

THE CORAM CIVIC ASSOCIATION

General Membership Meeting

March 28, 2016

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Civic Director Chris Reilly highlighted the meeting agenda and guest speakers for the evening. He noted that he would like to run for a seat on the Longwood School District Board and requested support for placement on the ballot. He also mentioned that support is needed for the First Book National Book Bank which provided 15,000 free books to Longwood students last year.

Officer reports and other business were suspended to allow time for the guest speakers.

GUEST SPEAKERS:

Sergeant Tom Hopkins of the 6th Precinct gave an overview of current crime statistics for the Coram area. He described the vacant house patrol check. Officers are making regular checks on seven such houses in the area. Sergeant Hopkins also noted patrols taking place along Middle Country Road.

Suzanne Johnson, Director, Longwood Public Library provided information on the Library budget vote to take place at the Library on Tuesday April 5, 8:00 AM to 9:00PM. Details are on a postcard sent to all residents and also available for distribution at this meeting. The budget remains within the 0.12% State tax cap. The average homeowner's increase in tax payment would be \$0.20 per year.

Dr. Michael Lonergan, Superintendent, Longwood Central School District presented highlights of the 2016-2017 year school budget. The budget will again be within the 2% tax cap. Constraints on the budget continue to be reduction in state aid, unfunded mandates, charter school tuitions and the GEA (gap elimination adjustment). The proposed budget strives to maintain academic excellence, partnerships with colleges and universities, occupational education programs and staff professional development. The budget vote takes place on Tuesday, May 17.

Veterans of Foreign Wars representatives Sidney Lynn and Charles Trabold

shared information about Farmingville Memorial Post 400 which also serves the Coram area. The VFW provides vets and their families help with housing and other needs, scholarships, and makes the VFW hall available for community rental. It will soon be renamed "Sgt. Jason Santora and Sst. Louis Bonacasa Farmingville Memorial Post 400" in honor of two local men who served in Iraq.

ADDITIONAL ANNOUNCEMENTS: President Erma Gluck announced that 1) The Police Department is looking for school crossing guards. 2) The Lions Club 9th Annual Fundraiser will take place on May 6. Basket donations are needed by the end of April. 3) The Davis Town Meeting House Society 5th Anniversary and Celebration with Descendants of the Davis Family will take place on Saturday, April 30. Ceremony and 3rd NY Regiment re-enactment start at 12:00PM at the Lester H. Davis House in Coram. A reception follows at the Swezey-Avey House in Yaphank. 4) A ribbon cutting ceremony for Wincoram Commons takes place on Thursday, May 19 at

11:00AM. Membership is invited. 5) The Coram Civic Association Community Service Scholarship applications are now due and will be presented to two students at the June 27 meeting.

April 25th Meeting: Presentation by Sunation Solar Company

May 23rd Meeting: Legislator Sarah Anker to discuss "Rails to Trails"

50/50 DRAWING:

The 50/50 was won by Denise DeSoiza who took home \$16.00.

MOTION TO ADJOURN:

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jean Hartling,
Recording Secretary