

Inc. Village of Floral Park
January 7, 2020
Board of Trustees Meeting

Belmont – Trustee Kevin Fitzgerald

Trustee Fitzgerald reported that at the last meeting he mentioned that a bill was on Governor Cuomo's desk to form a Local Advisory Board for Belmont similar to those that have been in existence at Aqueduct and Saratoga for some time. As mentioned, a few days post our Board meeting, the Governor signed the bill into law. Trustee Fitzgerald would again like to thank Senator Kaplan and Assemblywoman Solages along with our previous State Senators who worked on our behalf for the last 10 years trying to get this Board into State Law.

With regard to the ongoing legal action that the Village commenced a few months ago, January 7th was the deadline for all paperwork to be filed. At this time, we have not heard when a decision will be made by the judge. We remain hopeful that after giving fair and considerable review of the multitude of facts along with evidence backed by experts that we have presented, the judge will render a decision that will ensure that Floral Park will not be unfairly burdened and the way of life that our residents have enjoyed for over 100 years will not be adversely altered.

Department of Public Works – Trustee Kevin Fitzgerald

Trustee Fitzgerald reported that PSE&G is installing new telephone poles. Trustee Fitzgerald thanked Superintendent of Public Works Kevin Ginnane for his help in organizing this work. The old poles are being removed eliminating the double poling affect.

Recreation Department – Trustee Lynn Pombonyo

Trustee Pombonyo wished all a Happy, Healthy New Year from the Recreation Department. We're hoping that your 2020 resolutions include being active while having fun at the Village Rec Center. Registration for the Session II winter programs starts today, January 7th, and January 8th, continuing until the classes are filled, which happens quickly. Fun-filled programs for children include Zumba, Creative Yoga, Gardening, and Gymnastics for our Tiny Tots. Enjoyable programs for adults and seniors feature Aerobics, Cardio Kickboxing and Toning, Yoga, Latin Fusion Exercise, Knitting, Agility and Strengthening, Silver Sneakers exercise and gentle movement, and Spring Tennis Lessons, all designed to keep our enthusiastic participants healthy, fit and happy through the cold winter months.

All are reminded that the 2018-19 Village of Floral Park Leisure Passes have now expired. To renew and get your new 2020-21 Leisure Pass, you may bring your old pass and a current utility bill to the Rec Center/Pool Building Monday to Friday, 9:00 am to 7:00 pm.

In other Recreation news, Screaming Eagles Hockey has qualified for the playoffs, best of luck to all! And the Annual Great Backyard Bird Count at Centennial Gardens will take place on the weekend of February 14th to 16th. Save the dates, more details to follow.

And, finally, read more about our Recreation programs in the December issue of “Floral Park Village Items” and on the Village website. Schedules and forms for new Leisure Pass Applications, new Summer Employment, and new Lifeguard Applications are included in this chock-full issue.

To all, enjoy your winter season in our very busy and active Village!

Fire Department – Trustee Archie Cheng

Trustee Cheng reported that last Sunday, the Rescue Company responded to a woman in labor. The baby was delivered in the ambulance and we are happy to report mom and baby are doing well.

At present, recruitment efforts are underway to hopefully gain much needed new members. Please consider joining the Department.

Trustee Cheng reported on the number of calls responded to by our Volunteer Fire Department. There were 1,330 calls for assistance that were received and responded to by our Fire Department. 964 of those calls were rescue calls. That truly is a staggering number, especially when most calls average at least one hour. If you break down the number of hours spent by week, our fellow resident members of the Department average over 25 hours away from their jobs, homes and family without counting drills, monthly meetings and training.

From the bottom of my heart and on behalf of the Village Board and all of our residents, thank you to each and every member of the Department for your professionalism, dedication and community service and wish you a Happy and Safe New Year.

Third Track – Trustee Archie Cheng

Trustee Cheng reported that work on the retaining and sound attenuation walls is continuing on both sides of the Right of Way. The expansion of the Linden Avenue tunnel is expected to be complete and open to all by March. Plainfield Avenue and Terrace Avenue wing walls and support for the 3rd Track bridge is continuing and at last report should be done by the end of February. A plan for the restoration of Field 7 has basically been agreed to. The field will have new fences, bleachers, and backstops. Furthermore, the field is expected to be ready for play on April 1. Work also continues for the installation of three elevators at the Floral Park Railroad Station. We have been advised that they will be in service in May. At the Pool, 3TC will be installing protective screening in the area behind the slide platform. Lastly, while not in our Village, New Hyde Park Road from Plaza Road to 4th Avenue will be closed on February 3, 2020 for seven months.

Library – Trustee Frank Chiara

Trustee Chiara reported that the Library enjoyed a packed house for the “Noon” Year Eve Party. The Library staff commented on how enjoyable it was to see the Library busy with so many

young families. Once again, thank you to our Library staff for putting together so many of these enjoyable events for our residents. Great job!!

The Friends of the Library are hosting a book sale on January 25 and 26, 2019 at the Library. Trustee Chiara encourages all residents to please come out and support the same.

Renovations have started in the Young Adult Section of the Library. This area has become very popular with our Young Adults and will be a special place when it is completed. Thank you to all that are contributing their time and skills to make this happen.

Building Department – Trustee Frank Chiara

Trustee Chiara reported that as promised by our Superintendent of Buildings, Renee Marcus, all our Building Department permits are now online. This will make the process more efficient and much quicker. Currently, we are looking at a turn-around time of two weeks for all permits. Thank you Renee and all the Building Department staff for working on and completing this project.

Mayor’s Report – Mayor Dominick Longobardi

Mayor Longobardi reported that just before Christmas, the Village closed on the sale of Centennial Hall. We hope to see the work begin on the apartments sometime in March. We look forward to the renovations of the building while keeping its historical beauty. It took several years to make this happen. Thank you to everyone involved in this project, especially to Trustee Lynn Pombonyo and Village Administrator Gerard Bambrick. Also, thank you to our residents who were very active in this process. It was truly a group effort.

In 2020, there will be several things happening to help keep the Village growing. There are several road projects planned and we look forward to the beautification of Tulip Avenue. It is important to attract new businesses to the Village.

Mayor Longobardi congratulated Superintendent of Public Works Kevin Ginnane for becoming the President of the Public Works Association of Long Island. The Mayor also congratulated Superintendent of Buildings Renee Marcus for becoming Secretary to the American Architectural Institute of Long Island. Both Kevin and Renee are well respected in their fields and we are lucky to have them here in Floral Park.

On behalf of his family, the Village Board and the Village staff, Mayor Longobardi wished everyone a happy, healthy and prosperous New Year!

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 8:20 pm.
