

COMMACK COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

MINUTES – April 26, 2012 MEETING

Following are the Minutes of our meeting on April 26 2012. We met in the community room of the Commack Branch, Smithtown Library. The officers of the Board present were Jeanette Salvito, Adele Flicker, Bruce Ettenberg and Rich Morgan.

There is a CCA dinner on June 6 at Orlando's Restaurant.

Three hundred letters were mailed to businesses inviting their membership in CCA on CCA letterhead stationery.

A sign was priced at \$252 for the strip by Friendly's. The issue of ownership of the strip must be resolved before the sign is placed there permanently.

President, Bruce Ettenberg and Trustee Adele Flicker and Outreach Committee member Bob Semprini met with the Kings Park Civic Association regarding the lack of zoning enforcement on Old Northport Rd. Smithtown needs a plan to handle the heavy industry there. They are looking into an economic development zone for the area.

The JCC is considering our proposal for a joint venture community garden on their premises.

Our guest speaker was chief road engineer, Mr. William Hillman Chief Engineer of the Suffolk County Public Works Department. He explained the history and current legal status of Townline Rd. He explained that Townline rd was labeled a county system road in order to be eligible for depression era public works aid. The county did not own, maintain or regulate this road over the past decades. Huntington Highway supervisor Norton (who had signed a maintenance agreement with Town of Smithtown in the 1980s) sued the county to force them to maintain this road claiming it was a county road. The NY appellate court agreed with the town citing that the county should have taken all these county system roads off the list. The county attorney never properly investigated nor presented the history and facts of the county system. So now the county is held responsible for maintenance of 300 miles of county system roads. The county is negotiating with all of the towns to take back control of these roads since the roads are deeded to the various townships. Southold has reclaimed their county system roads. Highway supervisor Norton for Huntington has returned any phone calls.

Mr. Hillman explained that county roads connect local roads to major highways and truck traffic is not restricted on any county road as a matter of policy unless the DOT designates the road otherwise. If the county is left to maintain and regulate Townline rd they will clear a 10 ft right of way e.g. mailboxes, plantings and driveway edgings which will be removed under eminent domain. However the county does not take property from a cemetery. Curves will be

straightened to make it safe for cars and unrestricted trucks of all weights. Any trees will be removed if necessary to straighten the road. Stop signs will be eliminated although traffic signals may be added depending on the traffic study findings. Sidewalks or crosswalks may be added. The speed limit, which will also be regulated by the county will set the speed limit of a school zone at 10 miles below the road limit. The county funds the roadwork through a bond program.

School board candidate Dan Fusco spoke explaining the basis for his campaign and quick biography about himself. The school budget has increased 60 percent or 64 million dollars in twelve years.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rachel Ross