

Next meeting: June 8 at 8 PM

Meetings at the Bellerose Baptist Church (basement), Braddock Avenue at 241st Street



Creedmoor Civic News

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

June, 2009

"UNITED EFFORT REAPS UNITED GAIN"

VOL. 78, NO. 6

BLOOMBERG PROPOSES QUEENS VILLAGE FIREHOUSE CLOSURE

As part of a cost-containment measure, Mayor Bloomberg has proposed cutting up to 14 firehouses City-wide by the end of the year. The firehouse in Queens Village is on that list.

The Bellerose area is served by two firehouses - the one just off Springfield Boulevard and south of the LIRR tracks, and another one on Union Turnpike in Floral Park. Bayside's firehouse is also on the chopping block.

The one in Queens Village is closest to Creedmoor Civic. This is a serious threat to the safety and welfare of our community.

The Mayor is threatening the closures if the Firefighters' Union doesn't agree to give-backs on their contract. The likelihood of that happening is not known at this time. But firehouses have been closed in the past, and have stayed closed even when the finances of the City improved. We must remain vigilant on this issue. We will work with civic leaders in neighboring communities to deal with this threat.

President's Message

As many of you know, the board of the Creedmoor Civic Association is made up entirely of volunteers. The block captains that deliver your monthly newsletter are also volunteers. No one receives a salary. Our main expenses are newsletter printing costs and meeting hall rental. Our income comes from the \$6. annual dues from members and the occasional donations.

We will be conducting a new type of membership drive during the summer. We are hoping that this drive will have two benefits: an increase in paid membership, plus an opportunity to update our membership information. All of the information that we receive from you (name, address, e-

mail address) is protected and is never disclosed to anyone outside the civic board. Please be on the lookout for this mailing from us. We hope that you will take the opportunity to join, if you haven't already. Remember, we depend on your dues to support this association.

New York State's cease-and-desist law has been a great success. This law allows any homeowner who prefers not to be contacted or solicited by real estate agents to place his or her name on a list. It never interferes with anyone who wants to be contacted by an agent. By law, the Dept of State must hold a hearing every five years to determine if there is sufficient interest in keeping the list active. A hearing was held recently at which several civic leaders, including me, testified. Unfortunately, the turnout in the auditorium was quite dismal. We know from conversations with many CCA members that they are in favor of this law. We now need our CCA members to write a short letter in support of the law and mail it to:

Department of State
Division of Licensing Services, 19th floor
123 William Street
New York, NY 10038-3804

It's important that you support this law and mail your letter so it is received before July 1.

Your civic association remains active throughout the summer, even though no membership meetings are held. Feel free to contact us at 718 464-3369 if you have any questions. I hope you have a great summer and I'll see you around the neighborhood.

-Your Neighbor,

Rick Duskiwicz

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Around the Town

❁ Condolences to the family of longtime resident Anthony Magro of the 88 block of 238 St., who passed away on May 23. Mr. Magro was 95 years old.

❁ Condolences also to Ann Marie Duskiwicz of Lyman Street, and wife of our president, on the death of her father.

ANOTHER RALLY TO SAVE THE KLEIN FARM

Mayoral candidate Tony Avella called a press conference on May 23 to alert would-be buyers of the historic Klein



Press conference attendees from left to right: Robert Harris, President of West Cunningham Park Civic Association; Robert Friedrich, President of Glen Oaks Village Owners and a candidate for City Council; Tami Osherov, representing Meadowlark Gardens Co-Op; James Trent, President of the Queens County Farm Museum and treasurer of Creedmoor Civic; Tony Avella, Councilman of the 19th C.D. and candidate for Mayor; and Monte Schwartz, board member West Cunningham Park Civic Association.

Farm in Fresh Meadows that current zoning restrictions make it virtually impossible to change anything on the

property. Community activists have been trying for five years to get the City to purchase the 2.2 acre property so it can be restored and resume farming. Vegetables would be sold to the public just as the Klein Family did until they sold the property in 2004. The Farm Museum has agreed to operate the property as a museum, and the Department of Parks has agreed to hold the title to the land, but the Mayor refuses to put up the funds for the purchase. Community leaders have been looking for other sources to make the purchase. The current owners, Audrey Realty, a front for the notorious developer Tommy Huang, supposedly has sold the property to a synagogue. The farm is located on 73rd Avenue and 194th Street.

STATE HOLDS HEARING

ON NON-SOLICITATION BAN RENEWAL

Every five years, the New York Department of State is required to hold hearings in different neighborhoods in Queens and parts of the Bronx to determine if there's enough interest in keeping the state's cease-and-desist law in effect. Our area's meeting was held on Friday, May 29 at the Frank Padavan Campus High School. Unfortunately, because we were notified after our May newsletter had already been printed, the only economical way we could alert our membership was via email.

Several civic leaders and residents, as well as Senator Padavan and your CCA president Rick Duskiwicz spoke in favor of this law, which restricts real estate agents and investors from contacting homeowners who have elected to place their names on the list. The turnout was not what we had hoped, but it's not too late. We are asking all homeowners to send a short note to the Dept of State before June 30, letting them know that the law should be renewed.

Department of State
Division of Licensing Services, 19th floor

Att: Mr. Aqil Qureshi
123 William Street
New York, NY 10038-3804

You may also fax them at 212 417-5688. Please include your full name, address and phone number on your letters. After July 1, the Dept of State will determine if there is sufficient interest. We will keep you informed.

BY-LAWS CHANGE POSTPONED

Our civic will re-visit the language proposed to amend our By-Laws at the June meeting regarding eligibility to serve as president. We anticipate publishing the final text in the September newsletter and voting on it at the September general meeting.

Our June Meeting is the last until September. Please make every effort to attend. Refreshments, as always, will be served.