



Village News

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September 2007

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Officers 2007-2008

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Mayor, Village of Westbury

Hon. Roger Fay
Executive Director Emeritus
Former Mayor, Village of Williston Park

Gary Fishberg, Esq.
Counsel

Eric Ricioppo
Public Information Officer

September 2007 General Membership Meeting

Tuesday, September 18, 2007

(Note the date change)

LaMarmite Restaurant

234 Hillside Avenue

Williston Park, NY

Cash Bar: 7:00 p.m.

Dinner/Program: 7:30 p.m.

Guest Speaker

Mr. Scott Rechler

Rexcorp Realty

Mr. Rechler will apprise us of his plans and vision for the reconstruction of the area known as the Nassau County Coliseum. He will also address his thoughts on the merits and time frame of the much discussed "Hub".

Next Meeting

Tuesday, October 9, 2007

La Marmite Restaurant

Guest Speaker:

**Commissioner Lawrence Mulvey
Nassau County Police Department**

From the Desk of the President



Dear Mayors and Trustees:

It is hard to believe that the summer has come and gone. I think we all agree that the summer is too short.

At least this year's weather was beautiful and we had plenty of days to enjoy all the outdoor amenities that Long Island offers. And now comes the hard part – gearing up for the return to our daily routines.

While there were no NCVOA meetings this summer, the Executive Committee has been busy working on several initiatives for our member villages. I thought it would be helpful if I updated you on our progress.

Workforce Housing Bill

As you know, there has been much debate over the issue of workforce housing. We all agree on the need to create affordable housing to help keep our young adults from leaving Long Island; however, there are many divergent views on how this should be accomplished.

The Long Island Association (LIA) has been spearheading in Albany legislation to create workforce housing on Long Island. In 2005, a bill, known as the Long Island Workforce Housing Incentive Program Act, was sponsored by Tom DiNapoli and Michael Balboni in the Assembly and Senate respectively. It required a developer to set aside 10% of any new development (of five units or more) for families whose earnings did not exceed 80% of the area's median income. Also, if a local government determined that setting aside at least 10% of such units would have an adverse impact on the health, safety or environment of its residents, it could instead require the developer to pay a reasonable fee to the local government. These fees would be deposited in a dedicated trust fund, would be used exclusively by the locality to provide such housing.

While the bill unanimously passed in the Assembly in January 2006, it failed in the Senate. Many senators,

including Nassau County's Dean Skelos and Kemp Hannon, did not support this legislation because they believed it would undermine the zoning authority of towns and villages.

Since that time, there have been efforts to amend the bill to make it acceptable to both sides. At the June Executive Committee meeting, LIA President Matthew Crosson and John Cameron, vice chairman of the Long Island Regional Planning Board, addressed the Executive Committee to determine if there was a way in which villages would support the LIA's initiative to encourage developers to build affordable workforce housing. During a very candid discussion, we expressed our concerns about the bill's vague language. We agreed to continue to explore the issue. Gary Fishberg, NCVOA counsel, is reviewing the revised version and will be making recommendations for language clarification. While we have not yet reached an agreement, we believe progress is being made that would be acceptable to both sides.

We all agree that workforce housing is a major priority. But Long Island has many communities, each with its own characteristics and complexities. The challenge is how to create a program that addresses the need for increasing affordable housing that is equitable, legal, and realistic. The NCVOA looks forward to working with the LIA, Long Island Regional Planning Board, and our state legislators to pursue solutions to the workforce housing dilemma. We will keep you apprised of any developments.

Econnergy

You may recall that a few years ago the NCVOA introduced an energy purchasing partnership with Econnergy, a gas supplier, to provide an alternative gas supplier for villages and their residents. Econnergy's energy was supplied by Keyspan but at a 5% savings to residents.

The NCVOA had negotiated a very favorable rate for the initial two-year contract. However, when the contract was up for renewal, the volatile energy

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President's Message

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market prevented Econnergy from providing similar savings and a subsequent agreement was not reached.

I am happy to report that Econnergy is back at the table and the NCVOA is close to reaching a new agreement that once again will pass along energy savings to your residents. We will be providing you with information shortly.

Hub to be Discussed at September Meeting

The proposed development of The Hub has been a very hot topic. This massive undertaking is the brainchild of Charles Wang, the owner of the New York Islanders, and Scott Rechler, chairman of RexCorp Realty. We are especially concerned since this ambitious development would impact several neighboring villages, particularly Garden City and Westbury.

Scott Rechler will be the guest speaker at the September NCVOA General Membership Meeting which has been moved to Tuesday, September 18, 2007, 7 p.m. at the LaMarmite Restaurant, in Williston Park. Please make every effort to attend the September 18 Meeting to learn more about this plan.

Happy Birthday Roger Fay

On a final note, I would like to wish Roger Fay, former mayor of the Village of Williston Park, NCVOA past president and NCVOA Executive Director Emeritus, a very happy 90th birthday. Roger's family celebrated his special milestone this summer with a huge party, which was only appropriate for someone who has meant so much to so many people – including this organization - for so many years. We appreciate Roger's continued involvement, wisdom and guidance in the NCVOA and wish him many more happy and healthy years with us.

Jim Altadonna

Mayor, Village of Massapequa Park
President, Nassau County Village
Officials Association

Villages Seeking

Consultant for New Waste Contract

Several NCVOA member villages in the Town of Hempstead have decided to send out a Request for Proposal (RFP) for a consultant to assist them with a new solid waste disposal contract.

The original contract expires in August 2009 which, in municipal years, is just around the corner. The Village of Malverne has assumed the responsibility of lead agent and will take the appropriate steps to ensure the RFP is correctly administered.

Any other interested parties should contact either Malverne Village Trustee Joe Hennessy at 599-1200 or NCVOA Executive Director Warren Tackenberg at 437-1455.

Moving Up

Robert Elliot, former Mayor of Croton-on-Hudson and a long-time friend of the NCVOA, has been appointed Assistant Secretary of State.

Congratulations and best wishes to Bob for this much deserved appointment.

Affordable Housing

The NCVOA has been working with state and local officials on a revised workforce (affordable) housing bill.

NCVOA Counsel Gary Fishberg and other Executive Committee members have held several meetings to craft a bill that will incorporate both the needs for this type of housing and the concerns of the local governments that will be implementing this law.

Once the committee completes its deliberations, a draft will be sent to all villages for review and feedback.

SwiftReach 911

The July meeting also included a presentation by representatives of SwiftReach 911. This company recently signed an agreement with Nassau County for a reverse 911 system that will allow you accessibility from any internet connected company, touch tone phone, or mobile device such as a Blackberry to communicate with your residents and businesses during an emergency.

The bid specs issued by the County requested that the winning bidder offer a price to all Nassau municipalities. The winning bid submitted by Swift Reach was \$350 per month or \$4,200 annually. According to OEM officials, the average annual price in the open market is \$20,000.

The following is a description of the service:

- **Hosted Solution** - The Notification Service is hosted by SwiftReach and does not require the customer to purchase any equipment or phone lines. Because the solution is hosted, SwiftReach is able to provide the customer with a level of redundancy and reliability that would not be feasibly attainable otherwise. Upgrades to the solution are provided to the customer at no cost.
- **Simple Pricing Plan** - Customers are billed a fixed monthly fee and an unprecedented low per-minute cost for only calls that are connected. (* per-minute fees billed in 30-second increments.) Different billing plans are available.
- **Nassau County Village, Water District pricing** - \$350.00 set up, \$350 per month .07 per minute on connected calls, unlimited email and text paging, toll free hotline .07 per minute
- **Four Redundant Locations (Texas, Minnesota, New York, Tennessee)**
Each site has both battery and generator backup power
Each site is a hardened telecom facility

Each site has connectivity on a sonnet / fiber ring to multiple carriers
Each site enables calls to go out over multiple route choices minimizing carrier route specific problems

- **Toll Free Hotline** - gives you the ability to record a message as to updates on a situation, not tying up people to answer phones
- **Caller ID** - Each notification can have its own "CALLER ID"; so a message from the Police Dept, can have the Police Department main number so the call is answered. Not "unavailable" or "out of area" or from an unfamiliar area code
- **Scrubbed Data** – Our data is scrubbed, meaning the data we supply for your account will not contain roll over or hunt group numbers, just the main number. (Billing Telephone Number) This makes a notification happen quicker and more efficiently then the competition. For example a hospital or a large corporation may contain 5000 to 20000 numbers; we will supply you with the main listed numbers.
- **Unparalleled Customer Support** - 24 by 7 customer support is available 365 days of the year. Our support staff is trained and knowledge in all aspects of the system. Support requests are handled quickly and efficiently.
- **Multiple points of contact for each resident:**

Home number

Mom's cell number

Dad's cell number

Email

Text Pager

TDD/TYY machine

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SwiftReach 911

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- Accessible from any internet connected computer, touch tone phone, or mobile device, such as a blackberry
- No relation to any telemarketing company
- No Single points of Failure
- Carrier grade switching (SS7), you will have no phone lines or T-1's to maintain at an additional charge each month
- Real time status of an outbound notification as an event is happening, with the ability to pause, restart and cancel
- Web portal available through us and not a third party, for add, changes and delete of numbers and addresses
- Freehand mapping as well as radius mapping available along with full GIS integration
- Extensive reporting in excel format
- After each notification, an email is sent to a predetermined email address with a report of the notification
- Unlimited amount of lists can be created and maintained
- Full access to our entire calling capacity 24/7 at no additional cost, and does not require a third party to get involved

Contact

Jeff Alward
Swiftreach Networks Inc.
31 Industrial Ave
Mahwah, NJ 07430
201-236-8625 ext 8115
201-236-1222 Fax
www.swiftreach.com

In Case of Emergency

The Village Emergency Management Committee met in July in Williston Park. The meeting's topic was Points of Distribution (PODs). A presentation was made by Ann Durban, MS, NP, representing the Public Health Emergency Preparedness section of the Nassau County Department of Health. Ann is no stranger to the NCVOA as she serves as the Joint Village POP coordinator for the ten villages in the northeast section of the Town of Oyster Bay.

POD sites are local distribution centers with ready access to a larger stockpile of vaccines, medicines, and other supplies designed to prevent the spread of epidemics such as a large pandemic flu.

Why should village officials be concerned with creating a POD, with or without neighboring villages? The answer is simple. With more than 1.3 million county residents and only 11 hospitals, villages must play an active role in protecting their residents.

For more information on this critical village operation, please call Ann Durban at (516) 571-3112 or e-mail her at:

Ann.Durban@HHSNASSAUCOUNTY.NY.US

Ann also is available to make a presentation to any village board.

Attorney General Andrew M. Cuomo

invites you to attend an

ENVIRONMENTAL FORUM

**Learn how the Attorney General's Office
can protect the Long Island Environment.**

Long Island Association

300 Broadhollow Road

Melville, NY 11747

Wednesday, September 19th, 2007

7:00 PM

Please RSVP to 631-231-2179.

**For More Information Please Call: 516-248-3302
or 631-231-2424 or Visit www.oag.state.ny.us**

Hosted by: The Long Island Association

Office of Village Emergency Management

Chair

Hon. Angel Soto, Mayor, South Floral Park
516-352-8047 email: ANGELSOTO@aol.com

Secretary

Hon. Warren Tackenberg, NCVOA
Executive Director
516-427-1455 email: Exec@NCVOA.org

Education Chair

John Baroni, Village of East Rockaway
Emergency Manager
887-6300

Communications Chair

Dan DeLucia, Village of Manorhaven
Emergency Manager

New Manorhaven Trustee

The Manorhaven Village Board is pleased to announce the appointment of Barry Balcourt as Village Trustee.

Barry replaces James A. Tomilson, long-time trustee and deputy mayor. Best wishes to Barry as he joins his colleagues in public service.

Enhanced Communications

A special two-page edition of *Village News* was sent alerting members of our new method of communication.

Beginning this September, *VillageNews* will be posted the beginning of each month on the NCVOA's newly revamped website. Clicking on the "Newsletter" link on any page allows you to read the newsletter or print it for distribution to other key village personnel.

When a new newsletter is posted on the website an announcement will continue to be sent to all villages and people who have requested this service. If you are not currently receiving email announcements contact Warren Tackenburg, 516-427-1455 - email Exec@NCVOA.org, to be added to the list.

Back to LaMarmite

In response to feedback from our members, we are returning our general membership meetings to LaMarmite Restaurant, located on Hillside Avenue in Williston Park. We hope members will support this move by attending the September 18, 2007 meeting.

In Sympathy

The NCVOA notes with great sadness the passing of

Hon. Joel Liebowitz
Trustee, Village of Great Neck Plaza

May his soul rest in eternal peace.

Its Here!!!

The NCVOA has successfully negotiated a new contract with Econnergy, a New York state approved supplier, which will bring benefits to all participating villages and their residents. Go to "ncvoa.org" and click on "Energy" for more information.

Website has New Look!

Please remember to visit our newly revamped website at ncvoa.org. As we plan for the future, we will notify every village the moment the current newsletter is uploaded on to the home page of ncvoa.org.

The Last Word

"Two ways to fail: think and never do, or do and never think"

- Author unknown