

February 2016 | Rocky Point Civic | <http://rockypointcivic.org/>

“A good thing is always done with effort, and when the effort is repeated several times, then a good thing becomes a habit.”
Tolstoy

February

Civic 2016 – 2017 Board

President: Dr. Charles Bevington

Vice President: Dr. Al Hanson

Secretary: Susan Bevington

Treasurer: Susan Wilson

Membership: Kathy Weber

Sargent at Arms: Rory Rubino

Trustees: Maureen O’Keefe,
Jeff Davis, Virginia Heslin

Treasurers Report

January 5, 2016

Checking \$1,843.94 Savings 1,902.34

AGENDA

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

Reading of the January 2016 minutes

Report of Officers

Treasurers Report

Membership Report

Secretary Report

Cope Report

Land Use Committee

Farmers Market Committee

Beautification Committee

Old Business:

Guest Speaker 8PM: Legislator Sarah Anker
“2016 Legislative Goals”

Info Speaker 8:45PM: Beth Fiteni,
Sustainability Coordinator NYSEDA
“Free Energy Audit”

New Business:

Motion to Adjourn

Next meeting is scheduled for March 1st

Contents

Actions from January

Kathy Weber made a motion to donate \$50 from the Civics to Operation Veronica, seconded by Susan Wilson. Discussion initiated by Des Butler regarding the financial status of the Civics. It was determined there were sufficient funds to make the donation. All present voted in favor to donate the funds.

FOR SALE!



FOR SALE!

Bring an item for donation for our local food pantry. All items will gladly be accepted and forwarded to our local food banks.



Information Dissemination: 8:45 PM
Topic "Long Island Green Homes free energy audit program"
Beth Fiteni, MSEL
Sustainability Coordinator
Serving as NYSERDA Regional Outreach Coordinator

Community Development
Corporation of Long Island

February 2nd Speaker: Legislator Sarah Anker

Suffolk County Legislator Sarah Anker was elected to public office in a special election to the Sixth District in March of 2011. Sarah is the daughter of a Navy Veteran and has lived in Suffolk County for more than 25 years. She is a longtime community advocate, public servant and working mom with a history of improving her community. She continues to be a strong voice on many issues including children's health and safety, economic sustainability, land preservation and environmental protection.

In 2005, Sarah's leadership was recognized by the Times Beacon Newspaper, who named her the newspaper's Woman of the Year in the Environment. Additionally, Sarah has been honored with the New York State Senate Woman of Distinction Award, Rotary Club Community Service Award, and with citations from both the Town of Brookhaven and Suffolk County for community service. Sarah has also served on United States Congressman Tim Bishop's Breast Cancer Advisory Board, New York State Senator Ken LaValle's Environmental Roundtable, Suffolk County's Cancer Awareness Taskforce, Brookhaven National Laboratory Community Advisory Committee, Mt. Sinai School Board and the Mt. Sinai Civic Association Board.

Currently, Legislator Anker serves as the Chairwoman of the Seniors and Consumer Protection Committee. Legislator Anker is a member of the Environment, Planning and Agriculture Committee and the Veterans Committee. Sarah continues to prioritize initiatives that protect taxpayers' wallets, improve quality of life, and promote increased health and safety measure for children. Her legislative accomplishments include initiating the School Active Violence Emergency Hotline; preserving open space and protecting groundwater through land acquisition; initiating the North Shore Coastal Erosion Task Force to address severe erosion issues on our north shore; protecting seniors against scams and fraud through the creation of a scam alert website and creating a law that merchants must display a warning sign about the dangers of liquid nicotine. Sarah currently lives in Mt. Sinai and is the mother of three children.

ROCKY POINT CIVIC ASSOCIATION MEETING MINUTES January 5, 2016 ~ 7:30 PM

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call of Officers and Trustees

Present:

- President – Charles Bevington
- Secretary – Susan Bevington
- Treasurer - Susan Wilson
- Sergeant at Arms – Rory Rubino
- Membership Secretary – Kathy Weber
- Trustee - Virginia Heslin
- Trustee – Jeff Davis

Absent, Excused:

- Vice President-Al Hanson
- Trustee – Maureen O’Keeffe

On a motion by Joe Cognitore and seconded by Susan Wilson and passed by those present, the reading of the minutes of the December 2015 meeting were waived. Member Des Butler was opposed. He did not receive a copy of the minutes and suggested a summary of the minutes be presented prior to approval. President Charles Bevington gave a brief summary of the minutes and stated they did not include any resolutions. The minutes are in the newsletter which is emailed to all members and included on the website.

Report of Officers

Treasurers Report: Susan Wilson

1/4/16 Balances

- ❖ Checking \$1,843.94
- ❖ Savings _ \$1,902.34
- ❖ Deposits for the month = \$237 which includes membership and 50/50

Membership Report: Kathy Weber

There are currently 216 members on the email list. Twenty members have paid 2016 dues. Three new members joined tonight.

Secretary Report: Susan Bevington

Mail received included a letter from Brookhaven Town Supervisor, Edward Romaine regarding his opposition to recently adopted Suffolk County legislation. Public Hearing notice on 2/4/16 for special permit application for gas station/convenience store at the corner of Harrison St. and 25A. Board of Zoning appeals hearing (no Rocky Point properties), Invitation to swearing in ceremony for Town of Brookhaven officials on Thursday, January 7, 2016 at 4pm, Habitat for Humanity Annual report and announcement of “Builders breakfast on 4/21/16, and Citizens Campaign for the Environment announcement of their Annual Awards Gala on May 19, 2016 , Mather Hospital announcement of their 22nd Annual Families Walk and Run for Hope on May 7, 2016 and an announcement from LI Water.org live web show Jan. 15, 2016.

Cope Report:

Officer Thomas Kennedy presented COPE report. 19 crimes in Rocky Point including 2 armed robberies. 1 arrest in connection to the robberies. Crimes of opportunity in the neighborhood mostly due to unlocked vehicles. The number for COPE is 852-8775. The third Thursday of every month the precinct is open to the community to voice any concerns. The community is encouraged to bring any issues to their attention at these meetings. The PAL has now branched out to include different activities including a recent cooking class. Charles Bevington asked Officer Kennedy if there are any suggestions to bring to the public hearing for the gas station/convenience store in light of the recent robberies. Officer Kennedy suggested a limit to the number of hours the station is open, lighting, cameras and a panic system is important as well as making certain display shelving does not obscure the view of the inside of the station/convenience store.

Land Use: Chairperson Al Hanson

The land use committee did not meet this month. There is no formal report. Charles Bevington shared the MLS listing for Rocky Point includes 131 homes for sale, 26 of which are under \$200,000 which illustrates the fact that there is no need to develop “affordable” housing in Rocky Point.

Farmers Market Committee Report: Charles Bevington

January 30th there will be an indoor “winter market” from 10am – 1pm at the NSBPOA Clubhouse in conjunction with the Rocky Point Artisan Brewery and the Long Island Cask Festival. A few of the farmers will be on hand to sell their CSA’s, organic popcorn and Naturally Grass Fed products.

ROCKY POINT CIVIC ASSOCIATION MEETING MINUTES January 5, 2016 – Continued (**ACTIONS IN BOLD**)

Speaker: Janet Godfrey of Operation Veronica

“Shipping comfort to those who serve in uniform”. The organization website is www.operationveronica.org , email address is opveronica@optonline.net . The organization began 11 years ago sewing items to send to our troops overseas in Afghanistan. Since that time they have sent over 50,000 handmade items and has expanded to include food, toiletries. The group of 12-20+ women meet every Friday morning at 10am at the St. Anthony’s Church in Rocky Point. “This is a work of the heart” states Ms. Godfrey. The organization receives many letters and emails of appreciation from the recipients of these items. “We are not changing the world but we are bringing a moment’s comfort to individuals. The name ‘Operation Veronica’ was inspired by St. Veronica who could not take Christ off of the cross but could temporarily ease his suffering.” The organization also supports the charitable causes our troops participate in such as “Operation Backpack”. The GI’s in Afghanistan set up schools for the local children and provided school supplies. The postage costs to send items is upward of \$200/week. Joe Cognitore and the VFW have been generously assisting Operation Veronica with the postage when needed.

An envelope was passed around the meeting to the members present. Joe Cognitore said the VFW would match whatever was donated by the membership. \$215 was collected from the membership to donate to Operation Veronica. Kathy Weber made a motion to donate \$50 from the Civics to Operation Veronica, seconded by Susan Wilson. Discussion initiated by Des Butler regarding the financial status of the Civics. It was determined there were sufficient funds to make the donation. All present voted in favor to donate the funds.

Old Business

Charles Bevington asked at the December meeting for suggestion for future speakers. A request was made for Sarah Meyland to return to talk about the Long Island Water Coalition. Jeannine from the Youth Council was suggested. Supervisor Romaine will be speaking at the March meeting. Please email Charles Bevington with any other suggestions. Oxygen Bar discussion: Members Des Butler, Susan Wilson, Joe Cognitore, Joe Saunders, Steve Keating and Michael Gorton provided statements:

Des Butler – Questioned the wisdom of the purchase wherein the property has now been removed from the tax rolls, why the Town did not discuss this plan openly or bring it to the Civic and expressed concern that the stated plan for the site may become an “attractive nuisance”.

Susan Wilson – Town has stated they retain the right to sell the property

Joe Cognitore – Referred to the Op-Ed piece in the Community Journal was not initiated by him. He has expressed interest in purchasing the drug store for a number of years for community use. The VFW would need \$600,000 to purchase the property.

Joe Saunders – Questioned the Town spending over \$500,000 for the property without asking the Rocky Point community what they want done with the property

Steve Keating – Stated the town could have put \$500,000 to better use in the community. He pointed to road paving which is needed throughout Rocky Point.

Michael Gorton – Stated if Rocky Point was a village this would not have happened.

New Business

The Rocky Point Civic Association has a new website thanks to webmaster, Susan Wilson. Susan developed the initial website in 1999 and has been maintaining the website ever since.

Dan Gezari is interested in more information on the Village concept. Dan is also interested in the revitalization of the Hallock Landing Beach area and mature trees to be planted on Broadway. Kathy Weber suggested working with Dan on the trees under the umbrella of Beautification Committee.

Des Butler clarified that the NSBPOA does not “own” the Village concept. If a Village is created there will no longer be a NSBPOA.

Community Announcements None

50/50

\$16 Won by Michael Gorton which he donated to Operation Veronica.

Motion to Adjourn

On a motion made by Joe Cognitore, seconded by Joe Saunders and passed by those present, the meeting was adjourned at 9pm

Next meeting date: February 2, 2016

Check out our NEWLY updated webpage! <http://rockypointcivic.org/>

Please sign up for the email newsletter. Your \$15 Individual or \$20 Family Membership 2016 DUES are DUE NOW!

March Speaker: Supervisor Mr. Edward Romaine 8:00 PM

April Speaker: Representative Mr. Lee Zeldin 8:00 PM

May Speaker: Superintendent Dr. Michael Ring

OPINION (Have your opinion "voiced" by emailing to cbevingt @ optonline 2 weeks prior to meeting)

The Fork in the Road

It was first reported in the 1/13/16 edition of the Riverhead Times - Review Newspaper that the Riverhead Building Supply Company will be expanding their business to three locations on LI. They have acquired assets previously owned by Nassau Suffolk Lumber in Locust Valley, Huntington, and Port Jefferson. They have also bought the inventory and trucks from Thurber Lumber Co (Rocky Point) and plan to move those assets into the new Port Jeff location.

This sudden news about Thurber Lumber will probably come as a great surprise to the residents of Rocky Point. Thurber was always there, a long-time good neighborhood business that always supported RP and all the community organizations that worked hard to make RP a better town and a better place to live. Business is business and time moves on. There will be a void when Thurber leaves and sell their property.

The question now is 'what will happen to the Thurber property?' Rocky Point has come to the fork in the road. In the coming future, a critical decision will be made on the future of Rocky Point. One road will be a great positive for RP and the other road will be a great negative for RP. Which road do the residents of RP want to take?

The Thurber property is a large piece of property and already there are rumors circulating, that there may be a low-income housing or an apartment complex built on that site. I believe one road, if chosen, will have a very negative impact on RP. Remember, that when the Town of Brookhaven was fighting the owner of the old Rocky Point Drive-in. Some people said they would want "work-force housing" in RP, if the Town bought the property. Remember, that the TOB rezoned all the property in "Down-Town Rocky Point" to allow 2 or 3 story buildings in that zone. That would radically change the appearance of RP. Remember, a project of that size would need a sewer system. Remember, either type of project, would mean more children in the RPSD and that would mean more taxes.

The other road, if chosen, will present the residents of RP with a great opportunity to make RP a great place to live. The Thurber property was once a LIRR train station. To re-create that structure and make it both a museum and the Community Center of RP would be a major accomplishment for RP. If this property was acquired for RP, this property would give all residents a safe place to celebrate all different occasions like the 4th of July, or Memorial Day, or Christmas. It would be a perfect place for the Farmer's Market. It would be a perfect place for all the different organizations in RP to hold their meetings in a new building with plenty of lighting and safe parking. It would encourage participation and it would be 'Senior' friendly.

Most small towns I've visited, either on LI or in other states, have a place within their town that is called "the Commons" or "the Greens" or "the Town Center". It gives an identity to each town and it gives a sense of belonging and pride to the town residents. It could be an 'anchor' location to the "Rails to Trails" that is being planned for this area. Right now the plans have the Trail going around the Thurber property. This acquisition would allow the Trail to go 'to and thru' the property and not around and out onto Prince Rd.

If you think this might be a great improvement to and for RP and something that ALL residents will use I urge all Rocky Point residents to contact all the politicians at the Federal, State, County, and Town levels and encourage them to find the necessary funding to purchase the Thurber property before it turns into something else.

The taxes are too high in this town and the people don't see anything here to show for the taxes. Many people have or will be leaving. If people are resigned to the high taxes creating this project won't help them on the taxes, but they would be living in a really nice town.

Joe Saunders, Rocky Point

Opinion: The Rocky Point Historical Society Board of Trustees endorse the letter submitted by Joe Saunders, We request that our Rocky Point history be preserved and our quality of life be enhanced by following through with many of the suggestions Joe has suggested. The Thurber Lumber building has played a definite role in Rocky Point's history. It originally was built as Rocky Point's Railroad Station and stood slightly south-east of the building previously known as Gracies.

In the Spring of 1895 the railroad station was built adjacent to today's Old Depot Park. By 1930, with the influx of summer residents building homes at North Shore Beach, the railroad added canopies on each side of the station. The railroad building played an important part in the development of North Shore Beach in Rocky Point.

When the "Wading River Extension" of the Long island Railroad was discontinued, the depot was used as police headquarters for the North Shore Beach Association. The building was later moved east a few hundred yards from Broadway and converted to the Heather Lumber Company, which Al Thurber purchased in 1931 and later known as the Thurber Lumber Company.

Rocky Point Historical Society Board of Trustees

Suffolk County 2016 Committee Assignments

ENVIRONMENT, PLANNING & AGRICULTURE	SENIORS & CONSUMER PROTECTION	PUBLIC WORKS, TRANSPORTATION & ENERGY
MONDAY, 10:00 A.M.	MONDAY, 12:30 P.M.	MONDAY, 2:00 P.M.
HAHN - CHAIR	ANKER - CHAIR	KRUPSKI - CHAIR
Krupski - Vice Chair	Stern - Vice Chair	Muratore - Vice Chair
Anker	Cilmi	Browning
Fleming	Krupski	Calarco
Muratore	Muratore	Fleming
Trotta		Stern
		Trotta
VETERANS	BUDGET & FINANCE	EDUCATION & HUMAN SERVICES
TUESDAY, 9:30 A.M.	TUESDAY, 10:30 A.M.	TUESDAY 1:00 P.M.
STERN - CHAIR	D'AMARO - CHAIR	MARTINEZ - CHAIR
Martinez - Vice Chair	Martinez - Vice Chair	Barraga - Vice Chair
Anker	Barraga	Calarco
Barraga	Browning	Hahn
Browning	Kennedy	Kennedy
D'Amaro	Stern	
Kennedy		
GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS, PERSONNEL, INFORMATION TECH & HOUSING	PARKS & RECREATION	ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
WEDNESDAY, 10:00 A.M.	WEDNESDAY, 12:30 P.M.	WEDNESDAY, 2:00 P.M.
CALARCO - CHAIR	LINDSAY - CHAIR	LINDSAY - CHAIR
Lindsay - Vice Chair	Hahn - Vice Chair	Stern - Vice Chair
Hahn	Kennedy	Hahn
Kennedy	McCaffrey	McCaffrey
McCaffrey	Stern	Trotta
PUBLIC SAFETY	WAYS & MEANS	HEALTH
THURSDAY, 9:30 A.M.	THURSDAY, 1:00 P.M.	THURSDAY, 2:30 P.M.
BROWNING - CHAIR	FLEMING - CHAIR	SPENCER - CHAIR
Calarco - Vice Chair	Spencer - Vice Chair	Fleming - Vice Chair
Cilmi	Browning	Calarco
Fleming	Calarco	Cilmi
Hahn	Cilmi	Kennedy
Kennedy	Martinez	Martinez
Martinez	Trotta	Trotta
Spencer		

The Civics is calling for beautification committee volunteers and garden enthusiasts for our annual garden tour, adopt a spot, and the great Brookhaven clean up in May. Grants are available for beautification projects, the possibilities are endless! Please join us in keeping Rocky Point beautiful!

Rocky Point 11778 Homes for Sale			2.97%	Monthly Payment over 15 years = 180 Payments of	
Price Range	Price Range	Homes	80% of Base Range		
\$ 400,000	\$ 950,000	10	\$ 320,000	\$ 2,205	
\$ 300,000	\$ 399,999	29	\$ 240,000	\$ 1,654	
\$ 200,000	\$ 299,999	43	\$ 160,000	\$ 1,103	
\$ 150,000	\$ 199,999	9	\$ 120,000	\$ 827	
\$ 100,000	\$ 149,999	8	\$ 80,000	\$ 551	
\$ 75,000	\$ 99,999	2	\$ 60,000	\$ 413	
\$ 50,000	\$ 74,999	3	Co-op \$ 40,000	\$ 276	
\$ 25,000	\$ 49,999	4	Co-op \$ 20,000	\$ 137	
26-Jan-16		108			
http://www.mlsli.com/Listing/ListingSearch.aspx			69	"Affordable" Properties on the market TODAY	

Would any Bank or Real Estate Agent like to sponsor this page?
 Become a Member of the Rocky Point Civic Association

Your Name and Affiliation Here

Homes in Rocky Point are “affordable”; Be our neighbor!

Your \$15 Individual or \$20 Family Membership 2016 DUES are DUE NOW!

P.O. Box 341, Rocky Point, New York 11778