members of the Board of Trustees who attended the first open house held on Saturday, May 4th from 9:30 am to 11:30 am at Village Hall. This is the first open house and they will continue to be held on the first Saturday of each month. Also attending were Village Administrator Gerard Bambrick and Darlene Lanza. These open houses are being held to allow residents to come in and discuss their concerns. The Board understands that not everyone can come in during the week or attend a Board meeting. The next open house will be held on Saturday, June 1st from 9:30 am to 11:30 am at the Recreation Center.

Mayor Longobardi said that on Saturday, May 18th will be the Hance Family Fun Day and 5K Walk/Run. Pray for good weather! It is always a great day.

Monday, May 27th is the Memorial Day Parade and Ceremony hosted by the Floral Park American Legion. Please come out and honor our great veterans. Kick-off is at 10:00 am.

As Trustee Pombonyo mentioned, construction on the third track is taking place on Covert Avenue. All businesses are open and we urge our residents to support them during this time. Ample parking is available. Please continue to do your shopping on Jericho Turnpike, Tulip Avenue and Covert Avenue. Our thriving business community has always been a great support to our Village and we would appreciate if you would be there for them, too.

Mayor Longobardi said that two weeks ago, the Historical Society had a ceremony at which historical markers were revealed around the Village. We hope to have the markers installed by the end of May/beginning of June. There will be a map available to see where all of the historical markers are located and residents can take a self-guided tour to view all of them. For more information, please visit the Floral Park Historical Society's website.

Mayor Longobardi thanked Catherine Procacci (daughter of Felix) for attending the Board Meeting representing Just the Facts Media.