

THE CORAM CIVIC ASSOCIATION

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

MARCH 24, 2014

The meeting was called to order at 7:50 PM by President Erma Gluck, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silent prayer for our troops. Board members present: Martin Bailey, Paul Ziems, Carol Bedell, Katherine Soscia, Jean Hartling, Chris Reilly, and Erma Gluck.

OFFICER REPORTS:

President: Erma Gluck announced: **1.** A meeting on how to grieve property tax assessments to be held Thursday, April 10th, 6:00 PM at the Rose Caracappa Senior Center, Mt. Sinai (sponsored by Councilwoman Jane Bonner, flyer available) **2.** The 2nd Annual Go! Green Event for pharmaceutical take-back, e-waste drive and paper shredding 9 AM-1 PM at the Rose Caracappa Senior Center, Saturday, May 3rd (sponsored by Councilwoman Jane Bonner, flyer available) **3.** A pancake breakfast by the Middle Country Fire Department Station #4 on April 6th starting at 10 AM **4.** Longwood Day to be held May 17th **5.** A Chinese Auction by the Central Brookhaven Lyons Club on May 9th at the Coram Fire House, 6 to 10 PM (baskets and donations needed).

Major Announcements:

Erma Gluck reported that **1.** Demolition has begun on the blighted UA Theater property and a groundbreaking for the down town center (Wincoram Commons) is planned for May, **2.** The Coram Civic Association has been selected for the "Smart Growth Award" by the Smart Growth Work Group for Vision Long Island. The award will be presented to the board at the award meeting on June 13th, and **3.** Erma reported that there has been less overnight and weekend tractor-trailer parking in the Home Depot parking lot since the issue was discussed with Councilwoman Connie Kepert.

Vice President: Martin Bailey expressed thanks to the Civic membership from the Boys Scouts for the food items donated at the February meeting. The Scout Food Drive was very successful.

Treasurer & CAC/BNL Delegate: Paul Ziems reported a treasury balance of \$2,697.77 as of February 28, 2014. He updated the remediation progress made by Brookhaven Lab. Eight percent of the clean-up has been completed; the remainder is being monitored.

Corresponding Secretary: Katherine Soscia reported thank-you letters received from Supervisor Edward Romaine for inviting him as guest speaker at the January meeting and from Brookhaven Superintendent of Highways Dan Losquadro for having Frank Petrignani as guest speaker from the Highway Department at the February meeting. The Coram Civic scholarship applications are due March 30th. Graduating seniors who have done community service should submit applications by that date.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Newsletter: Chris Reilly distributed copies of the Coram Civic Association –Membership Survey and explained its use. There are seven areas of community concern which members are asked to rank in order of importance (#1 being highest; #7 lowest). Members are also asked to add additional concerns of residents of Coram that the Civic should be informed about and to return the completed form as soon as possible. Information from the survey will be included in the "Weekly Updates" to members.

Police Liaison: Erma Gluck mentioned the Police have requested input from the community on issues ("see something - say something"). Crime statistics for the Coram area are low in relation to many surrounding areas.

Davis House Committee – Margaret Colarossi announced the first annual plant sale on Saturday, May 17th (rain date Sunday, May 18th) to be held on the grounds of the Davis Town Meeting House. Funds raised will help with interior renovations. Plans include flowers and herbs for sale, refreshments, period costumes, Master Gardner help with plant questions and compost available from Brookhaven Town. Volunteers are needed to help on that day. The second annual yard sale is scheduled for September 13th.

OLD BUSINESS – None

NEW BUSINESS – None

GUEST SPEAKERS:

Lisa Jacobs, assistant Director of the Longwood Public Library, gave an update on the construction progress at the library. Work in on budget and on schedule with target date for completion mid-2015. Programs continue at the main temporary site and branch locations for programing. The budget vote will be April 8th. The operating budget has been contracted to cover half of the bond payments due.

Anna Senatore, Consumer Program Specialist with the NYS Department of Public Service gave a presentation on the PSEG-LI / LIPA transition. PSEG (Public Service Energy Group) now handles management of Long Island power systems; the nine member state-appointed LIPA board handles finances and suggested rate increases; the Department of Public Service provides oversight to rate increases and deals with consumer complaints. A leaflet explaining how to file utility complaints was provided. A question and answer period followed and included topics on plans for buried utility wires, tree trimming, need for the LIPA board and Caithness.

50/50 DRAWING:

The 50/50 was drawn by Irwin Bedell. The winner was Susan Capek who took home \$19.00.

MOTION TO ADJOURN:

Jean Hartling made the motion to adjourn. Motion seconded by Martin Bailey. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 9:05.

Respectfully submitted,
Jean Hartling
Recording Secretary