

Floral Park Board of Trustees Meeting Reports 11/6/2024

Inc. Village of Floral Park Board of Trustees Reports November 6, 2024

Deputy Mayor Lynn Pombonyo

Police Department

National Prescription Drug Take Back Day took place on a sunny Saturday in October. FPPD had a big turnout at Headquarters and collected seventy pounds of unused medications. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) Agents joined us to provide information, respond to questions, and take the drugs for disposal. Thanks to our FPPD for sponsoring this important event every April and October, and to Floral Park Lions Club members Donna Langone and Irene Caniano for distributing valuable health and wellness items to our Take Back Day participants.

Our FPPD Officers work hard and sometimes under dangerous conditions. Recently, two Officers were speaking with a suspected perpetrator from outside her car when the individual began driving, hitting both of them. Our Officers sustained leg injuries which required medical treatment, but not hospitalization. We are all fortunate that our Officers are well, and want to remind all to thank our FPPD for putting their lives in danger to keep us safe.

Our joyous holiday season is often the time for Porch Pirates. These are individuals who steal recently delivered packages from in front of our homes and businesses. FPPD has some valuable suggestions to avoid being a victim of the Porch Pirates: specify that package deliveries go to the side or back door; ask a neighbor or friend to watch for a package when you're not at home or at your business; and do not schedule deliveries for weekends when you may not be present to receive them. As FPPD wishes all a happy holiday season, they want to help our residents and businesses avoid being victims of crimes.

Conservation Society (FPCS)

An annual highlight of autumn in Floral Park is the Fairie Forest Festival, celebrated at Centennial Gardens and Bird Sanctuary. Under a spectacular October sky and brightly colored leaves, over 550 children, teens and adults, in Halloween and Fairie attire, were dazzled by an array of tiny, handcrafted Fairie Villages under the trees. There were Leprechaun, Halloween, Artist, Music, School and Bakery Villages, and many other creative miniature scenes to enjoy, all while Fairie storytellers were sharing their magical tales.

There are so many people to thank for this BEST DAY in Floral Park. First, the FPCS Fairie leadership and Producer Ann Moynagh; Creator Marina Horan who inspired the Fairie Family House Contest, featuring all-natural tiny houses, built by our Fairie fans and now on display at the Floral Park Library; Fairie Greeters Christy Reisig and Jean Sinnott; and President Dennis McEnery. Then, there were the fifty FPCS Volunteers, families and friends; Superintendent Kurt Meyfohrt and Joann Deeks, Kathy Burrous,

Lisa O'Grady and Chris Indelicato of the Parks Department; The Wheatley (High) School Volunteers from East Williston who did a super pre-cleanup and weeding; Superintendent Kevin Ginnane, Supervisor Kevin Pearsall and our DPW; and, most of all, Artist and Craftsman Dominick McCartan from Ireland who made the Fairies and Villages come to life. Proceeds will go to our nonprofit FPCS for even more Gardens' enhancements.

And, after a sunny and bright 2024 season and now, late afternoon darkness, the Gardens hours are 11 AM to 4 PM, seven days a week, through Sunday, December 1st when the Gardens will close until April 2025. Enjoy the last three weeks!

Chambers of Commerce and Our Businesses

October is a special month for our Chambers of Commerce as the Nassau Council of Chambers of Commerce celebrates the Businesspersons of the Year in each of approximately forty local Chambers. This year, there were three Floral Park winners:

The Floral Park Chamber of Commerce proudly announces its Businessperson of the Year, Tania Lawes. Tania is the Director of External Affairs and Community Engagement for the NY Islanders hockey team. With offices in Floral Park, she has strong connections with the surrounding communities and plays an active role in our Belmont Stakes Street Fair. And, to be continued this year is Floral Park Skates, an event when our Village will be invited to skate on the outside ice rink at the UBS Arena.

The Covert Avenue Chamber of Commerce selected Nassau County Legislator John Giuffre as its Businessperson of the Year. In addition, John is a local attorney with an office right on Covert Avenue. He is very active in Chamber activities and represented Floral Park in the County Legislature following the COVID pandemic. Always a friend to Floral Park, John has provided valuable support to our businesses.

The Lynbrook Chamber of Commerce Businessperson of the Year is one of our own. Bill Corbett is President of Corbett Public Relations, Inc. in Floral Park. Bill's firm has generated millions of dollars worth of media coverage for clients, and assisted them in building their brands and generating hundreds of millions of dollars in sales. Joining the celebration for Bill was Mrs. Ann Corbett, former Floral Park Mayor, Historical Society President, and Bill's Mom.

Congratulations to Tania, John and Bill! We salute you and thank you for all your contributions to our communities and businesses.

Now, be sure to save the dates for our Chambers' coming attractions, the exciting details to follow:

Floral Park Chamber and Junior Woman's Club of Floral Park Christmas Festival and Tree Lighting - Friday, December 6th, 6 PM at Memorial Park on Tulip Avenue

Covert Avenue Chamber and Village of Stewart Manor Annual Tree Lighting - Saturday, December 14th, 4:30 PM on Covert Avenue

FPM Shout-Out

Cheers for our Floral Park Memorial High School Marching Band as they traveled to Syracuse University to participate in the New York State Field Band Conference Championships. And for the second time in three years, our FPM Marching Band took home a Third Place trophy!

Greeting the Marching Band buses as they pulled onto Tulip Avenue were two of our FPPD cars, two of our FPPD Chiefs' cars and enthusiastic fans. With flashing lights, sirens and horns, they escorted our award-winning Marching Band musicians and Director Matt Povolny back to a cheering crowd of families and friends at FPM.

Trustee Frank Chiara

Library

The month of November is starting and there are lots of planned activities and events taking place at the Floral Park Library.

During the month of November, the Library will be running their Annual Food for Fines program. Library card holders can have up to \$5 of their overdue fines waived by donating food items. The collected food items will be donated to the OLV Food Pantry to help those in need. Food items can be donated even if a patron doesn't have overdue fines. Thank You to all who support the program.

With Veterans Day approaching, the library is hosting a Teen Veterans Community Service Event on Friday, November 8th, from 4 PM to 5 PM. Teens will make toiletry size bottles of shampoo, conditioner, and hand lotion that will be distributed to veterans in need. This program is eligible for community service credit for any teens who may need them. This is only a small way for our teens to show their appreciation to our veterans for their service to our country.

On Thursday, November 14th, there will be two events which can help participants deal with some of life's issues:

- From 11 AM to 1 PM, The Family and Children's Association will share information on case management, crisis intervention and family mediation for young people
- And from 6:45 PM to 7:45 PM, the Conscious Parenting Educator Diana Lourenso will give an alternative approach to traditional parenting by encouraging parents to cultivate a deep understanding of their own emotions, triggers, and belief systems. By doing so it will help parents feel calmer, less reactive, and more connected.

Details on these and other scheduled events can be found on the Library's website at www.floralparklibrary.org.

Fire Department

Not too long ago The Floral Park Volunteer Fire Department was asked to help surprise a Village resident and business owner so they can be recognized for their kindness and charitable acts in the community.

Just Do Good Entertainment is a production company creating a new series called “Finding Kindness”. They are identifying individuals with small businesses, despite facing challenges, who chose to give back to their community, charities and organizations. Zef Noci owner of “Zef’s Pizza Firetruck” who is a resident of the Village of Floral Park was selected to be recognized.

Zef started his business during the pandemic. He purchased a used 1985 fire truck and retro fitted it with a wood burning stove. The firetruck is driven to any location and offers a menu of individual size specialty pizzas for any occasion. The firetruck is definitely an attraction and the freshly made pizzas are delicious. Zef often offers children the ability to explore the firetruck when it is on site. It is a very unique business run by an amazing individual.

Zef not only finds the time to run his business but donates a lot his time to give back to others. He donates his time, his pizzas, no matter the expenses he incurs, to many charitable organizations. He is selfless individual who truly believes in giving back by helping others.

Zef was hired to work an event being held by our Floral Park Fire Department Headquarters. After setting up at the location, Zef was surprised to find out the event he was asked to participate in was a celebration being held for him. At the event he was recognized for his kindness to others. He was given a gift certificate provided by Restaurant Depot, along with a three-month PR campaign from the Bill Corbett PR firm, and Just Do Good Entertainment gifted Zef with many cords of wood for his wood burning oven. Needless to say, Zef was flabbergasted and extremely humbled by this recognition. The entire event was filmed, to be aired on various platforms and networks early in the first quarter of 2025.

We would like to congratulate Zef! You are one of the amazing residents that make the Village of Floral Park a great place to live.

Thank You to Just Do Good Entertainment for recognizing Zef and for highlighting our Volunteer Fire Department.

And with Veterans Day approaching I’d like to thank all Our Veterans for the sacrifices you’ve made in service to our country. God Bless You and God Bless the United States of America!!

Trustee Jennifer Stewart

MTA

We have been informed by the MTA that there will be no LIRR service between Jamaica Station and Atlantic Avenue from 9 PM, Friday, November 8th through 4 AM, Monday,

November 11th. LIRR riders are encouraged to use subway service as an alternative. Riders can enter the at no cost by presenting LIRR tickets to station booth agents at the following stations: 34th Penn Station (2/3), 34th Herald Square, Fulton St. (G), Lafayette Ave., Nostrand Ave., and Broadway Junction. The last train to run on Friday night will be the 8:44 PM from Jamaica Station and the 8:51 PM from Atlantic Terminal.

As always, please reach out to the MTA at MTA.info with any questions and concerns regarding the LIRR/MTA.

DPW

Our Highway department has been hard at work and has swept all roads, collected leaves in the West End, and replaced aging street signs. Sanitation Crews have collected 65 tons of household waste, 8 ½ tons of paper, 4 tons of glass and plastics, and 10 tons of bulk rubbish.

DPW is also in the process of getting the Village prepared for Monday's Veteran's Day Parade.

As we are in leaf season residents are reminded not to rake or blow their leaves into the street. The Sanitation Department will collect bagged leaves on scheduled yard waste days.

DPW will be planting trees in late November/early December. If you would like a tree planted please call Public Works. Because Monday is a holiday, there will be no bulk pick-up on Wednesday, November 13th. Please check your sanitation calendar for your pick-up days for next week.

PSEG is currently installing conduits under Plainfield Avenue, please be aware of closures and detours while work is being done.

The Water Authority water main replacement is ongoing and work is currently underway. It is estimated to be completed in December with paving to take place in Spring 2025.

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Some on-air highlights for this week are Inspiring Stories with Bill Corbett Jr., The Author's Corner with Stephanie Larkin, Uncorked with Rex Whicker and FPF: Red Alert with Larry King, AEMT.

Additionally, we would like to wish the FPM Boys Varsity Team luck as they face John Glenn HS Friday, November 8th at 8:30 AM at Farmingdale State College for the Class A Long Island Championship, the winner will advance to the NYS Final Four. Tickets can be purchased by visiting GoFan.com.

I look forward to seeing you and your families at our Annual Veteran's Day Parade and Ceremony this Monday, November 11th at 10:30 AM along Tulip Avenue and Memorial Park.

Trustee Michael Longobardi

Building Department

A proposal has been received for 2 mixed use/apartment buildings at South Tyson/Van Sieten and Jericho Turnpike. The proposal at this time is at the conceptual stage

only. The Northend Civic Association meeting allowed the owners to informally propose the idea to the public and receive feedback, prior to developing the detailed proposal. No formal plans have been submitted yet to the Village and there have been no formal public hearings. A project of this magnitude will need to go through many public hearings before the first shovel hits the ground. This will go step by step through the Zoning Board, Architectural Review Board, Village Board, Fire Marhsall's Office, Nassau County Planning Commission and the SEQRA process to name a few. We will keep the residents up to date as the process moves forward.

Construction is ongoing at the apartment building at 1 Carnation Avenue, the proposed restaurant at 99 Covert Avenue, and the re-construction of 266 Jericho Turnpike. These projects are moving forward well and expected to be completed in the next 6-12 months. Construction has begun at the Covert Avenue fire property. Shoring and foundation is ongoing and will take about a month. Overall construction is expected to take about a year. Permits are being issued for repairs and renovations at 212 Jericho Turnpike, the old Firestone building. ARB has recently approved a new storefront as well for that property. As a reminder, all fences, driveways, and front walkways/stoops require a permit prior to installation to ensure compliance with the zoning codes. Please check the Building Department website for a full list of requirements and permit applications. Construction equipment, including power washers and leaf blowers are not permitted to be operated on Sundays and Holidays.

Recreation and Pool

The Floral Park Titans are wrapping up their season this month, Youth Council Fall Football is halfway through their season, and the Screaming Eagles Hockey will be starting soon. Planning for Recreation Session 2 as well as Summer 2025 have begun. Details will be provided to you as they become available. Beginning Monday, November 11th, our winter park hours will be 8 AM to 4:30 PM. Thanksgiving hours will be 8 AM to 1 PM.

Town-Village Aircraft Safety & Noise Abatement Committee (TVASNAC)

The next meeting will be held on Monday, November 25, 2024 at Town of Hempstead, Town Hall, One Washington Street in Hempstead. If you want to make a noise complaint regarding air traffic, you can call 1-800-225-1071. You can also go to our Village website which has the links under the TVASNAC noise complaint contact information page on our home page.

Mayor Kevin Fitzgerald

My fellow Trustees and I have had the pleasure of attending Rattigan's Run two weeks ago. I would like to thank The Knights of Columbus for the continued work that they do in keeping former Deputy Mayor and Trustee Jim Rattigan's legacy alive. I know that Jim would be very proud of what they have done.

We also attended the 25th Anniversary of the Historical Society. I would like to thank former Mayor Ann Corbet and the rest of the volunteers for all the work they have done for the last 25 years in ensuring that the history of Floral Park remains treasured and can be visited. I encourage people to visit the museum for a closer look.

Lastly, I hope to see everyone at the Veterans Day Parade and Ceremony which is taking place on Monday at 10:30 AM on Tulip Avenue. There is no better way to say thank you to our veterans. Come out, clap, and say thank you for all the sacrifices that they have made throughout their lives in protecting us and keeping us safe.