

Inc. Village of Floral Park
November 6, 2019
Board of Trustees Meeting

Prior to the start of the meeting, Mayor Longobardi asked for a moment of silence to remember V.J. Brooks, a former Police Officer and volunteer firefighter in Floral Park. Please keep V.J. and his family in your prayers.

Department of Public Works – Trustee Kevin Fitzgerald

Trustee Fitzgerald reported that Public Works has wrapped up all the road repair work for the season. They are currently preparing for the winter by winterizing the parks and picking up the leaves along Village roads and parks. Please do not rake the leaves into the street. Plows and salt spreaders are being prepped in advance of storm events.

With the holiday season approaching, we would like to remind residents that Floral Park recycles. There will be a significant increase in paper and cardboard being placed out for recycling collection. We would like to remind our residents to please separate recycling and tie up bundled cardboard when possible.

Monday, November 11th is Veterans Day. There will be no garbage or recycling pick up on that day. Sanitation will be on a holiday schedule that week. Please check your sanitation calendar or go to our Village website for the holiday schedule.

Police Department – Trustee Kevin Fitzgerald

Trustee Fitzgerald said that last week's DEA prescription drug take back was a success. Over 40 pounds of prescription drugs were brought into the Police Department.

Belmont – Trustee Kevin Fitzgerald

Trustee Fitzgerald made two quick notes: Last week the Village petitioned the court for a limited temporary restraining order to halt some of the work that is currently being done. This will be brought before the judge on Thursday, November 7th. Secondly, Trustee Fitzgerald would like to call to our residents' attention the *Mayor's Message* that was sent out last Friday, November 1st. It clearly outlines with specific examples of how over the course of the past two years, the Village and its residents have tried to work with the various parties to ensure that the re-development at Belmont would benefit all and not be a detriment to the surrounding communities. The *Mayor's Message* clearly shows how we are not and have not been 'an unalterable and steadfast foe of the Belmont Park Re-development Project' as we were cited as being in some of the court filings.

Recreation Department – Trustee Lynn Pombonyo

Trustee Pombonyo reported that, after a busy and fun-filled fall season at the Village park, recreation hours are 8:00 am to 4:30 pm effective Monday, November 11th. Floral Park Titans Football and Little League are wrapping up exciting fall seasons. The Sports Association Screaming Eagles Hockey and Youth Council Football have begun their seasons, good luck to all! As of December 2nd, all fields will be closed for the winter.

Residents are reminded that, as of January 1st, all Village of Floral Park leisure passes will expire. The 2020-21 leisure passes are now available, at no charge, to all Village residents during regular business hours at the Pool Building, Monday to Friday 9:00 am to 5:00 pm. Applications are also available at the Recreation link on the Village website. It's never too early to plan for your 2020 activities at our Rec Center!

Conservation Society – Trustee Lynn Pombonyo

Trustee Pombonyo announced that the recent Fairie Forest Festival at Centennial Gardens was an astounding success. Over 240 children and their families were dazzled by the magical fairie stations, trolls, props, fairie lights sparkling on the walkways, photo op booth, refreshments and so much more.

Great appreciation goes to Mrs. Ann Moynagh, who creatively envisioned the festival and made it come to life; Dominick and Molly McCartan, who built the incredible array of fairie houses and painted all the mini doors and windows adorning the trees; the many volunteers, including our high school students and Girl Scouts, who assisted; and the Conservation Society for sponsoring this memorable experience. Proceeds will go towards the enhancement of our beautiful Gardens, now open 11:00 am to 4:00 pm daily until the last day of the 2019 season, December 1st.

Covert Avenue Chamber of Commerce – Trustee Lynn Pombonyo

Trustee Pombonyo reminded all that, as the holiday season approaches, SHOP LOCAL. Saturday, November 30th will be SMALL BUSINESS SATURDAY, a great opportunity to make our special holiday purchases at our many unique shops in Floral Park and Stewart Manor.

Then, save the dates for the Annual Floral Park Christmas Festival and Tree Lighting on the evening of Friday, December 6th and the Covert Avenue Annual Tree Lighting, beginning on the afternoon of Saturday, December 7th. More exciting details to follow.

Fire Department – Trustee Archie Cheng

Trustee Cheng reported that, on a happy note, it was a pleasure to honor Ex-Fire Chiefs Kevin Greene and Michael Greene, both from Alert Engine Co. #1 for their more than 40 years of service and dedication to our community at a celebration in Firefighters' Hall on October 27th. Congratulations to Kevin and Michael for their great achievement.

On a sad note, it was difficult to say good-bye to Vinnie Brooks. Trustee Cheng said he and Vinnie joined the Fire Department one year apart from one another; Trustee Cheng in 1979 and Vinnie in 1980. Trustee Cheng said Village Prosecuting Attorney Arthur Walsh was recently telling the story that he and Vinnie use to ride their bicycles together as teenagers to fire calls. He will be greatly missed.

During the month of October, there were 72 rescue calls and 25 non-rescue calls.

Third Track – Trustee Archie Cheng

Trustee Cheng said that work on the retaining walls behind the Recreation Center and Pool have almost been completed and the expansion of the Linden Avenue Tunnel is well underway.

We have had several discussions with 3TC and the MTA regarding the area by the pool slide platform. As previously reported, the proximity to the tracks and the slide platform could lead to a person becoming unnerved as a train passes by. 3TC and the MTA have agreed to install 48 feet of additional metal louvered screening that is approximately 12 feet high above the white vinyl fence in the area of the slide pool.

Preliminary work has commenced at Plainfield Avenue and Terrace Avenue to build the wing walls and support for the Third Track bridge. The work at South Tyson Avenue is almost complete and open for pedestrians and vehicular traffic. There are still some punch list items that need to be completed at South Tyson Avenue

We have had additional conference calls and meetings scheduled this and next week regarding the restoration of Field 7 and landscaping along the retaining walls. We will provide further information as soon as we have come to an agreement.

Library – Trustee Frank Chiara

Trustee Chiara said The Friends of the Floral Park Library Barnes & Noble Halloween Event was nicely put together by the Friends and the Library staff. Our Floral Park Fire and Rescue Department were on hand, along with Sparky the mascot, to read to the children about fire safety and emergency responses. J-J's Studio Dancers performed a few dance numbers to the delight of a large crowd. Other activities by the Library staff and the Friends volunteers were enjoyed by all who stopped by. Once again, our Library staff and the Friends of the Floral Park Library volunteers out did themselves. They always represent our Library and our community in the most positive way! Thank you all for doing what you do so well for the Library and our community.

Reminder: At the Library, the Food for Fines Program is underway this month. The Library will waive overdue fines for non-perishable food donations. The collected food will be given to the Our Lady of Victory Food Pantry and distributed to those in need.

Also at the Library there is a college prep program for high school sophomores and their parents conducted by skilled counselor Paul Meyfohr. He will provide attendees with all they need to

know about applying for colleges. Please check the Library website for dates on this and all other offered programs.

Building Department – Trustee Frank Chiara

Trustee Chiara reported on a few updates from the Building Department. The new Taco Bell on Jericho Turnpike is on hold due to the moratorium on new gas services for businesses on Long Island. Hopefully, the issue will be resolved soon.

Some good news to report, our Building Superintendent, Renee Marcus, has been working very closely with the purchase of Centennial Hall and the closing should be held very soon. We are all very excited that the purchase is drawing to a conclusion and we look forward to the new development of this property.

Superintendent Marcus has been working on automating licenses and applications at the Building Department. Currently, contractor, electrician and plumbing licenses are now available on line. Permit applications will be on line by the end of the year. Thanks Renee for a job well done!

Trustee Chiara reported that 4VS Community Spotlight did a show on the Building Department featuring our new star, Renee Marcus, along with Deputy Mayor Kevin Fitzgerald and myself. Renee did a great job disseminating information about the department. The show is currently on line and will be broadcast early next year.

Historical Society – Trustee Frank Chiara

Trustee Chiara reported that over the weekend the Historical Society held an Antique Road Show. Over 30 residents attended with special items they wanted appraised. Appraiser, Ms. Marian Rizzo, provided information on the presented items along with their values. It was interesting to hear from our residents about their treasures and how valuable or not they are. Sentimental value versus monetary value came into play. Trustee Chiara thanked Former Mayor and President of the Historical Society, Ann Corbett, and the staff of the Historical Society for a fun and entertaining afternoon.

Mayor's Report – Mayor Dominick Longobardi

Mayor Longobardi said he had the pleasure of attending the Antique Road Show sponsored by the Historical Society. It was a great afternoon and was popular with our residents. Mayor Longobardi thanked Ann Corbett and members of the Historical Society for sponsoring this interesting event.

Mayor Longobardi said it was a lot of fun meeting at Village Hall on November 4th with our local third graders. Another group of third graders will be coming to Village Hall on November 7th to meet with the Mayor and Trustee Pombonyo to tour the Police Department, Fire Department and Four Village Studio.

Mayor Longobardi reminded residents that Monday, November 11th is Veterans Day. Thank you to all our veterans who served so that we can live with the freedoms we have today. Please come out and honor our veterans at the annual Veterans Day March which begins at 11:00 am along Tulip Avenue and ends at Memorial Park with a ceremony.

The American Legion Post 334 will be celebrating their centennial anniversary on Sunday, November 10th at their Post with a luncheon and commemoration that will include the attachment of the Centennial Streamer to the Posts' Colors, a display of memorabilia and the installation of Officers. It is going to be a great afternoon.

Mayor Longobardi echoed what Trustee Pombonyo said about the holiday season which is quickly approaching. Please shop locally. Our local merchants are the people who support our fraternal organizations, sports programs, schools and various fundraisers. Please support them and help to keep our businesses strong.

Earlier in the meeting, Mayor Longobardi thanked Trustee Fitzgerald for all the work he has done regarding the Belmont Task Force. He also thanked the Village Board, Village Administrator Gerard Bambrick and the entire staff and the thousands of residents who have participated in this endeavor. As residents are aware, November 7th is the hearing regarding the temporary restraining order. We will see how it goes and what our next step will be. All efforts are being made to protect our quality of life in the Village.

Mayor Longobardi thanked Felix Procaccia for filming this evening's meeting and Tom McCarthy from *Island Now* for attending.

The Village Board Meeting will continue in the Mayor's office with Department Heads after a brief recess and the public is invited to attend.

On motion by Trustee Fitzgerald, seconded by Trustee Pombonyo, and carried unanimously, Mayor Longobardi recessed the meeting at 8:30 pm.
