

Regular Meeting of the Chester Heights Civic Association

Meeting called to order on 1/28/2020 at 7:30 PM with the following Board members in attendance: Ray Inello, Irene Sarno, Elena O’Mahony and Dawn Attwood. Approximately 12 members attended.

If any corrections list them here: N/A

Treasurer's Report:

Opening Balance	3466.65
Income/Dues Collected	1151.68
Funds	4618.33
Expenses	1458.90
Closing Balance	3159.43

Bills Against the CHCA: Liability insurance through Traveler's Insurance Company paid through period 12/2019 through 12/2020, based on collection of membership dues.

Membership Update: Out of the 258 residential homes in Chester Heights, 4 paid residential members and 243 email subscribers (188 unique house addresses) to date for 2020.

Old Business:

Committee Members/Reports

1. **Civic Affairs – Bob Marziotti (chair), Steve Moschetta & Jason Attwood:**
 - **504 New Rochelle Road (Gas station/Convenience store)**
 - Received final certificate of compliance on 10/24/18
 - A complaint was recently filed about weeds growing at the rear of the property, and signage that had previously been removed was replaced. In response, the Town issued a violation and summons. The owner went to court, paid a fine, and was required to remove the weeds and signs.
 - No additional complaints have been made about this location.
 - **493 New Rochelle Road (former Chase bank)**
 - Siwanoy Country Club will use the building for temporary office space while the club house is undergoing renovations. They plan to occupy the space until May 2020.
 - No indication as to potential long-term tenants after that
 - No change to report since our last meeting in June
 - **490 New Rochelle Road (former bakery):**
 - Certificate of Compliance issued for smaller storefront. Still no word as to potential tenants.

- Work on the larger, former bakery storefront has stalled; no indication as to when work will be complete. The permits do expire, but can be extended simply by paying additional fees
 - No change to report since our last meeting in June
- **497 New Rochelle Road (Sunoco Station):**
 - Because the owner did not meet the required deadlines, the Town issued a summons and the owner appeared in court. The Court allowed him additional time to rectify removal of the wood pile, shed and lift. Since our last meeting in June, the shed, wood pile and lift have all been removed.
- **495 New Rochelle Road (former Karma Fashions; now Beloved Designs)**
 - Beloved Designs, new hair salon has opened
- **Road Construction**
 - Con Ed will continue to be working in the area (California Road) for another couple of years, as per Hector DiLeo, Superintendent of Highways
 - With regard to condition of New Rochelle Road (seems road has deteriorated due to heavy construction equipment passing through), we should contact Hector DiLeo.
 - Bob has offered to draft letter on behalf of CHCA, if members submit their specific concerns about the condition of New Rochelle Road or other local infrastructure (please email Bob directly)
- 2. Membership/New Residents/Welcome/ Small Business/Fundraising** –Natalia Vivas and Joe Doherty
- Nothing new to report
- 3. Communications** – Elena O’Mahony
- Communications with/reports from TPAC re traffic issues New Rochelle Road
 - Communications with/reports from Eastchester Fire Board re firehouse
 - Weekly “Around Town” and Classifieds continue to circulate on Saturday mornings. Members are free to email with any local events that they would like published
- 4. Events** – Susan Miele (chair), Elena O’Mahony, Anna Manca, Dawn Attwood
- Held:**
- Picnic July 7 was another success; discussion about holding on non-holiday weekend next year
 - Yard sale took place on September 7 and 8 – discussions about improved advertising, commitments from signed-up participants, Sign-up Genius to-do list

- Softball game with adult/high school members held at Chester Heights Field on September 7; great turnout, most continued at Gordy's after game; should do again
- Inspirational sidewalk chalk messages for first day of school another success as well

Upcoming:

- Halloween Block Party October 26
- Tree Lighting - need to select date; discussion re star for tree

New Ideas:

- Snow Angels - need to reach out to Eastchester for more information

5. By-laws – volunteer needed to review and propose revisions to be drafted to 1955 by-laws (Paul Mazzola to ask his daughter)

6. Beautification – volunteers needed

7. Scholarship – Noel Dallacco-Ammirati

- Discussion regarding potential tiered scholarships depending on involvement/service in community

New Business:

- Elections/Restructuring of Board for next meeting, given Ray and Paul announcing to step down
- Recruit Volunteers
- Megan Florio and Stephanie Prezioso volunteered for membership and events committees – Thank you!!
- Next Meeting Guest Speaker Possibilities:
 - Sustainable Westchester
 - Real Estate
 - History

Committee Members/Reports

1. Civic Affairs – Bob Marziotti (chair), Jason Attwood

- **504 New Rochelle Road (Gas station/Convenience store)**
 - Received final certificate of compliance on 10/24/18
 - Complaint recently filed about weeds growing at rear of property, and signage that had previously been removed was replaced. In response, Town issued a violation and summons. The owner went to court, paid fine, and was required to remove the weeds and signs.
 - No additional complaints have been made about this location.
- **493 New Rochelle Road (former Chase bank)**

- Siwanoy Country Club will use the building for temporary office space while the club house is undergoing renovations. They plan to occupy the space until May 2020.
- No indication as to potential long-term tenants after that
- No change to report since last meeting
- **490 New Rochelle Road (former bakery):**
 - Certificate of Compliance issued for smaller storefront. Still no word as to potential tenants.
 - Work on the larger, former bakery storefront has stalled; no indication as to when work will be complete. The permits do expire, but can be extended simply by paying additional fees
 - No change to report since last meeting
- **497 New Rochelle Road (Sunoco Station):**
 - Because the owner did not meet the required deadlines, the Town issued a summons and the owner appeared in court. The Court allowed him additional time to rectify removal of the wood pile, shed and lift. The shed, wood pile and lift have all been removed.
- **495 New Rochelle Road (former Karma Fashions; now Beloved Designs)**
 - Beloved Designs, new hair salon has opened
- **Road Construction**
 - Con Ed will continue to be working in the area (California Road) for another couple of years, as per Hector DiLeo, Superintendent of Highways
 - With regard to condition of New Rochelle Road (seems road has deteriorated due to heavy construction equipment passing through), we should contact Hector DiLeo.
 - Bob has offered to draft letter on behalf of CHCA, if members submit their specific concerns about the condition of New Rochelle Road or other local infrastructure (please email Bob directly)

2. Membership/New Residents/Welcome/ Small Business/Fundraising –Megan Florio, Stephanie Prezioso

- Membership Drive - “Go Green with CHCA” reusable bags as free gift to all members who pay 2020 dues by February 28
- Need volunteers to deliver bags
- We have emails for about 188 homes, most will renew in response to email; need volunteers to deliver flyers to other 70 homes
- Need to encourage more local businesses to join

3. Communications – Elena O’Mahony

- Communications with/reports from TPAC re traffic issues New Rochelle Road
- Communications with/reports from Eastchester Fire Board re firehouse

- Weekly “Around Town” and Classifieds continue to circulate on Saturday mornings. Members are free to email with any local events that they would like published

4. Events – Susan Miele (chair), Anna Manca, Dawn Attwood, Megan Florio, Stephanie Prezioso

Held:

- Halloween Block Party (huge turnout once again)
- Tree Lighting; purchased star for tree (another annual success)

Upcoming:

- Trivia Night – March
- Scholarship Ceremony - June
- Picnic – Summer
- Yard Sale – Fall
- Softball Game – Fall
- Halloween – October
- Tree Lighting - December

New Ideas:

- Snow Angels - need to reach out to Eastchester for more information

5. By-laws – volunteer needed to review and propose revisions to be drafted to 1955 by-laws (Paul Mazzola to ask his daughter)

6. Beautification – Irene Sarno, Elena O’Mahony

- Investigate hanging flowers on New Rochelle Road

7. Scholarship – Noel Dallacco-Ammirati

- Tiered scholarships depending on involvement/service in community, depending on number of candidates
- Update application to Tuckahoe High School by Spring

Adjournment: There being no further business to be brought before the members, a motion to adjourn was made by Ray Inello and seconded by Irene Sarno. The meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Next Meeting: April 2, 2020