

Live meeting December 12, 7:30 PM



Creedmoor Civic News

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE CREEDMOOR CIVIC ASSOCIATION, INC.
Founded 1927, Incorporated 1938

DECEMBER, 2022 ★ "UNITED EFFORT REAPS UNITED GAIN" ★ Website: www.creedmoorcivic.org ★ VOL. 91, NO. 10

STATE PLANS TO EXCESS MANY ACRES AT CREEDMOOR PSYCHIATRIC CENTER

The Empire State Development Corp (ESD) of New York State is reaching out to the Bellerose/Queens Village communities concerning the redevelopment of the Creedmoor Hospital campus. The office of Queens Borough President Donovan Richards is also involved in the conversation.

On November 9, representatives from the Queens Civic Congress met with Vicky Garvey, the Borough President's Director of Planning and Development. One of the first steps will be the development of a Community Advisory Council (CAC) comprised of community leaders who will give input on the usage of the property. The CAC is expected to begin meeting in the late spring or early summer. A series of public meetings will also take place.

Civic leaders and community members have already made some recommendations. A basic theme would be for the development to fit in with the character and density of the surrounding community. Another general theme would be a submission to the State and/or National Registry of Historic Places to recognize and preserve any relevant buildings.

Some specific recommendations that have come from the community:

- A Veterans Affairs auxiliary care facility to support area veterans
- A public school to relieve overcrowding of local schools
- Faculty housing for local colleges
- A community center, possibly a combined center for seniors and youth
- Park or open space, part of the Queens Greenway

We will keep civic members informed of future developments.



DECEMBER MEETING - HOLIDAY PARTY

Children's version: 6 PM

Adults: 7:30

See back page for details.

CREEDMOOR CIVIC ATTENDS QUEENS CIVIC CONGRESS LEGISLATIVE RECEPTION



Photo by Casey Lajszky

December 4 saw the Queens Civic Congress, of which Creedmoor Civic's James Trent is both treasurer and an original charter signer, hold their annual Legislative Reception at the historic Douglaston Club in the Douglas Manor Historic District. One hundred people turned out. Photo shows swearing in. CCA's Mike O'Keeffe, Sabina Arkbarali, James Trent attended. Queens Borough President Donovan Richards officiated.

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Assn., Inc.
PO Box 260143, Bellerose Manor, NY 11426
Tel. 718- 464-3369

Member: Queens Civic Congress, Inc.

Website: www.creedmoorcivic.org

E-mail: creedmoorcivic@gmail.com

Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/creedmoorcivic/

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BRACE YOURSELF FOR REAL ESTATE TAX REFORMULATION

A hot potato that has been kicked down the road for years seems finally on the docket for a solution. For years there have been complaints and lawsuits over what is perceived to be an unfair application of formulas for determining a property's real estate tax.

New York City Comptroller Brad Lander is determined to tackle this issue. This has owners of single-family homes holding their breath as it has been alleged for years that single family homes pay less than their fair share, and that owners of older homes pay less than owners of newer homes. Creedmoor Civic's single-family homes are very close to being 100 years old.

The City's budget has been ballooning over the years, but the City has avoided increasing the real estate tax rate because the assessed valuation has been increasing in a tight real estate market. So, without raising the rates, the City collects higher and higher tax revenues from its private sector properties.

The Queens Civic Congress has been on top of this, holding a Zoom meeting with Brad Lander. The QCC is prepared to send a delegation to Albany to lobby this issue if necessary to protect homeowners. It may mean grandfathering in current homeowners, putting caps on increases in any one year, etc.

President's Message

We are happy to be able to bring back our Holiday party. Please stop by! We will have a special kids' event from 6-7 pm. See flyer on page 4 for details.

Thanks to the Rocky Hill Civic Association for welcoming us for a joint meeting on November 8th. We heard from Council Member Linda Lee and Suzanne Windland of SNAP. RHCA President Sue Peritz set up a combination live/zoom meeting.

We will revert to Zoom meetings for January 9 and February 13. The newsletters will be sent by email and will be delivered to homes, weather permitting.

On behalf of the CCA officers and board members, have a safe and joyful holiday season!

Your neighbor, Michael O'Keeffe

ANOTHER BURGLARY IN OUR AREA

On Thanksgiving night, between eleven pm and midnight, one or more intruders entered a home through the front door that had inadvertently been left unlocked. There were no lights on inside the house and there was no car in the driveway, so the burglars may have thought no one was home. In fact, two occupants were sleeping upstairs.

A thief went up the stairs and opened the door to the rear bedroom. An occupant in that room woke up and shouted at the intruder to get out. The thief left, but not before grabbing \$200 in cash from the dresser. No one was hurt.

We have heard that thieves "handle surf" cars, checking for unlocked vehicle doors. It seems some also look for unlocked house doors. Please check that all doors and windows are locked before going to bed.

DUES PAYMENT ADDENDA 2022

Following are additional paid members of Creedmoor Civic Association for the calendar year 2022. This list is in addition to those posted in last month's newsletter. These names were either inadvertently omitted or joined since the last publication.

Moline Street: Sandhovel*

Lyman Street: Gousse, Gutierrez, Mooney/Peters*, Sarabia

237th Street: Mulcahy

238th Street: Reategul

239th Street: Norton*

240th Street: Becker*, Bermudez, Mulcahy

90th Avenue: Jennings*

Donations: Laprine

* Denotes additional donation above membership dues.

CREEDMOOR CIVIC YEAR IN REVIEW

The year 2022 has been a busy year for the Creedmoor Civic Association. The following is a month-by-month summary of interesting news and events. To see all 2022 newsletters and those from many previous years, visit our website, creedmoorcivic.org. Our website is diligently maintained by Rick Duskiwicz, our President Emeritus.

JANUARY

Newsletter: Concrete Plaza to be Transformed Into Environmental Garden. The concrete island in front of Martin Van Buren High School, in the center of Hillside Avenue, will be dug up and rebuilt as a beautiful park-like setting. Two smaller areas on Winchester Boulevard will be similarly treated. This is a project spearheaded by the Rocky Hill Civic Association.

Also, an interesting piece by newsletter editor and Bellerose historian Jim Trent, titled Bellerose History, Creedmoor Civic History, One and The Same (read on our website).

Jan 10 Zoom Meeting: Guest speaker Queens Borough President Donovan Richards.

FEBRUARY

Newsletter: Redistricting Affects Our Civic. Every 10 years, following the census, election district lines are redrawn.

Also: Property Tax Exemptions. There are several property tax exemptions, including STAR, Enhanced STAR, senior citizens' and veterans' exemptions. The article provides information on forms to fill out, deadlines, etc.

Feb 14 Zoom Meeting: Guest speaker State Senator John Liu.

MARCH

Newsletter: ADU Update. There is a bill under consideration in the NYS Legislature to legalize Accessory Dwelling Units throughout the state. The concern is the blanket nature of this proposal that fails to take zoning and local conditions into account.

March 14 Zoom Meeting: Guest speaker Deren Wilkes, Elder Fraud Coordinator for the Queens District Attorney's office.

APRIL

Newsletter: New Queens Bus Map Revealed. The original Queens Draft Plan, released in 2019, was widely criticized.

COVID put the project on the back burner. Now, a new draft plan has been released. More public hearings will be

next.

Also: Breininger Park cleanup set for April 23.

April 11 Zoom Meeting: Dan Kaminsky, a policy manager at Citizens Union, spoke about the City Council redistricting process.

MAY

Newsletter: Recap of Successful cleanup of Braddock Ave and Breininger Park on April 23. Also, announcements on Bus Redesign Workshop and upcoming Memorial Day services at the John F Prince VFW Post.

May 9 Zoom Meeting: Kara Napolitano from Sims Municipal Recycling, spoke about NYC recycling.

JUNE

Newsletter: Congratulations to Graduates, St Gregory's Festival is Back.

SEPTEMBER

Newsletter: CCA Resumes in-Person Meetings, Hurricane Preparation, Congestion Pricing. Don't Pave Front Yards.

September 12 in Person Meeting: Joe Ottomanelli from the DSNY spoke about the Curbside Composting program.

OCTOBER

Newsletter: Queens Civic Congress Luncheon Huge Success, Bellerose Business Group Holds Walk-Through.

October 10 Meeting. Guest speaker Bill Perkins from the Queens Task Force Against Illegal Truck Parking.

NOVEMBER

Newsletter: Halloween Parade recap, Con Ed Scams, Burglary Suspect Nabbed.

November 8 Joint Meeting with Rocky Hill Civic Assn. Guest speakers Council Member Linda Lee and Suzanne Windland from SNAP.

SNOW LABORERS NEEDED

The Dept. Of Sanitation is once again hiring laborers to clear snow from hydrants, bus stops, etc. Pay is \$17/hour. If interested, apply at NYC.gov/snow.

105 PCT BLOOD DRIVE

The 105th Precinct will hold a blood drive on Tuesday, December 27 from noon to 6 pm at the precinct, located at 92-08 222 St.

WORK ON HILLSIDE AVE. BRIDGE

An electronic sign at the Hillside Ave exit from the southbound Cross Island Parkway reports that work will begin on the bridge over the parkway around December 12. No other information was available as we went to print.



**JOIN US FOR
THE CREEDMOOR CIVIC**

HOLIDAY PARTY POTLUCK

**Let us Mingle with
Our Bellerose Community
&
Elected Officials**

**12.12.2022 7:30PM-9:30PM
MUSIC BY CHARLES HENRY**

**LIVING HOPE CHURCH
240-08 BRADDOCK AVE
BELLEROSE NY 11426**

6PM-7PM

🌲 KIDS 🌲

**LETTERS TO SANTA
HOLIDAY CRAFTS
RSVP BY DECEMBER 9TH
EMAIL:**

CREEDMOORCIVIC@GMAIL.COM

