

Regular Meeting of the Chester Heights Civic Association

Meeting called to order on 4/2/2020 at 7:30 PM with the following Board members in attendance: Irene Sarno, Elena O’Mahony and Dawn Attwood. Approximately 16 members attended. Due to Covid-19 pandemic concerns and restrictions, meeting took place via Zoom video-teleconference.

If any corrections list them here: N/A

Treasurer's Report:

Opening Balance	3159.43
Income/Dues Collected	4281.06
Funds	7440.49
Expenses	0
Closing Balance	7440.49

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, 107 paid residential members and 249 email subscribers (191 unique house addresses in CH; 8 outside CH; 5 businesses) to date for 2020.

Board Update: Following notices for elections/restructuring, we have a new Board:

President: Elena O’Mahony

Vice President: Dawn Attwood

Treasurer: Irene Sarno

Corresponding Secretary: Joyce Balint

Recording Secretary: VACANT (Dawn Attwood, Acting)

Committee Update: Thank you and welcome to new membership and events committee members, Megan Florio and Stephanie Prezioso

Membership Drive Update: Free CHCA reusable shopping bags if dues paid by February 28, increased early membership – over 100 members joined in February (good for budgeting and record keeping). Thank you to Irene Sarno, Bill and Mary Carroll, and the O’Mahony boys for orders and deliveries! Thank you again to the Carrolls for delivering membership flyers to remaining neighbors!

Old Business:

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 and 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), Elena O’Mahony, Anna Manca, Dawn Attwood

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

New Business:

Committee Members/Reports

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

Opening Notes: Based on the most recent Executive Order from the Governor, given the Covid-19 pandemic, no construction activities are permitted in Town, except for clear emergencies and other narrow exceptions. The order is presently in place until April 15.

CVS Concerns/Complaints: The Town has been receiving complaints about the property, and has been working with CVS to collect store equipment (pallets, crates) left behind, and CVS has agreed to provide site inspections to collect debris. However, that site remains private property, including the dumpster. Residents are not to dispose of dog waste or garbage on that

property at all. This is especially disconcerting to neighbors who live in the immediate vicinity, and is illegal and carries penalties. A plea is made for all neighbors to be mindful of this.

- **505 New Rochelle Road (CVS)**
 - No information from Town as to any prospective tenant; the Town has not had any inquiries about the property. While there have been rumors about Trader Joe's, the source is unknown, and that company has not approached the Town.
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- We have emails for about 188 homes, most will renew in response to email; The Carrolls delivered flyers to other 70 homes
- Need to encourage more local businesses to join
- Plants and Cards were delivered to new residents

3. Communications – Elena O’Mahony

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

Upcoming (circumstances permitting):

- Trivia Night for March 19, to be rescheduled due to Covid-19
- Discussion as to potential videoconference game
- Scholarship Ceremony and Volunteer Recognition - June
- Picnic – Summer
- Yard Sale – Fall
- Softball Game – Fall
- Halloween – October
- Tree Lighting - December

5. By-laws – volunteer needed to review and propose revisions to be drafted to 1955 by-laws

6. Beautification – Irene Sarno, Elena O’Mahony

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7. Scholarship – Noel Dallacco-Ammirati

- Applications went out in March; deadline is May 15

Adjournment: There being no further business to be brought before the members, a motion to adjourn was made by by Irene Sarno and seconded by Elena O'Mahony. The meeting adjourned at 8:00 PM.

Next Meeting: June 3, 2020