

September 16, 2016

FROM THE MAYOR'S OFFICE
Mayor@gardencityny.net

By: Nicholas P. Episcopia

MAYOR'S COMMITTEE ON CODE CHANGES

At the Sept 8th Board of Trustees meeting Jim Bauer, chair of the Mayor's Committee on Code Changes, made a presentation on the Committees recommendations.

Jim and his fellow Committee members did yeoman's work researching and doing their best to recommend changes that will preserve the character of neighborhoods while respecting the rights of all property owners. Their initial recommendations are on the Village website.

The proposed major changes increase the distance between neighboring homes, call for notification to neighbors before demolition of homes or extensions are started, and make sure that if a house is demolished and construction does not start quickly, the empty lot is graded and grass planted so as not to leave a hole in the ground.

The proposed plan was presented to an overflowing crowd. Some Trustees did not agree with all the proposals, stating that the notification was unnecessary and the Architectural Design Review Board (ADRB) was being given too much power. One goal is to take some of the subjectivity out of the decision-making process of the ADRB thereby making their job easier.

Comments from residents in attendance were all positive and in favor of the changes. Jim and other Committee members will be making presentations to the POAs and there will be some fine tuning necessary. However, we are confident that reasonable compromises can be worked out so that the mission of this project, which is to make changes to our Building Code that will preserve the character of our neighborhoods, will not be lost. We all owe these volunteers a real debt of gratitude for their hard work and fair-minded results. There will be a required public hearing before the Board of Trustees can vote to enact any changes to our Building Code.

Jim has requested that residents send any comments or suggestions on this topic to Village Clerk Karen Atzman via email at Kaltman@gardencityny.net. The Committee will review these and consider any changes or suggestions that are made.

THANK YOU GARDEN CITY FIRE DEPARTMENT

Writing on behalf of the Garden City Community, I wish to thank Fire Chief Bill Castoro and members of the Garden City Fire Department for conducting the touching 15th year anniversary ceremony of the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks. It was a very moving experience and assisted many of us to get through that difficult day.

CONSTITUTION WEEK - SEPTEMBER 17 - 23

The Colonel Aaron Ogden Chapter of the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution has asked me to proclaim the week of September 17 through 23 as “Constitution Week” in Garden City.

Our nation’s Constitution, adopted September 17, 1787, provided a fundamental document for freedom and independence, which no other country in the world has been able to emulate. We all have cause to pause and to reflect on this great heritage given to us by our forefathers. Residents are urged to fly the flag all week in observance.

SAFETY WHILE WALKING AND JOGGING

We are all interested in physical fitness. Please walk and jog safely. Rule number one: obey the rules of the road, specifically for pedestrians. Jog while facing traffic, using sidewalks when possible. Obey traffic signals and signs. Avoid main thoroughfares with heavy traffic such as Clinton Road or Washington Avenue. Please remember, while every driver of a vehicle is expected to exercise due care to avoid colliding with any pedestrian, no pedestrian should suddenly leave a curb or other place of safety and walk or run into the path of a vehicle which is so close that it is impractical for the driver to stop. Wear light colors and reflective material at night. Most running shoes are made with reflective material. They are especially effective because the running shoes are always in motion. Pay attention, look where you’re going, and if you’re using your cell phone, iPod or any other device, make sure you can still hear what’s going on. Remember that the human body is no match for the automobile. When walking to a destination after dark, walk along the illuminated sidewalk. For your own safety, never take a shortcut that could bring you into a darkened area away from the view of other pedestrians or vehicular traffic. Please also share this information with your children.

FRIDAY NIGHT PROMENADE

As we end the Friday Night Promenades on Seventh Street for the season, I would like to thank everyone who was able to join in the festivities. I know that all who attended had a wonderful time and I look forward to more of these evenings in the future and to seeing you there again. Thank you to everyone who made these nights possible.

On this, the last Friday Night Promenade of the season, the theme will be Garden City Spirit. I look forward to seeing many residents and visitors as we close Seventh Street, between Franklin and Hilton Avenues, so that residents and visitors to Garden City can enjoy the outdoor dining and live entertainment offered by local restaurants as well as shopping in the stores and shops that will remain open during the evening.

This is the last Friday evening we will be closing Seventh Street so I hope that you are able to bring your family out to enjoy this fun-filled evening.

37TH ANNUAL GARDEN CITY FALL FESTIVAL STREET FAIR

Don’t miss the Garden City Chamber of Commerce’s 37th annual Fall Festival Street Fair Saturday, September 17, 2016. Festivities kick off at 10:00 a.m. on Seventh Street, which will be closed to all vehicular traffic between Hilton and Franklin Avenues. The Homecoming Parade

steps off promptly at noon followed by the football game at 2:00 p.m. when the Trojans take on Manhasset. Hope to see you all there.

14TH ANNUAL SPIRIT DAY AT PARISH OF SAINT ANNE

The Parish of Saint Anne will host its 14th annual Spirit Day Saturday, September 17, 2016 between 1:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m. The day will offer rides for the kids, shopping for all, music, games and more. Mass will be celebrated in the parking lot at 5:00 p.m.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES' MEETING SCHEDULE

The dates for the next regular Board Meetings are Thursday, October 6 and Thursday, October 20, 2016 at 8:00 p.m. These meetings are held in the Board Room at Village Hall. I hope that you will be able to attend some of these meetings so that you can become involved with your Village.