

The Board Meeting of the Board of Trustees met in the Municipal Building, 14 Baker Street, Patchogue, New York on September 14, 2009.

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Mayor Pontieri with Trustees Crean Dean, Devlin, Krieger, McGiff, Village Treasurer Krawczyk, Village Attorney Egan and Village Clerk Seal present. Trustee Hilton was not present.

The flag salute made.

Mayor Pontieri read the safety message.

Upon a motion made by Trustee Dean, seconded by Deputy Mayor McGiff, and unanimously carried, the Board approved the minutes of August 24, 2009 with addition & deletion.

Village Treasurer Krawczyk stated: The bills for the period August 28 to September 13, 2009 totaled \$628,078.97, with the five largest bills being: Rosemar \$80,040.48 paving South Prospect, H2M \$70,896.98 sewer engineering, KVS \$19,515.74 software subscription services, LIPA \$14,690.17 electric charges, Sidney Bowne \$13,830.00 engineering fees.

General Fund	\$380,732.71
Trust & Agency Fund	\$4,661.10
Capital Projects	\$159,983.68
Sewer Fund	\$54,592.27
BID Fund	\$8,596.84
Housing/Code Fund	\$2,796.83
Community Development Fund	\$12,198.04
General Bills	\$4,517.50
Total	\$628,078.97

Mayor Pontieri stated: The fee by H2M was for the engineering of the sewer plant and rebuilding of it. The fee by Sidney Bowne was for road paving and should take place within the next eighteen months.

Upon a motion made by Trustee Dean, seconded by Deputy Mayor McGiff, and unanimously carried, the Board approved payment of the bills as presented.

Upon a motion made by Trustee Crean, seconded by Deputy Mayor McGiff, and unanimously carried, the Board approved request to adjust general fund budget as follows. Increase acct 001-0001-2072 Special Event Fees \$8,500.00, Increase acct 001-7110-0441 Maint. & Repair Parks \$8,500.00, as per receipt from Great South Bay Music Festival, the income received to date for use of the Park.

Upon a motion made by Trustee Crean, seconded by Deputy Mayor McGiff, and unanimously carried, the Board approved request to appropriate from BID surplus 006-0006-0599 \$1,500.00 to acct #006-3195-0492-0424 for promotion of the St. Liberata Festival. Approved at 9/8/09 B.I.D. meeting.

Upon a motion made by Trustee Dean, seconded by Trustee Crean, and unanimously carried, the Board approved request for general fund to loan Capital Project Fund \$17,811.34 and Housing Code Fund \$660.34 which we will be reimbursed for.

Village Krawczyk stated: Cash Balances as of 8/31/09 are presented for your information.

Village Clerk Seal stated: Public notice is hereby given that a Public Hearing will be held on Monday, September 14, 2009, at 7:30 p.m. in the Municipal Building, 14 Baker Street, Patchogue, New York, by the Village Board of the Incorporated Village of Patchogue to amend Section 415-14 of Chapter 415 of the Village Code with regard to the reinstatement of the no parking prohibition on the east side of Bianchi Road. At said Public Hearing any person interested will be given the opportunity to be heard.

Village Attorney Egan stated: This was a request that was originally requested by a Village resident and submitted to the Board, then duly published in the local newspaper, set down for public hearing, and there was no opposition to the no parking restriction was then suspended on the east side of the road. After the close of hearing and after the law had been enacted, there was a request by the neighbors to reinstate the no parking on the east side of the road.

Darren Leon, 2 Bianchi Road, Patchogue, stated: The resident that requested the no parking signs be taken down doesn't even live on the block. He has a tenant that lives on the block and complained that he gets parking tickets for parking illegally. Where the tenant parks is behind my neighbor's driveway which he then has a hard time to get out. Not to mention that the street is only 15 feet wide—when they park in the street, you cannot get emergency vehicles down. It is also a quality of life issue because they have to drive on everybody's lawns to get around these cars and when they park in front of the house at 2 and 3 in the morning, they leave their lights on which shines into everybody's windows. Vito Carsolino, the used car dealership, when we were going through the Planning and Zoning Boards, he was to have no parking on the street. All of his customers were to park in his parking lot—which I have complained about, that he blocks his parking lot off so no one can get into his parking lot to turn around. And they are turning around in everybody else's driveway and across their lawn. He is supposed to have customer parking in his parking lot which he has filled with used cars for sale, but he has them arranged that customers can't even pull into his parking lot and get out. They park on both sides of the road and it makes it difficult for everybody to go down the street.

Mayor Pontieri stated: We will have Carol check to see if there are any covenants within that for how much parking he is supposed to have on site.

Darren Leon stated: I have called and complained about it, but nothing seems to be done. I remember he is supposed to have 25 cars on his lot, plus customer parking. He has approx. 32-35 cars right now. I would like the no parking signs be put back so our quality of life will get a little better.

Village Egan stated: The request to set the public hearing was to reinstate both sides.

Darren Leon stated: Every resident on that block signed a petition to have the signs returned, except the one gentleman who not only got tickets for parking on his front lawn, this is the kind of issue we deal with on a daily basis.

Mayor Pontieri stated: I think the bigger part of the issue is the fact that the road is only 15 feet wide.

Paul Lipson, 280 Bianchi Road, stated: I am the one directly across from the used car lot parking lot. I have the biggest issue of anybody on there because 90% of the people that go there—there are more people that stop at night and on Sundays when they are closed than there are during regular working hours. This is a 24/7 day business that the Village has perpetrated on the people of Bianchi Road. 90% of them turn around in my driveway—the end is all beat up from cars and trucks turning around in my driveway. Originally, if you look in the minutes with the narrowness of the street, even with the extra widening of it, it is still only 25 feet at its widest point. When we brought up the fact that the ambulance and fire truck can't get down there if there was parking, the answer from the Village regarding safety, they would have no parking from Montauk Highway all the way down. There would be no parking on either side of the road, which is how it was originally set up. Mysteriously, within a few months, I think by accident, one of the signs was hit by snow plows. But, then there were two gone. They have really been parking there every since this thing started. 90% of the time Vito himself parks his own car on the street himself. All his customers, they park on the street and constantly turn around in my driveway. I want to know who is going to pay for the end of my driveway which is all torn up now—the rest of it isn't. Speaking of that, we still have a water problem going on down there and the last time somebody brought that up it was pooh-pooed and was told the water problem was from Top Stitch. The water that accumulates down there is from Bianca Road which high at the north edge and tapers down to the south. All the water comes down from Bianca Road and still we have puddles; it is better than it was when we had the rain coming in from Montauk Highway when they put in the curb. Vito put in two drains, but the problem is the water is not going that way because the Village has not paved the road since 1967. My father owned Top Stitch and I have been here from the late 50's. That drain that Top Stitch has was actually put in by the Village of Patchogue. Years ago my father complained years ago that the water would actually come into the third bay of the building. So they put that drain in. My question, is the drain on his property

or Village property; but, the Village put that in. The problem we have is that the water that comes down Bianca Road doesn't go down to the drain. We still have the water accumulating, if they would just pave the road—they just patch and patch. It is only 15 feet wide at the narrow end and 400 feet long—all the money they saved by patching, they could they just pave it and get the water to run into the drains.

Mayor Pontieri stated: We are in the process of getting as much money as we can from the government. As you saw, we did South Prospect and probably maybe 10 roads since coming into office. It is a very expensive proposition and we are doing them based upon the funding that we have. I will have Louie take a look at the drainage and see if there is something we can work out.

Resident stated: As far as that drain, I had complained to the Village that Top Stitch had raised that cover up at least 12 inches to avoid that water going into his parking lot and now it sits there for a week after a rainstorm.

Jack Krieger stated: It sounds like a lot of the problem is from the used car dealer. If the signs were put up and knocked down and if there is no parking on that street then the signs need to be put back up.

Village Attorney Egan stated: Before the repeal was done during the last few months, the Code does say the entire length.

Trustee Devlin stated: I was on the Planning Board when the used car lot was approved and I recall that they were very concerned about how the parking was laid out for the customers who would be visiting the lot, and they were not to park in the street. There was a lot of concern about how vehicles were going to get delivered into that property. There was a limit on the numbers of cars and spaces; it was not a big number. There was concern about larger vehicles like trucks and how would they get in and out.

Mayor Pontieri stated: Let us take a look as to what the approvals were. That is part of the problem, but not the issue we are here to discuss this evening. The issue here is the no parking itself.

Trustee Krieger asked: You guys that live on the street, do you park on the street at all—if you have company or a party?

Paul Lipson stated: I have a big enough driveway that I park in my driveway and if they have people over, they park in my driveway. Nobody on that block parks on that street except those from 1 Bianca Road which Joe Bianca owns but does not live at. Vito is part of the problem also because of all of his customers, because he is being investigated by Suffolk County for drug dealing. All of his customers park in the street. It is not just the used car lot; it is 1 Bianca Road that is the problem.

Resident stated: Where they park is where I back out of my driveway, and if I have someone come over, they have to be really careful, turn the wheel before you would even want to and have to drive over my own lawn. Right now, I am the only one that has a no parking sign in front of my property.

Upon a motion made by Trustee Crean, seconded by Deputy Mayor McGiff, and unanimously carried, the board voted to amend Section 415-14 of Chapter 415 with regard to the no parking prohibition on the east side of Bianchi Road.

Village Clerk Seal stated: Notice is hereby given that a Public Hearing will be held on Monday, September 14, 2009, at 7:30 p.m. in the Municipal Building, 14 Baker Street, Patchogue, New York, by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Patchogue to consider a request by the owner of 17 Maiden Lane, John Halverson, for an out of district sewer connection. At said public hearing any person interested will be given the opportunity to be heard.

Mayor Pontieri stated: Basically, when the sewer line is going to be run down to Lombardi's he wants to connect to that.

Warren Crotty, 481 Furman Lane, stated: I am not opposed of their hooking up to the sewer. However Mayor, there was a comment made by you two years ago about hooking up to the sewer

line. I own a house on 34 Gilbert Street which has a sewer main and was told it was \$14,000 to hook up to that line.

Mayor Pontieri stated: We are looking to put a grant put together to actually help to get pumps for the homeowners—the pump itself is \$700-\$800. When West Ave. was done 20-30 extra pumps were bought as surplus; it is about \$14,000 with the pump. The value of the macerator & ejector pump is about \$7,000 and it is needed to make the system work. That is the cost for burying the line and hooking up, and the pump itself is a \$7,000 pump. I will get a price from H2M. It doesn't happen very often, but I suggest you check with the Building Department. Brookhaven Town will be running a sewer line down Gilbert, Cedar and to the Sandspit. When that is done, Cedar and Gilbert will be repaved—if not before the frost, then early spring.

Upon a motion made by Deputy Mayor McGiff, seconded by Trustee Dean, and unanimously carried, the board approved request for an out of district sewer connection for the property owner at 17 Maiden Lane.

Village Clerk Seal stated: Notice is hereby given that a public hearing will be held on Monday, September 14, 2009, at 7:30 p.m. in the Municipal Building, 14 Baker Street, Patchogue, New York, by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Patchogue to consider a request by the owner of 131 Cedar Avenue, Jeff Drapal, for an out of district sewer connection.

Upon a motion made by Trustee Dean, seconded by Deputy Mayor McGiff, and unanimously carried, the board approved request for an out of district sewer connection for the property owner at 131 Cedar Avenue.

Village Clerk Seal stated: Notice is hereby given that a public hearing will be held on Monday, September 14, 2009, at 7:30 p.m. in the Municipal Building, 14 Baker Street, Patchogue, York, by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Patchogue to amend Sections 210-4, 210-6, 210-7, 210-13, 210-15, 210-16, 210-17, 210-18, 210-19, 210-20 of Chapter 210 of the Village Code relating to flood damage prevention, a copy of which proposed local law is on file at the office the Village Clerk. At said public hearing any person interested will be given the opportunity to be heard.

Village Attorney Egan stated: Chapter 210 is our flood damage prevention section of the Village Code as required by the FEMA. FEMA has updated its flood insurance rate map, FIRM. Accordingly, by doing that it has required certain provisions with regard to construction in the Village and will be subject to the new flood insurance rate maps, construction standards, e.g. how high it can be above flood level, installation of louvers, electrical code changes. The Village, because parts of the Village has been in the flood zone so long, had a very comprehensive plan as is. Some changes were suggested by FEMA--we are on the cutting edge of this change. All the villages along the south shore have to do the same thing, but we are certainly very far ahead of the curve getting this done. DEC has reviewed our proposed law regarding the flood plan and has approved it. I would like to thank Josephine Tossi from my office who did all the coordinating with DEC and made all the changes as well.

Upon a motion made by Trustee Devlin, seconded by Trustee Dean, and unanimously carried, the board unanimously accepted request to amend Sections as proposed in public notice regarding flood damage prevention section of Village Code.

Village Clerk Seal stated: Notice is hereby given that a public hearing will be held on Monday, September 14, 2009, at 7:30 p.m. in the Municipal Building, 14 Baker Street, Patchogue, York, by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Patchogue to pass a resolution authorizing the Mayor of the Incorporated Village of Patchogue to execute an agreement with the County of Suffolk and Artspace Patchogue, Lofts, L.P. for the development of workforce housing known as Artspace Patchogue Lofts, a copy of which proposed resolution is on file at the office of the Village Clerk. At said Public Hearing any person interested will be given the opportunity to be heard.

Mayor Pontieri stated: For the past four years we have been working on a project called Artspace which is affordable housing for artists, 45 unit rentals on Terry Street, just east of the garden. This agreement here is our agreement with the County for them to give funding towards this project, 1.75 and another 375 for the purchase of the property. Some of the property is held by the Village and the County will have us purchase the property. This is the agreement that sets forth those conditions inherent in that agreement.

Justine Tocci stated: There is one change in the resident section criteria that came up today. There was originally a 25% preference. That 25% needs to be rendered to Suffolk County residents and there still will be a preference for a Suffolk County resident, but it just won't be at that percentage. It was confirmed with Brian and the Suffolk County Attorney's Office and with Jill from the Affordable Housing Unit, this is actually a good change because there is less chance of the project running afoul of any of the Fair Housing Law.

Mayor Pontieri stated: My understanding is the way the change is going to be is that as the applications come in, they will be separated by County and by out of the County.

Justine Tocci stated: They will be separated first according to artists vs. non-artists, and then the artists group will be further separated based on Suffolk County vs. non-Suffolk County. Then the lottery will proceed ranking the Suffolk artist and the non-Suffolk artist and then the non-artist will be separated entirely. The applicants have to go through a credit and background check which we do first. Following that, they will notify those applicants who do not qualify under that criteria. After that they will move to an interview process. They will keep a waiting list on hand.

Mayor Pontieri stated: Justine has put up with this for the last few months, and I have kept up with it via e-mail and I know there have been days that you were doing 10-15 modifications and changes right to the bitter end. It has been a very large task to say the least and I appreciate your fortitude. It is very complicated and they have 20 or so other locations across the nation, e.g. Buffalo, Minnesota, Florida and everyone is handled differently. They have the sense that they can all be handled the same way and I appreciate that it has been a little cumbersome and I appreciate your time and professionalism.

Upon a motion made by Trustee Crean, seconded by Deputy Mayor McGiff, and unanimously carried, the board approved the Artspace development agreement as presented with the modification.

Trustee Krieger stated: The Patchogue Theatre runs on a volunteer engine and there are a lot of people who work a lot of hours and who put in a lot of time, not only physically but spiritually and emotionally. With us tonight is one of the important people who sits on the Patchogue Theatre Board, spends a lot of time there and his second office is on Main Street, and his second office is 71 East Main Street. His name is Christopher Capabianco and he would like to talk tonight about some exciting news about the Theatre.

Christopher Capabianco stated: Having been here for 19 years since Sept. 1st, I am just one of many people that volunteer at the Patchogue Theatre and we are starting our new season this week. Our Theatre is a mixture of our own productions and outside producers who rent the Theatre. Once again, we have a broad mix that keeps up with our mission to be a cultural center for Long Island presenting a broad spectrum of performing arts for a wide audience at affordable prices. 13,300 e-mail addresses will get our schedule tomorrow morning and Thursday will start our first Alive in the Lobby Concert Series. Sunday will be the first of our children's and family's series and then on to the season. Read your e-mail go to the website or go to the Theatre and look at the schedule. Alive in the Lobby is a series that supports artists year after year and this Thursday will start our 5th year. It is a ton of work, but a labor of love that we are proud of. We really appreciate your support. I know the Village owns the building, but a lot of people do not understand that the Village really doesn't run the Theatre itself, but you support it and we can always count on it.

Mayor Pontieri stated: You made the comment about the volunteers. I think it is one of the strengths that this community has. The volunteers do so because others do. It is never a single person, but there is always someone in that group that takes over the leadership. You make things happen. Whether you realize people notice or do not notice, they do notice the time and effort that you people put in. The Theatre really isn't the Theatre except for the leadership of people like yourself, Jack Krieger, John Ashline and members of the Board. You show a sense of leadership to the whole community. Many of the other organizations follow in the mantra and the sense and strength of the Theatre itself. It is about yourself, the Theatre, the community and the 19 years that you have been here. We have gained a lot 19 years ago on September 1st.

Christopher Capabianco stated: My first involvement in the Village came from something former Village Trustee Fuoco spoke, which he attributed to Robert Moses. It goes "You get a whole lot done if you don't care who gets credit for it." We don't spend a lot of time patting ourselves on the back, but it is basically just getting to move forward and get it done. We want this Theatre to

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continue to be the engine. Now we are going to have multiple engines in the Village and it is exciting to watch.

Mayor Pontieri stated: The Artspace project happened because the Theatre was here. Every time someone from Artspace comes in whether it is the financing of it, when their organization when came out—what sold them on it was the Theatre. We expect 125,000 people will come through the doors next year.

Upon a motion made by Trustee Krieger, seconded by Deputy Mayor McGiff, and unanimously carried, the board approved request for the Patchogue-Medford High School to hold their annual homecoming parade on Main Street on Saturday, October 3rd beginning at 11 a.m.

Upon a motion made by Trustee Crean, seconded by Deputy Mayor McGiff, and unanimously carried the board approved request for the Cemetery Restoration Committee to hold their annual yard sale on October 3rd beginning at 9 a.m. in the Terry Street Community Garden.

Trustee Crean stated: As just mentioned, we are a community made up of different volunteers. This happens to be one we can be proud of--their cleaning up the cemetery.

Trustee Crean stated: I would also like to thank Christopher Capabianco for the many hours he puts in. Alive in the Lobby has been a struggle at times and a lot of hard work has gone into it to find quality, local acts. Without this venue many of them might still be stuck in the basement performing for themselves. It is great to see local artists try out original music. I am looking forward to it.

Upon a motion made by Deputy Mayor McGiff, seconded by Trustee Dean, and unanimously carried, the board set a public hearing to be held on Monday, September 28, 2009 at 7:30 p.m. in the Municipal Building, 14 Baker Street, Patchogue, New York, by the Village Board of the Incorporated Village of Patchogue to amend Section 412-6 regarding storage of abandoned vehicles.

Deputy Mayor McGiff stated: I received a memo from Sr. Bldg. Inspection Peter Sarich that stated basically, all electrical inspections in the Village are done by independent contractors. These certificates have to be performed prior to the CO being issued. He has requested that this concern be approved. They have submitted copies of their licenses and liability insurance, naming the Village as additional insured.

Upon a motion made by Deputy Mayor McGiff, seconded by Trustee Devlin, and unanimously carried, the board authorized NYS Electrical Inspectors, Inc. to conduct electrical inspections within the Village for one year, pursuant to Section 191-4 of the Village code.

Upon a motion made by Trustee Devlin, seconded by Deputy Mayor McGiff, and unanimously carried, the board approved hiring volleyball security @ \$7.25/hr as per list attached.

Trustee Devlin stated: The 26th Annual Old Timers Game will be this weekend at Shorefront Park on Saturday at 2 p.m.

Trustee Devlin stated: The Community Development Agency is getting ready to do some various jobs at Shorefront park, one of the is the bathroom renovations. Marion Russo and I have met with the gentleman from the company doing the playground and are starting the planning stages of the all accessible playground. Hopefully, that will all be done by next spring.

Trustee Devlin stated: The Arts Council had our regular meeting and we also had artists coming in and dropping off their art work which will be hung in some of the windows and in the stores over the next two weeks. The Walking Tour will run from Sept. 30th to the end of the year and in conjunction with that the Arts Council partnering with the Theatre on Nov. 8th for the Autumn Arts Festival, which will be a full day reception for the artists in the lobby, poetry reading, and some Alive in the Lobby. On Oct. 3 from 2 to 5 p.m. at Briarcliffe College is the Patchogue Arts First Biennial Arts Show.

Upon a motion made by Trustee Devlin, seconded by Deputy Mayor McGiff, and unanimously carried, the board approved request for the Bay Avenue PTA Second Annual Pumpkin Run to be held October 25th from 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 p.m. at Shorefront Park, for registration and the start/finish line.

Upon a motion made by Trustee Dean, seconded by Trustee Devlin, and unanimously carried, the board set a public hearing to be held on Monday, September 28, 2009 at 7:30 p.m. in the Municipal Building, 14 Baker Street, Patchogue, New York, by the Village Board of the Incorporated Village of Patchogue to consider out of district sewer connection for proposed Clare Rose multi-family residential development.

Mayor Pontieri stated: This is part of the process for us to see what they want to do.

Trustee Dean stated: Senator Brian Foley has been able to secure us \$300,000 to upgrade our fuel tanks down at the DPW yard. We are under State mandate to upgrade and were hard pressed to come up with the money to make it happen. As part of his capital funding for the year, Senator Foley was able to secure us \$300,000. That is going to make that project a whole lot easier to do. Our thanks to Senator Foley for helping make that happen.

Upon a motion made by Trustee Dean, seconded by Trustee Crean, and unanimously carried, the board approved request to go out to bid for general, mechanical and electrical construction for the upgrade and expansion of the Wastewater Treatment facility. We are hoping to have the bids picked up by Oct. 1, returned by Oct. 22 and awarded by Oct. 26.

Mayor Pontieri stated: We need to have it in place by January 1st and hope to break ground by the mid-December.

Upon a motion made by Trustee Dean, seconded by Trustee Devlin, and unanimously carried, the board approved request to go out to bid for the purpose of renovation work at 380 Bay Avenue. The project is to include, but not be limited to insulation, heating, air condition, plumbing, ADA bathrooms. I am looking to have bid projects noticed on Sept. 24, picked up on the 28th, and returned on the 29th. We should be able to award that project on October 13th.

Public to be Heard:

John Bogack, Noxon Street, Patchogue, stated: I want to talk about various hate crimes that occur within the Village. This comes to mind because last week there was a public hearing that I attended. I was very disappointed to notice that very few people in the Village showed up at that meeting. It seems to me under representative of what is going on in the Village, but there were only one or two speakers at that meeting. One of the points I made at that meeting was something I would like to discuss today. That relates to the recent hate crime at the church at Sephton Street and Railroad Street which is an incredible event that two hate crimes occur in that same area. You really have to wonder about the depravity of people that they could come to that point at all. They have labeled it an anti-religious hate crime. You can't attack a church and not have it viewed as a hate crime. One of the things that bothers me about all the investigations is our society is able to catch some of these individuals, but not all. One recommendation I would like to the police that they should set up Specialized Award Funds. You have served on various task forces. I can put out an idea and see what happens. I would like to give money and see the three people still at large caught. I think myself and probably others like Mr. Butler and Mr. Grucci who have spoken out about hate crimes in the Village of Patchogue--I think we all would like to give some money if that would help find the real people committing real hate crimes of a religious nature in the Village. The way Suffolk County has their funds set up, it is not possible to do so today. Maybe you might think about approaching them with that idea so that if a person would like to contribute a couple of hundred bucks for an award fund--because people will respond to those rewards and turn people in. And, we are going to get every single one. They are still out there and it is incredible that after Marcelo's death that we have any hate crimes.

Deputy Mayor McGiff stated: I have chosen to raise my family here and think the media is so irresponsible of their coverage of Patchogue. Any nitwit who wants to get on the news comes to this 2.2 square mile to do something. The crime on Division Street, when they caught the perpetrator, they said he was a white Hispanic. I don't know what that means. To call that a hate crime because it didn't fit the preconceived notion of Newsday and all of a sudden it was a white Latino. The second one they called a white supremacist. Paul and I got the police report that Saturday morning. The police report bore no resemblance to what all the major networks reported. You could pretty much see right away that it was a member of that congregation that had a bone to pick with the pastor. I think Patchogue is picked on. And to just shift gears and talk about what Newsday should cover, yesterday Gerry, Joe and myself, all members of St. Francis Church cooked at a picnic and 60-70% of the people there were Latinos and there was a

bilingual Mass. People in the community got along. That is what bothers me; you will never see that reported in Newsday. They are irresponsible in their coverage of Patchogue. They descend on this Village as vultures when something happens, but you will never hear when there are hate crimes in other places. You don't hear about the guys in Riverhead being chased down and beaten up, but when it happens in Patchogue it is front page news.

Mr. Bogack stated: On that point, in the newspaper El Diario, it alleges, Mr. Pontieri, that you were disrespectful to a demonstration of pastors in the Village who came last week to protest the hate crimes, Rev. Senator Diaz. I will leave you a copy and maybe you can respond to it.

Mayor Pontieri stated: Senator Diaz never came to me. Two things. When Leg. Gregory first proposed this, I asked him purposely not to do it in Patchogue. I said all you are going to do is start out on the murder of Lucero of Patchogue and again bring the focus back on the Village. And then I said, let's see what happens and it all of a sudden that things shows up in August, Sept. and they have another one scheduled in October. And what happens in November is an election. My sense as a member of this Board—and I didn't say anything to the other members of the Board to go or not go; that was on their own volition—was that I did not want to see myself in the paper or be quoted in the paper. I did not want us to be the focus of it again. That is why I did not go. When Leg. Gregory's office called, as members of this Board and then when the Rev. Senator Diaz from the Bronx shows up, probably the most highly elected official in the village that he is in. And like it or not, I am probably the highest elected official in this village. For his office never to have contacted us or contacted the Village and say I am coming into the Village and would like to meet with you—not that I am getting into the disrespect thing because my ego doesn't work that way—but, it is respect for the community that he is entering. Have some respect for who we are—we are a community of the people, a community of the people, a community with a government, a community that has an identity. And, for him to come in and have trailing along side of him News 12, news this and news that—and for him not to take the time to make a phone call because if he had called me I would have gone over and have met him. But, for him to have made no indication as to when he would be here, why he was going to be here, I was not going to feed into his ego. Because again, the picture would have been me standing with Diaz. Again, let their egos go where they want their egos to go.

Mr. Bogack stated: As a Village resident, I know from the very beginning that you have been involved in these issues. You have a very unique view because of your involvement and you shouldn't forget it. At that public hearing, by your being there I think the community would have benefited from it, quite frankly. You have a great view and have been involved all along with many things. It is something special, the contribution you make.

Mayor Pontieri stated: There was somebody at that function that heard you speak and was very impressed by the comments you made and the position you took. There is a group in the Village running around now with cameras and filming "Not in Our Town," a PBS piece on how communities handle this. They was a Patrice O'Neal who happened to be there, heard you speak and was very impressed with the comments you made—so you are probably a part of the PBS piece.

Kathy Miller, 116 Smith Street, Patchogue, stated: Let me begin by saying that my husband and I are proud Village residents, members of a family that has lived and conducted business here for over half a century. We are extremely pleased to see the revitalization of Patchogue become a reality. However, I am very distressed by the lack of respect and concern for my own neighborhood. I have watched the deterioration of Shorefront Park and environs for many years, and feel I must make a case for action. Therefore, I am listing below the many areas that require attention and remediation.

THE BALL FIELD

- (1) Light pollution; lights left on until after 1 a.m. when park is supposed to be closed and all lights off at 11 p.m.. I was told that this would be remedied immediately by having Code Enforcement go to the park every evening to ensure that the lights are out and the players are gone. For about a week we got some relief, however it's back to the usual abuse. When I recently spoke with an officer near the park, he told me they were never given a directive to monitor the park! Teams are still playing past midnight many, many times.
- (2) Screaming and extreme vulgarity and noise by teams.
- (3) Ball field was sold out to commercial enterprise unconnected to the Village of Patchogue. Now ballgames take place every single day and night, with no respite from the noise whatsoever. I believed that this was a PATCHOGUE VILLAGE park, to be used by the residents of Patchogue! These players have no respect for our neighborhood and the fact

that they are playing in a RESIDENTIAL AREA. People come from everywhere just so their dog can use our park for a lavatory away from home. Most people are respectful to other dog owners and keep their pets on a leash, but this is not always the case. There have been very large dogs running free. When I requested one regular "customer" leash his huge dog, he began screaming obscenities to me and giving me the finger. He was very intimidating. Now when I see his van in the parking lot across from my yard, I avoid going for a walk.

(4) Teams and ballgame attendees trash the area with cigarette butts, water and drink bottles, garbage, sunflower seed debris and packages, most of which is never cleaned up.

(5) Noisy drinking parties by teams in the parking lot across Smith Street from ball field, sometimes lasting until early hours of morning.

(6) Dust and dirt from games and east parking lot; impossible to keep house clean.

(7) I believe the Village needs input regarding the next contract for the outsider teams before any signing away of our park takes place again. The playing season MUST be shortened, and the number of days and nights limited. There must be strict enforcement of the contract, especially departure and lights off time, and loitering after games, disrupting all residents of the neighborhood.

SHORE FRONT PARK

(1) Uneven ground, unsafe for walking, esp. elderly.

(2) Pools of stagnant water (mosquito breeding danger).

(3) Unrepaired water fountain near playground; broken bricks and barely trickling water. Not much use to anyone.

(4) Trash not picked up; mowed over and shredded. Exception: when a big event comes to the park, the workers are out in force to pick up every little piece of litter.

(5) Large expanses of ground with no grass cover and sunken areas that when filled with water, attract ducks, seagulls, and geese, even muskrats because the water is so deep. When the water dries up, the excrement does too, and remains on the ground. This is a definite health hazard.

(6) Not enough trash cans; gazebo becomes a lunch area but no provisions for disposal of trash. I see that this has been remedied, but of course, some people still insist on disposing of their trash where they sit.

(7) Many people still not picking up and disposing of pet feces.

(8) The creek that runs through the park to the bay is disgusting; full of garbage most of the time, with this water running directly into the bay. The plywood laid over the ground in front of the concrete slab is a danger to anyone walking.

(9) Dangerous trash: There is a large amount of broken glass near the bulkhead and in the bay. On my walks I regularly find: little "Zip-Lock" bags that once contained drugs; uncapped hypodermic needles laying on the ground near the basketball courts, used condoms, dog feces, and sometimes human feces. Over the years I have come to expect anything after seeing the number apparent trysts going on with the attendant used condoms on the ground, not two feet from a trash can. One evening a naked couple parked behind my barn and had oral sex. A man swimming in the bay in an area marked "No Swimming" got out of the bay, stripped his bathing suit off, dried off as he stood there in full view of a young teen girl and myself, put his shorts on and just pedaled off on his bike into the sunset. I have walked the full length of the bulkhead for 14 years, and this has never changed. There are still not enough trash cans, and no one picks up the small trash; it is just mowed over by the P&R crew so that it ends up in hundreds of pieces.

(10) The ground is so chopped up, with large rocks, pieces of crumbling asphalt, mud from the "dredging" of the creek, the overall picture is not pretty. My opinion is that this park belongs to the people of Patchogue, and it could be the crown jewel of our Village rather than an eyesore in most areas. Many areas are unusable and unsafe. I am embarrassed when a large event comes to the park; what must outsiders think?

TRAFFIC

(1) Despite street signs reading "25 MPH", NO ONE drives at this rate of speed. There is so much speeding and loud traffic noise from cars and motorcycles speeding down Smith, and DeWitt, I cannot watch TV in my living room. This street contains a CHILDREN's park as well as many resident young children and it is becoming extremely dangerous.

PARKING AREAS

(1) The lot across from our house on the corner of Smith and DeWitt has never been paved and raises an incredible amount of dust. In the wintertime, we have been subjected to the Village's dumping of snow in the lot, with hills ten feet or more in height. The snow is black and filthy. Having to look at this every day for months during the winter is disgusting. It is also a very attractive nuisance, bringing kids from all over who play in this filth; an accident just waiting to happen. When the weather warms and the snow begins melting, we have polluted water running everywhere, not to mention the filth left behind when all the snow melts. We have enough

problems with our septic systems this close to the bay without the Village contributing to the problem!

(2) We have joy riders spinning their vehicles in circles in the lot, raising large amounts of dust and creating a lot of noise.

(3) The dust and dirt from the unpaved parking lot and the dirt "road" leading from DeWitt to the bandshell is unbearable. It is a daily problem, but even worse when there is a big event. The amount of dirt inside and outside my house is disgusting. My windowsills inside are black with grit and dirt. Every item in my house is covered with a coating of dirt. My husband and I spend days, sometimes weeks, trying to reverse the damage. We have to remove and wash every screen, wash every window inside and out, vacuum, wash curtains, and wash down the outside of our house and our gardens. The impact on our personal lives is significant. We do not have central air conditioning, so our windows are open all summer. We do not have the means to hire professional cleaning people. We are in our sixties and on a very limited income. You need to know the impact this has on us! It is absolutely not fair to us or the other residents of the area.

SPECIAL EVENTS

(1) Although the park is "cleaned-up" after each major event, there is absolutely no attention paid to litter like cigarette butts and small pieces of garbage. After this year's Music Festival, the ground around the bandshell and basketball courts was littered with hundreds and hundreds of butts.

(2) The summer music acts that the Village has every weekend for July and August do not play from 7 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. as scheduled. A couple of acts this summer played until 10:30 p.m.

(3) When the boat races are imminent, I can see the crews cleaning up small pieces of litter and raking the seaweed into piles in preparation for the boat races. Why is this not done for the Village residents? Don't we pay taxes to maintain our Village? I have seen toddlers playing in seaweed that has been urinated on by countless dogs daily! This is a health hazard, again.

PLANTINGS

(1) The memorial to the Patchogue residents who lost their lives on September 11, 2001 is barely maintained, not planted with hardy trees that will survive being close to salt water. It is very sad to see what could be a lovely and respectful memorial turn into just another area of the park that looks like hell. Who is responsible for weeding this area? Who planted the trees that are now dead? Has anyone researched the types of shrubs and trees that would survive in this atmosphere of salt water and wind? Weeds sprout and are never removed.

(2) The plantings at the flagpole are very nice, but again, the weeds grow wild. I occasionally see someone weeding, but it is obviously not often enough, as some of the weeds growing there reach heights of at least 3 feet tall.

(3) The privet bushes around the playground area usually are full of debris such as potato chip bags, bottles, and plastic bags and trash that blow in there. Removing them once a year just doesn't cut it!

RIDER AVENUE PARK

(1) Is there anyone aware that there is a feral cat colony living in the reeds to the west of the Smith Street parking lot (north lot)? The last count, there were 22 cats. Someone has been feeding these cats, which just keep multiplying. I wonder what effect these cats have had on the local wildlife that inhabit the two ponds and surrounding area? When the parking lot is full, ballplayers just park on the grass around the lot, damaging it over and over again.

(2) Over the years I have watched this beautiful natural haven become just another dumping ground. The garbage and bicycles, bottles, etc, etc .. remain in the water, year after year. The beautiful lawn that was behind the newly renovated Parks & Rec Building on Bay Avenue is now nothing but dirt, due to years of unregulated soccer games. And now that destruction is occurring in more and more space in this park, I notice a decline in the wildlife population. I almost never see turtles in the ponds anymore. Blue Herons and Egrets are only there occasionally where in the past, I was guaranteed to see at least one daily. The geese take over and foul the grass, there is a lot of trash around the ball fields, and people relieve themselves in the reeds. Even the muskrats seem to be declining in population. Is there no consideration of wildlife in the area? No respect for our natural world?

(3) Who is in charge of the use and maintenance of this park and its waterways? Why has there not been an effort to clean up the pond bottoms and shores? In summary, I feel that the Village is sacrificing the comfort and safety of its residents for the almighty dollar! Not everything the Village does has to make a profit!!! A park is "a piece of ground in or near a city or town kept for ornament and recreation" according to Webster's dictionary. Both ornament and recreation are lacking in our park. It should be a place of respite and enjoyment for all; not just the ballplayers. Where are the trees? Where is the grass? This should be an island of natural beauty that draws people to relax, play, and enjoy the scenery and plantings. There should be park benches, large shade trees, safe walking paths and plenty of space to layout a blanket and enjoy the bay breeze. It should be a bit of sanctuary in this busy world, not a neighborhood nuisance and source of

resentment. Most of all, it is a treasure to have this open space right on the bay, but a treasure that has been ill-maintained and allowed to deteriorate. Such a treasure should be nurtured and should be a place of great pride for the residents of Patchogue. We have poured tens of thousands of dollars into restoring our 100+ year old home, refurbishing the outside as well as interior. We have beautified our street with a lovely garden which always gets positive comments from passers-by. Before we purchased the house it was completely run down and derelict. It is a testament to our love of the Village and desire to improve the neighborhood. Now it is time for the Village to show us that you care about us more than the outsiders who use our facilities, and to provide relief for long-suffering homeowners. It would break our hearts to leave the Village and our treasured view of the Great South Bay. It is something I have never wanted to contemplate. We cannot go on much longer with this disregard of the impact you are having on us as a family. The noise and stress of living here have me praying for winter at the beginning of baseball season. Eight months of noise and dirt is enough! We must have some relief, not just empty promises that "someone will look into it." I thank you for your time.

Jeff Fullmer, 277 West Avenue, Patchogue, stated: What I heard earlier about the sewer treatment plant, as a Village resident I am very proud and happy to see your folks are moving forward and I compliment you on your efforts. It is very good for the community and it is really you folks that are making that happen, in particular Trustee Dean.

Trustee Dean stated: I appreciate that, but I did not do it alone. I certainly appreciate your advice and counsel. We certainly would not get a lot of things done, if you weren't a resource that we could tap into from time to time. Please note how much we appreciate your help.

Jeff Fullmer stated: I would also like to acknowledge Trustee Devlin's work with the Local Waterfront Revitalization Program. I have to concur with a lot of what the Millers raised with you this evening. As a Village resident and somebody who goes down Shorefront Park and very much treasures the fact that, as she says, Shorefront Park is really a treasure. It really is a gem and a unique opportunity and we can probably do a much better job as a community. She said she is willing to help and so am I. I was talking to a colleague from work today who is the President of a Freeport organization called Splash. They are a not for profit, volunteer organization organized in 1990. These folks are amazing. They do cleanups. Freeport is actually in many ways similar to Patchogue in the terms of some of the problems it has because of its popularity and the fact that many people go there. It is very different in the sense that they have The Nautical Mile which is where I work. It is actually a much higher concentration of people. But, they do have the same problems, many with marine debris, litter getting in the water. Kathy mentioned the stream that goes through Shorefront which is connected to a natural tributary. The County has posted at a road crossing that says it's a tributary to the South Shore Estuary. I think it is something Village DPW could do and is a way of educating people. I think many people think it is a drainage culvert and not a stream. Operation Splash works with many villages and are willing to provide some perspective and advice and suggestions that maybe we the people in our community could do. This really requires the people to do something. It is not throwing something at the Village Board and saying fix this. It really, let's have some structure on the river and the bay to get people involved as they are with the Theatre and the arts. That is the hallmark of this Village. It is really a community that has come together and there is nothing like it on the south shore or anywhere on Long Island, I believe. On the Village website is posted a lot of great stuff and many related to the things that came up this evening in terms of implementation. There are things that we can go forward with now. As a Village resident and taxpayer I am very sensitive as to the cost of things and you folks do a very good job of being efficient and you have done great work for the Village. The website recommends a full survey of Rider and Shorefront Park. It is a focused look at these places because you are now doing the playground, there will be regarding, and hopefully have a positive impact on the dust situation. The problem with the ball fields is very serious. It has gotten out of control. And as a Village resident, I feel these people have commandeered our park. I am not against baseball, but I have heard it from other Village residents that we need to find a way to bring it back the way it was. The other things relative to the Local Revitalization Program, there are recommendations relative to habitat enhancements. And those ponds and surrounding areas if you think about habitat restorations. And I know, Lori, you have been doing a lot of focus on that and are interested in that. I appreciate that, both professionally and personally. It is going to get at the feral cats and critter problem. It might be that we should look at a draft for a Local Waterfront Revitalization Program and pick the things out that are things that are actual items for now. The things that we can actually do and start and I think it would make a whole lot of difference to the community to get some stuff done.

Board Meeting

September 14, 2009

Mayor Pontieri stated: When Shorefront Park was created; when that area was filled in with whatever you wanted to do, it was primarily filled in with ash from the incinerator. That is one of the problems we wrestle with because ash solidifies. That is why the water doesn't drain. We attempted to put some drainage and do some things. Joe Dean and I have talked about bringing the fill in and working with the Recreation Dept., now that we received a grant that we have to match. Once the park gets in place, then we really need to address the conditions of the park itself, and how are we going to effectuate the drainage that needs to be done, and do some of the things that you are talking about. It is noticeable to anybody that goes by and I can see it. The ball field and those things we need to really address.

Upon a motion made by Trustee Crean, seconded by Deputy Mayor McGiff, and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned.

Signed _____
Patricia M. Seal, Village Clerk

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