

MINUTES OF ANNUAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF
BRONXVILLE HELD ON APRIL 3, 2006 AT THE BRONXVILLE LIBRARY, 201 PONDFIELD ROAD,
BRONXVILLE, N.Y.

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PRESENT:	Mary C. Marvin	Mayor
	Glenn D. Bellitto	
	Robert S. Underhill	
	Anne W. Poorman	
	William H. Barton, Jr.	Trustees
 ALSO PRESENT:	James F. Hayden	Deputy Village Counsel
	Harold Porr III	Village Administrator
	Rocco Circosta	Superintendent of Public Works
	Brian M. Downey	Chief of Police
	Vincent Pici, P.E.	Superintendent of Buildings
	Robert J. Fels	Village Treasurer
	William J. Murphy	Parking Commissioner

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Mayor Marvin opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

BUDGET WORK SESSION

The Board went over items in the budget including revenues and debt service.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 7:45 p.m. on motion of Trustee Bellitto, seconded by Trustee Poorman, the Board voted to enter executive session to discuss contract negotiations and personnel issues. No votes were taken in executive session. The Board concluded the executive session at 8:00 p.m. to begin the Annual Meeting.

ANNUAL REORGANIZATION MEETING

Mayor Marvin called the Annual Meeting to order at 8:00 p.m.

Mayor Marvin administered the oath of office to George C. McKinnis who had been re-elected for a four year term as Village Justice.

Village Justice George C. McKinnis administered the oath of office to Anne W. Poorman and William H. Barton, Jr., each of whom had been elected as Village Trustees for two year terms.

LIBRARY BOARD RECOGNITION

Mayor Marvin publicly recognized and commended the following members of the Library Board of Trustees and presented them with an engraved paperweight as a token of appreciation for their dedicated service to the Village of Bronxville: Patricia McAndrew who served for six years as a Library Board Trustee and four years on the Board of the Friends of the Library; Mary Freeman who served for six years as a Library Board Trustee; and Mary Anne Maher, who served as President of the Library Board. Mayor Marvin also recognized John J. Kenney who was not present this evening for his distinguished service as a member of the Library Board of Trustees.

Mayor Marvin asked the Trustees to each read a section of the Mayor's appointments, assignments and annual actions.

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ANNUAL APPOINTMENTS – VILLAGE OFFICIALS

Trustee Underhill to read the names of the Village Officials appointed as follows:

<u>Office</u>	<u>Term</u>	<u>Name</u>
Deputy Mayor	1 year term -	Glenn Bellitto
Treasurer & Budget Officer	2 year term -	Robert J. Fels
Village Clerk	2 year term -	Harold Porr III
Deputy Treasurer/Tax & Assessment	2 year term -	Janet Grosso
Deputy Village Clerk	1 year term -	MaryAnn Urrico
Deputy Village Counsel	1 year term -	James F. Hayden
Parking Violations Hearing Officer	1 year term -	Patricia M. Smith
Village Historian	1 year term -	Eloise L. Morgan

ANNUAL APPOINTMENTS – VILLAGE BOARDS

Trustee Bellitto read the names of the people appointed to the various Village Boards and Committees.

To the Finance Committee – Victor M. Samra, Jr. and Lisa Giuffra Diaz reappointed for two years terms to 2008.

To the Planning Board – Donald B. Henderson, Jr. reappointed as Chairman to 2007, Anna K. Longobardo reappointed as Vice-Chair to 2007, Maryann Palermo reappointed as Counsel to 2007, and Andrew Garvey reappointed as an alternate member for a three year term to 2009.

To the Design Review Board – Anna K. Longobardo reappointed as Chairman to 2007 and as a member for a three year term to 2009; Jeffrey J. Faville and Renee Byers reappointed as members for three year terms to 2009.

To the Zoning Board of Appeals – James L. Fischer reappointed as Chairman to 2007; Maryann Bugas reappointed as a member for a five year term to 2011; John P. Browne and William Fredericks reappointed as Co-Counsels to 2007; and David Thurm reappointed as an alternate member for a two year term to 2008.

To the Library Board of Trustees – Gene Piper (President) reappointed for a three year term to 2009; Thomas J. Welling and Madora Kibbe appointed as members for three year terms to 2009.

To the Ethics Board – William H. Slattery, John W. Priesing, Donald J. Kennedy, John A. Hill and Wendy Riggs reappointed as members for two year terms to 2008; William Primps reappointed as Counsel to 2007.

TRUSTEE ASSIGNMENTS

Trustee Barton read the Trustee liaison assignments as follows:

Trustee Glenn D. Bellitto

- Deputy Mayor
- Planning Board
- Police
- Parking
- Assessor Liaison

Trustee Robert S. Underhill

- Finance Committee
- School Finance
- Tennis/Paddle Liaison
- Eastchester Town Budget
- Real Estate Related Matters

Trustee Anne W. Poorman

- Library Board
- School and Youth Liaison
- Senior Citizens
- Chamber of Commerce/Business District Liaison

Trustee William H. Barton, Jr.

- Zoning Board
- Department of Public Works/
Quality of Life Issues
- Eastchester Fire Department

RESOLUTION REGARDING ANNUAL ACTIONS

Trustee Poorman read the following resolutions which were approved by the Board:

Auditor to Board of Trustees

Village Administrator for a 1 year term - for the purpose of checking monthly abstracts of purchases as prepared by the Village Treasurer, Village Administrator/ Clerk.

Auditor to the Justice Court

Village Treasurer Robert J. Fels

Village Auditor

Bennett Kielson Storch DeSantis, The Government Services Division of O'Connor Davies Munns & Dobbins, LLP

Signatures

Section 1. Checks drawn on the bank accounts of the Village of Bronxville be signed by any two of following: Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Village Administrator or Treasurer.

Section 2. Checks drawn on the account of Justice Court of the Village of Bronxville, established for deposit of fines, fees and forfeited bail, shall be signed by a Village Justice.

Section 3. Bank transfers and federal wire transfers to be signed by any two of the following: Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Village Administrator or Treasurer.

Bank Depositories

Authorize depositories for Village funds with the Bank of New York, J. P. Morgan Chase Bank, Hudson Valley Bank and North Fork Bank.

Surety Bonds

That surety bonds be filed in the following amounts, premiums to be paid by Village:

All employees \$200,000 per loss

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Official Newspaper

Designate the "Review Press", "The Town Report" and "The Journal News" as the official newspapers for the Village of Bronxville during the ensuing official year. Publication of legal notices will appear in one or the other from time to time as required.

Meeting Date

Resolve that the regular meeting date of the Board of Trustees will be held at 8:00 PM on the 2nd Monday of each month.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS

Mayor Marvin noted that at the annual meeting, the past Mayors have traditionally given a mini State of the Village. She said she would continue that tradition by sharing our accomplishments as a Board since last April as well as outlining our goals for the next year.

Mayor Marvin began by thanking the Village employees, Library staff, police, and DPW workers who really make anything we are able to do possible. She said we have an extraordinary workforce of extremely dedicated, capable and kind people, all of whom we should all be very proud and grateful. She extended a special thank you to the administrative staff who help her every day and couldn't be more supportive and kind. She said it is an honor to work with them.

The Mayor thanked all the citizens we just announced on the various boards, be it Zoning, Planning, Ethics. She said we have a wonderful mix of people of every political persuasion and interest, and in true volunteer spirit, not one of them said no when she asked them to re-up in their positions. It is truly an act of grace and generosity for which she is extremely indebted.

The Mayor's most important thank you went out to the residents of the Village and especially the children who have suggested great new ideas, offered their services behind the scenes, and even when upset handle themselves with patience and understanding.

Mayor Marvin stated that the three biggest issues this year were quite clearly tax reassessment, the renovation of Village Hall and the Kensington Road development project. Though they took up a majority of our time, she was not going to speak about them tonight because they are well underway toward completion and she will continue to speak about them monthly to keep citizens updated.

Mayor Marvin spoke about the initiatives and accomplishments that were overshadowed this year by these three monumental undertakings, smaller efforts but ones that give us equal pride, and are just as important in the day to day life of the Village going forward as well as setting a tone for this government.

Mayor Marvin recounted some of the highlights of the year April 2005 to the present:

- We added a first time Trustee liaison assignment to Parking and to Assessment to provide more oversight, and attention.
- We created an independent Board of Assessment Review, having village residents instead of the Trustees hear tax grievances. We began public discussion of this in early fall and managed to get it up and running by this year's grievance cycle in February.
- We increased communication and information sharing with our peers at the school. Mr. Priesing and Mayor Marvin have met on and off all year discussing matters of mutual concern, sharing our financial projections and we just recently signed a memorandum of understanding allowing the school full voice and access in certiorari settlements.
- We are doing internal reviews of each department to assess their spending, productivity and efficiency. We started with Public Works and have solicited and

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received helpful public feedback as we seek to balance the inequities in garbage collection and controlling our yard waste.

- Under the chairmanship of Trustee Poorman, we have formed the Retail Focus Group to lend support to our business district. We added holiday police walking patrols, new holiday parking signs to direct shoppers to off-street parking and placed joint newspaper ads with the Chamber to increase our merchants' visibility. – and now we are working on the Bronxville gift card – the brainchild of Mrs. Poorman which is being championed by our new Chamber of Commerce Director Sheryl Donner. The gift card has really caught fire with our merchants and even other communities in Westchester. We as a Board are steadfast in our commitment to helping our business district in any way we can.
- We have entered into an unprecedented number of agreements for our mutual benefit with Tuckahoe and Eastchester including the Police Department's Drug and Alcohol Abuse Task Force, the joint purchase of large pieces of equipment together and the purchase of road material in bulk to receive cost benefits. We have a truly wonderful working relationship with our neighboring towns.
- Thanks to Trustee Underhill, we have gotten Metro North to do a lot more maintenance around the train station, including garbage and tree removal.
- We are working with the original landscape architect of our Bicentennial Park in an effort to restore it to its original beauty.
- We have added bus stop signs near Route 22 and Pondfield Road as a result of a request from the Eastchester Committee for the Disabled, and thanks to Trustee Bellitto we are in the process of increasing the time on our Village handicapped parking meters; also at their suggestion.

In the area of communication and open government, Mayor Marvin said this Board is particularly proud of the changes we made almost immediately upon being elected last spring.

- Thanks to a citizen's suggestion we moved our Mayor and Trustee reports to the beginning of the meeting so residents can get the village news without waiting two hours into the broadcast.
- We reinstituted the Village newsletter after a decade hiatus, and we are committed to publishing it quarterly.
- Mayor Marvin has started a weekly newspaper column to keep citizens up to date on events each week at Village Hall.
- We have begun a new cable show "One Square Mile" to add a new venue for communication of topical issues.
- We've added Trustee and Planning Board minutes to our web site.
- We have added open public work sessions before every public monthly meeting, and we've just recently had three public budget workshops so far working on this year's budget.
- And in a year when we had the most Freedom of Information Act document requests in the history of the Village, the Mayor reported that we were commended by the Journal News as a community who responded in a timely and comprehensive manner. This is not easy with our very small staff and the unprecedented volume of requests.
- We have added an e-mail address Bronxvillemayor@optonline.net to take residents' comments, complaints, and it has proven very popular and helpful.
- We established close working relationships with Assemblywoman Paulin, Congresswoman Lowey and State Senator Jeff Klein, and are anxiously awaiting grant money thanks to their assistance.
- We are making more connections with the school children. Mayor Marvin has given tours of Village Hall to high schoolers and 3rd graders, read to the 3rd and 4th grades, spoken to the Young Republican Club, and judged a 5th grade economics project.

- Mayor Marvin said she will speak at length at the regular meeting on April 17th about the budget, but we are extremely proud of our careful fund management that has allowed us to have a Moody's AA1 bond rating, the highest possible fiscal rating for a village of our size.

Mayor Marvin then shared some of the administration's goals for this coming year:

- our top priorities will be to have our revaluation completed in time for the 2007 tax roll, keep the renovation of Village Hall on time and on budget, and get the Kensington Road property back on the tax rolls with a project that enhances that beautiful, historical neighborhood.
- we want to conclude our police negotiations and have a contract for our officers.
- we need to aid our landlords in filling the empty stores in the business district and help keep our downtown thriving.
- we have to seriously review all of our options to find more parking in our commercial business district.
- we are beginning a series of neighborhood meetings with trustees and citizens because each area of the village has interests and concerns that are unique to their neighborhoods.
- and finally, we will focus on quality of life issues around town, cleaning up our sidewalks, lighting all our streets, saving our trees, focusing on our 100 year infrastructure of roads, sewers and pipes, keeping our parks and public areas well maintained.
- and most importantly we want to engage more villagers in their government and tap the vast talent pool of our citizens for the betterment of the whole Village.

In closing, Mayor Marvin said it has been an honor and a privilege to be your Mayor, and she thanked everyone for giving her the wonderful opportunity.

On motion of Trustee Bellitto, seconded by Trustee Underhill, the meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

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Harold Porr III, Village Clerk