

Zoom meeting March 8 (see details in box)



Creedmoor Civic News

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

March, 2021 ★ "UNITED EFFORT REAPS UNITED GAIN" ★ Website: www.creedmoorcivic.org ★ VOL. 90, NO. 3

CCA OPPOSES INTRO 2186-2020

Members of the City Council propose eliminating zoning that would keep some neighborhoods as strictly single-family home districts.

In our February newsletter, we discussed a report issued by NY City Council Speaker Corey Johnson, called "Planning Together: A New Comprehensive Planning Framework for New York City." He also introduced legislation titled "Intro 2186-2020." This bill would severely restrict community input on land use and increase allowed zoning density in NYC neighborhoods every ten years.

Queens Community Board 13, at its February 22 general meeting, voted unanimously to oppose the bill. According to the Queens Chronicle, the board's letter called the proposal "rushed, flawed and resource intensive." It further stated, "Our analysis makes clear this scheme must be delayed until it can be vetted thoroughly, gets more community buy-in and input from upcoming city leadership."

The City Council held a Zoom public hearing on Tuesday, Feb 23. Chair Marisa Lago of the City Planning Commission spoke in opposition to the Bill. Her criticism fell into three categories: (1) feasibility (2) cost; and (3) impact.

The Creedmoor Civic Association submitted written testimony against the bill. Our objections included the restriction of community input, and the danger that mandatory upzonings would make our neighborhood more crowded and strain city services. We also made the point that our neighborhood, along with many others in eastern Queens, went through a proper rezoning process several years ago that was fair, data-based, and transparent.

Our Council member, Barry Grodenchik, stands with the community board and shares our concerns. There is a petition posted on change.org opposing Intro 2186-2020. If you believe this bill is ill-advised, please feel free to sign the petition.

Creedmoor Civic was not alone in opposition. The Queens Civic Congress, of which Creedmoor Civic is a member, has been leading the opposition in Queens. Community boards and civic associations throughout Queens and the City-wide have been voicing objections. The bill is supposed to come up for a vote in April. Those areas of the City that don't have single-family zoning still object to the requirement of upzoning every ten years and the reduction in input from the community and the City Council.

LIVE CIVIC MEETINGS TEMPORARILY CANCELED JOIN US IN A ZOOM MEETING

The guest speaker will be Debra Markell one of the candidates running in the June primary for the seat in City Council District 23. Time: March 8, 2021 at 7:00 PM

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86076106484?pwd=bU9VQVpqZkV4VVVkbkHFauGdpcXdYdz09>

Meeting ID: 860 7610 6484 Passcode: 302365

Dial by your location: +1 646 876 9923 US (New York)

CIVIC TO HOLD ELECTIONS

As per our constitution, we hold elections every year for officer positions and for two board member positions (board terms are for three years and are staggered). The slate of candidates is as follows:

- President.....Michael O'Keeffe
 - President Emeritus.....Rick Duskiwicz
 - First Vice President.....Rosemary Parker
 - Second Vice President.....Katherine Fariad
 - Treasurer.....James A. Trent
 - Recording Secretary.....open
 - Financial Secretary.....Cathy Christy
 - Sergeant-at-Arms.....John Christy
- Board members, class of 2024: Paul Bellisario, Ann Terry.

At the March 8 Zoom meeting, the floor will be open to nominations of civic members in good standing who wish to run for these positions. The Recording Secretary position is still open. If there are any contested positions, an election will be held at our April 12 Zoom meeting. As per our constitution, nominees for President must have attended a majority of the civic meetings for the 12 months preceding the election.

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Creedmoor Civic is on Facebook! Check it out at
<http://www.facebook.com/creedmoor.civic>

-OFFICERS-

President.....Michael O'Keeffe
1st Vice President/Chairman of the Board.....Rosemary Parker
2nd Vice President.....Paul Bellisario
Treasurer.....James A. Trent
Recording Secretary..... (Vacant)
Financial Secretary.....Cathy Chri sty
Sergeant-at-Arms.....John Chri sty
President Emeritus.....Richard Duskwicz

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Newsletter Distribution.....Block Captains

- WEBSITE AND SOCIAL MEDIA -

Webmaster.....Richard Duskwicz
Instagram.....Katherine Fariad

President's Message

Information on vaccinations changes rapidly. Many people have had a difficult time getting appointments. We hope that new facilities at Martin Van Buren HS, York College and Citi Field, coupled with an increase in vaccine supply, will make things easier. Contact us if you continue to have difficulty getting an appointment.

Over the next few months, we will be coordinating with other local civics to invite candidates for our City Council seat and other offices to our Zoom meetings. We will forward the Zoom invitations of other civic meetings by email as they become available. If you are interested, make sure you are on our email list.

Your neighbor,

Michael O'Keeffe

CLEANUP SET FOR APRIL 24

We will be hosting a neighborhood cleanup on Saturday, April 24, from 10 am to noon. Details will be shared in our April newsletter. Board member Katherine Fariad has designed a T-shirt for the event (see photos). The cost of the shirt is \$10. To order, email Bellerose1927@gmail.com or call our civic phone at 718-464-3369. Final orders need to be in by April 5.



SUPPORT OUR RESTAURANTS

New York City restaurants can now operate with indoor seating at 35% capacity. While this is a positive development, our local eateries are still struggling to survive. If you are not ready for indoor dining, please continue to order takeout meals. We have heard from local restaurant owners that they are extremely appreciative of the support they have received from members of Bellerose civic groups.

Spread out on the grass as you do the bunny hop and enjoy 47 egg-cellent acres of outdoor space. Visit with the farm's animals and hop on a hayride to top off your day. BYOB (bring your own basket) is encouraged. Food vendors will be on the farm all day selling their treats. Advance tickets required. Go to queensfarm.org for more details and prices.

Around the Town...

Congratulations to: Christina and Fred Weber of 240 Street on the birth of their daughter, Peyton Juliane. Congrats also to the proud grandparents, Anne and John Conry of 239 Street, who deliver our newsletter on their block.

And the award goes to: Once again, our generous but anonymous donor has purchased a \$20 gift certificate to a local business. This month, the raffle winner is the Geiger family from 237 St. The business is the recently opened Maleen Restaurant and Catering Hall, at 241-03 Jamaica Ave. They serve Indian food and are open for takeout or indoor dining. Visit www.maleenbanquethall.com or call 718-347-8500.

COVID TESTING AT BELLEROSE RESCUE

COVID testing will no longer be available at Bellerose Rescue headquarters, but will be available by appointment for at-home testing. To make an appointment, e-mail Secretary@belleroserescue.org or call 347-410-0066. Include name, address, phone number and email address. A donation to Bellerose Rescue would be appreciated but is not required.

FARM MUSEUM BARNYARD EGG HUNT

Saturday, March 27 and April 3rd, 2021. 11:00AM – 4:00PM with timed tickets for egg hunting. Kids and their grown-ups will enjoy the thrill of this springtime tradition on the farm with social distancing built in. (More 🐰)