

April 26, 2023

As residents have responded to the call to get involved in our Village government, I have been asked what those volunteer opportunities are. In addition to the elected eight-member Board of Trustees, our Village has many Boards and Commissions made up of community volunteers. They all play an important role in our Village government. There are additional opportunities to serve on committees to address particular concerns that arise such as the recently formed Mayor's Committee on Communications and the Community Advisory Committees that are part of the Village Wide Traffic Calming Study. Sending an email to volunteer@gardencityny.net is a great way to reach out and let the Village know of your interest in getting involved and to let us know your areas of interest. There are presently openings on many of the Boards and Commissions, and due to staggered terms the positions open up regularly.

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS WITH RESIDENT VOLUNTEERS

The **Architectural Design Review Board** is made up of seven at-large members appointed for three-year terms with alternate members. This Board examines the exterior design of buildings for the purpose of maintaining appropriate standards of appearance with respect to the specific buildings and their relationship to their surroundings. All plans for new buildings, additions, alterations and signs are required to be submitted, with the exception of additions or alteration to one-family homes.

The **Board of Commissioners of Cultural & Recreational Affairs** can be up to eight members but not less than five members, with one representative from each section of the Village and four at-large members. The Commissioners oversee the development of the Village's Recreation Program.

The **Board of Zoning Appeals** is made up of five members and one alternate member who serve five-year terms. All members are at-large. The Board interprets the Zoning Code and makes decisions on applications for variances and special permits.

The **Board of Ethics** is appointed by the Mayor to ensure that all Village Officials and Employees are conducting themselves in accordance with the rules of ethical conduct for public officers and employees.

The **Board of Library Trustees** consists of five community members, one from each section and one serving at large. Members are appointed by the Board of Trustees and they serve five-year terms. The Board of Library Trustees is responsible for Library operations.

The **Civic Beautification Committee** includes four members who assist in selecting the type and placement of flowers and trees on the Village's many public properties and pursuing the long-held goal of making the Village an official arboretum.

The **Environmental Advisory Board** focuses on raising community awareness on environmental issues affecting residents and advises the Board of Trustees on environmental matters. The Board can have at least six but not more than eight members appointed to four-year terms. The Board includes one member from each section of the Village; the others are at-large. The Chairperson is a member of the Board of Trustees, and each year the Board includes up to three high school students as additional members. The Public Works superintendent serves as Recording Secretary.

The **Planning Commission** is made up of seven at-large members and one alternate member appointed for three-years terms. The Commission reviews plans for the development of vacant areas, streets, parks and other public places, and subdivisions of private property to assure consistence with established community standards. With the exception of a one-family dwelling on a single plot, the Planning Commission also

performs site plan reviews for all new buildings, additions to buildings, altered land use activities, and projects containing more than one home. The Commission also conducts studies and is advisory to the Board of Trustees on matters relating to zoning, parking and other issues.

One Village resident sits on the **Water Authority of Western Nassau County**, which provides water to some Village residents who live in the westernmost part of the Village. In 1996, the Water Authority acquired the Nassau County portion of the water supply and distribution system in Western Garden City, previously owned by Jamaica Water Supply Company. Members consist of two appointed by the Town of Hempstead, two appointed by the Town of North Hempstead, and one member each appointed by the Village boards of the Villages served by the Authority - Bellerose, Floral Park, New Hyde Park, South Floral Park, Stewart Manor and Garden City. The Board meets once a month, on the third Monday, at their headquarters in New Hyde Park.

REQUEST A WATER TEST

Although the NYS lead (in drinking water) sampling program has ended, residents may still contact the Village if they suspect their plumbing contains lead material. This includes the service line which brings water into your home from the water main in the street. To request a lead test call 516-465-4017 and leave a message or email gardencitysampling@h2m.com and a representative from H2M will contact you to deliver a water sampling kit.

The Village has waived all permit fees within the DPW and Building Departments related to water service line replacement until May 2024. Residents who have lead service lines are encouraged to take advantage of this and have their lead service lines replaced.

OFF-PEAK PARKING PASSES

A new "Off-Peak" Parking Pass is now available for Village residents. The annual fee is \$50, and it can be used to park at the Garden City, Nassau Boulevard and Stewart Manor Railroad Stations. This pass differs from the regular resident parking pass as it is limited to the three stations and excludes parking 5:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. on weekdays. The passes, which are available for purchase at the Finance Department in Village Hall, will be valid from October 1 until September 30 the following year.

PUBLIC HEARING - TRANSIENT DWELLING USES

The Board of Trustees will hold a public hearing on Thursday, May 18, 2023 at 7:30 p.m. in the Village Hall Board Room regarding a Local Law to amend the code of the Village of Garden City in relation to Prohibiting Certain Transient Dwelling Uses.

PICKLEBALL

Friday Night Pickleball is back! Held in the Field House from 5:00 to 8:30 p.m. this program will continue until May 26. The cost to participate is \$6 per session, or residents can buy either a 5 session pass for \$25, or a 10 session pass for \$50. The Recreation Department is pleased to also announce that there are two dedicated Pickleball courts available for residents to use at Grove Street Park. Due to the increasing popularity of Pickleball, the eastern tennis court at Grove Park has been converted to two Pickleball courts. The tennis court closest to Grove Street will remain open for tennis, so residents will have the ability to play either one of these popular sports. Courts are available on a first come, first serve basis, and there is no charge to use these courts. For further information about this program, please call the Recreation Office at 465-4075.

HAPPENING THIS WEEK IN GARDEN CITY

Here are some events and meetings taking place this week in Garden City:

SATURDAY APRIL 29 9:00 a.m. [Open Air Market](#) at the Garden City Bird Sanctuary

SUNDAY APRIL 30 7:00 p.m. [Organ Recital](#) at the Cathedral of the Incarnation

MONDAY, MAY 1 1:30 p.m. [Monday Movie Matinee](#), *42: The Jackie Robinson Story* at the Library

TUESDAY, MAY 2 2:30 p.m. Senior Center [Chair Dancing with Felicia](#) at the Senior Center

TUESDAY - FRIDAY MAY 2-5 [Pickleball](#) hours (Tuesday through Friday 9:30 a.m. to Noon; Thursdays 3 to 5:30 p.m.; and Fridays 5 to 8:30 p.m.) at the Field House

WEDNESDAY, MAY 3 12:00 p.m. [Lunch Group](#) at the Senior Center

WEDNESDAY, MAY 3 6:00 p.m. [Planning Commission Meeting](#) at Village Hall

THURSDAY, MAY 4 11:15 a.m. [Yoga with Samantha](#) at the Senior Center

THURSDAY, MAY 4 6:30 p.m. [Traffic Commission Meeting](#) at Village Hall and via Zoom

THURSDAY, MAY 4 7:30 p.m. [Village Board of Trustees Meeting](#) at Village Hall and via Zoom

SATURDAY, MAY 6 11:00 a.m. [Teen Advisory Board](#)'s Friends of the Garden City Public Library bake sale at the Garden City Public Library

SATURDAY-SUNDAY, MAY 6-7 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. (Saturday) and 1-3 p.m. (Sunday) Friends of the Garden City Public Library [semi-annual book sale](#) at the Library