

Meeting of the Chester Heights Civic Association Chester Heights Village Green

September 14, 2020

The meeting was called to order at 6:41 p.m. by Elena O'Mahony

Board members present: Dawn Attwood, Joyce Balint, Nanci Colangelo, Elena O'Mahony, Irene Sarno

Association Members present: 13

- I. **Minutes of Last Meeting** – These minutes are posted on the CHCA website.
- II. **Volunteer Positions Open** – Sandy Sexton has volunteered to fill the business position. There are 2 (two) more positions that need to be filled: Residential (renewal of memberships) and By-Laws (updating present By-Laws). The latter would need someone with legal experience. Once the By-Laws are revised, a majority vote would be needed to approve them.
- III. **Fire Department Ruling** - Recently, the town decided not to approve overtime for the employees of the fire department. The fire department consists of 5 station houses, but the Chester Heights station house would be the one most impacted by this decision. If there is an absence in any of the other four station houses (due to illness, vacation, etc.), a man would be taken from the Chester Heights fire station to cover the vacant post. This could potentially leave the Chester Heights station unmanned and put residents of Chester Heights at greater risk due to longer response times. The combined Bronxville/Eastchester/Tuckahoe Fire Department will be hosting a meeting regarding this issue and will hopefully involve the public in an open forum.
- IV. **Past Events**
 - a. The inspirational sidewalk school messages took place the first day of the 2020-2021 school year.
 - b. There is a link posted on our website about the history of Chester Heights. It is a very interesting read.
- V. **Future Events**
 - a. The adult softball game is scheduled for this Sunday, September 20. All participants need to submit their registration forms asap.
 - b. Usually the CHCA hosts a Halloween party every year but in light of the pandemic, we must make other arrangements. Some of the safer suggestions would be a pumpkin carving and decorating competition, a costume parade, a movie night and/or a contest which would involve painting storefront windows.
 - c. There will be an annual membership drive in February, 2021.
 - d. The tree lighting ceremony during the holidays is still on the calendar.
- VI. **Treasurer's Report** – We presently have 117 members. Our opening balance was \$4390.62 with \$101.31 in income and \$59.72 in expenditures, bringing the closing balance to \$4463.58. We were unable to have a picnic to generate income but also will not have the expenditure of a Halloween party.

- VII. Civic Affairs** (R. Marzziotti, J. Attwood, S. Moschetta) –We need to encourage people to shop locally and support the businesses which are starting to re-open in Chester Heights.
- a. New sidewalk construction is on-going.
 - b. Siwanoy Country Club continues to use the former bank for office space during a construction period at the club.
 - c. DeCicco will be opening soon in Eastchester and is undertaking a job fair.
 - d. The former CVS space is still available and there is no word on possible businesses to occupy the space.
 - e. CHCA asked for new lamp posts but the town of Eastchester never responded to the request.
 - f. There are at least 5 retail spaces empty in Chester Heights (martial arts studio, variety store, bakery and attached stores).
- VIII. Welcoming Committee** (M. Florio, S. Prezioso)– To date, we have approximately 5 new neighbors in our community. A succulent plant and a pamphlet were delivered to welcome them. We are expecting more new residents to follow as there are houses coming on the market quite frequently.
- IX. Beautification** (E. O’Mahony, I. Sarno)
- a. *Paint the Town Gold* usually happens in October but in light of the pandemic, the colors will now be purple or pink to support and honor our police, firemen, first responders and also to remember those who have lost their lives to the virus.
 - b. CHCA placed pots of flowers in front of the local businesses and the owners showed their appreciation by caring for them.
 - c. There are hanging banners around Bronxville, Eastchester and Tuckahoe commemorating 350 years since the towns were established. The townspeople responsible for these banners would like to create a general theme/color for all three towns but allow each one to personalize them in a way that suits its history.
 - d. The island over the parkway needs to be refurbished as it is breaking apart. This may be the responsibility of the state. Lines also need to be repainted on the roads in Chester Heights.
 - e. It would be a good idea to send out reminders to encourage people to fly the American flag, especially on holidays and days of remembrance.
 - f. Friday, September 18th, blue lights will be displayed to support the police.
- X. Communications** (E. O’Mahony)
- a. Presently, we have 255 subscribers as part of our email list.
 - b. Early voting will take place at the Eastchester Public Library the week before election day. Absentee ballots need to be requested ahead of time. If anyone needs transportation to the polls, the members of CHCA can arrange rides ahead of time.

The next meeting will be in 2021.

The meeting ended at 7:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Nanci Colangelo