



Plandome Heights

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Board. Chair

Mary Gabriel Historian October 1, 2023

Dear Friends and Neighbors:

We're expecting a busy Fall so I write to update you on things going on, specifically:

- Welcome to 4 new volunteers Several residents expressed interest in serving as volunteers after my July 27, 2023 letter to residents. After review, meetings and reflection, I have appointed (and the Trustees approved) Jerry Love to the Architectural Review Board as well as Michael Tiliakos and Valerie Lauriello to the Board of Zoning Appeals, as alternates. Previously, I appointed Mary Gabriel as Historian. Welcome all and thank you for your service!
- 2. <u>Plandome Pond Park</u> There are two things to report on Plandome Pond Park. First, we have been working with the Town to get progress on the clean-up of the Pond. Largely in response to the leadership of former Mayor Marion Endrizzi, the Town is spending over \$135,000 to install and power an aerator that it believes will result in a clean and healthy pond. Secondly, we have been working with the Town, School and NCPD to assure no recurrence of the mischief surrounding MHS homecoming that took place in 2022. Our efforts were largely successful.
- 3. <u>Village Pride Historic Preservation</u> As we approach our 100th anniversary, residents are reflecting on the unique, and sometimes historic, status of some of the homes in our Village. Former Mayor Marion Endrizzi has taken leadership in encouraging the Village to establish a Historic Preservation Commission that could designate "Historic" status for qualifying Village homes. We are working together to have a <u>Public Hearing</u> on the matter later in the Fall.
- 4. <u>Planning Board: Public Hearing</u> A resident has asked for relief from some conditions in connection with the 2018 subdivision on Summit Drive. As you'll recall, we merged the function of the Planning Board into the Board of Trustees since there is so little activity (5 years in this case). This will be done in Public Hearing(s). I have invited the Chairman of the former Planning Board to join us so there is continuity of thought.
- 5. <u>Administrative matters; Public Hearings</u> We are likely to have Public Hearings on various administrative matters including changes to our Code to conform the Clerk term of office to our practice and to provide the ability (but not the obligation) to remove appointed members of our boards if they have three consecutive absences in order to avoid delays in residents' applications.
- 6. <u>Year-end audit complete</u> The audit of our FY ended May 31, 2023 confirmed our substantial surplus for 2023. The Trustees set aside that surplus for long-term projects including a possible purchase of a Village Hall. We did this while having the lowest Village taxes in the County*.

The <u>Village continues to be in great shape *physically* and *fiscally*. As always, questions, comments and complaints are cheerfully accepted.</u>

Sincerely,

INCORPORATED VILLAGE OF PLANDOME HEIGHTS

Kenneth C. Riscica, Mayor

Mayor@PlandomeHeights-NY.Gov

* Excludes 2 Villages with half our population and 1 village that operates on endowment, not taxes