

INCORPORATED VILLAGE OF ROSLYN

1200 OLD NORTHERN BOULEVARD, ROSLYN, NEW YORK 11576

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MAYOR

John Durkin

DEPUTY MAYOR

Marshall E. Bernstein



TRUSTEES

Marta Genovese

Craig Westergard

Sarah Oral

January 2020

Dear Neighbors and Friends,

2019 went by in a flash and 2020 promises to be another busy year here in the village. Substantial funds have been raised and significant work has been done on the substructure of the Gristmill. In the next several months the roof will be raised and the footings secured. There is a ways to go but we are coming upon completion. As they say in the Spiritual tune, "If the good Lord is willing and the creek don't rise."

Another capital project in the downtown is the conversion of the old Mobil station. This project is being done in coordination with the Town of North Hempstead and PSEG. When complete, the traffic signals will work in real time, which will allow the Nassau County Department of Transportation to control the flow of traffic. We will also have additional parking and a turnaround. I want to thank the sharp-eyed residents who pointed out the curb cut on the bank side was not wide enough for larger vehicles to make safe turns. Because of their observation we were able correct the error before any additional work was done. Once again, our hats are off to these civic minded folks.

The Roslyn Landing project is in its final stages and the apartment complex at 17 Lumber Road is complete and fully occupied. By any measure this has been a great success for both the developer and the municipality. Together we have created a substantial project with a limited impact on traffic, services and environment. The building is compatible with the aesthetic of the downtown, it references our industrial past and creates loft like interiors which modern homeowners seek.

On to 2020, we will be looking at three, perhaps four more conversions:

There is a proposal to convert the strip mall on Warner Avenue into mixed use occupancy, combining retail and residential uses. A developer has proposed a change of zone at Warner Avenue to create a Transit Oriented Development District. These districts are increasingly popular

throughout the region in order to encourage young commuters to stay on Long Island. The first step in this process is for the Board of Trustees to consider and weigh the impacts that this change would incur. There are essentially three options: to leave Warner Avenue zoned as it has been for many years, to modify the zoning compatible with the developer's vision or to modify the zoning in some other way. After that, a developer, knowing the parameters we have established for the zone, could submit an application. As you can see, this will be a lengthy, thoroughly vetted process, which at best will not reach fruition until the middle of the year.

The next two projects are a little more straight forward in that they both lay within our Waterfront Overlay District on Lumber Road, which contemplates mixed use. Both of these projects would have to be scaled back to a degree that works in the zone and both would need to offer mitigation to ease any negative impacts if any were established.

To make sure that we are on the right track, the Village has hired several outside experts to guide us through the process. Urban Planners, Traffic Engineers, Environmentalists and Geotechnic Engineers have all been brought on board to see us through what should be an involved and time-consuming agenda.

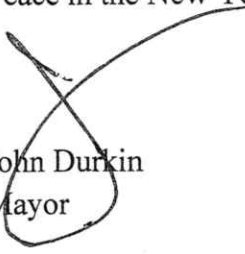
Also, Trustee Sarah Oral and I were able to attend a public session of the Army Corps of Engineers proposed flood gate project. This project, at a cost of over 100 billion dollars and a time line of 20 years is meant to prevent lower Manhattan from flooding again as it did during Hurricane Sandy. It would surround Lower Manhattan with a series of flood gates in all the waterways leading up to or touching Manhattan Island. The one major flaw in the project is that as a result of these flood gates, the North Shore of Long Island (including Hempstead Harbor) would flood. I pointed out that a plan that did not save the North Shore is no plan at all. The Corps promised to take into account all public comment and was a least five years from a final determination. I want to thank Eric Swensen of the North Shore Hempstead Harbor Protection Committee for his leadership in this critical area and for helping us all to be more aware of the danger that looms if these plans are implemented without consideration to our fragile ecosystem and vulnerable population. We will keep you updated as we get more information. Please check out our website: Historicroslyn.org

Finally, I would like to note the passing of two important people in the history of our Village. First, Tony Distefano. Although Mr. Distefano did not live in the Village, he and his company have worked here for years, supplying us with trees, shrubs, annuals and perennials. Whenever our crews were overwhelmed in snowstorms and mudslides, Tony was always available to back us up. He was a hard-working man who came here with just change in his pocket and he built a thriving business. He leaves behind four industrious children and many grandchildren. They will all miss him as will we.

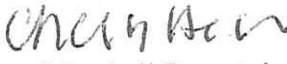
Then there is Mark Trantel. You may not know Mark, but his impact on the Village was large. He was a little man with a great heart. Working behind the scenes, Mark took care of our Village. He cleaned the Village Hall, served on many different committees, gathered petitions and always seemed to wind up on the right side of history. He never sought attention; he just quietly and efficiently did his job. Each one of us who knew him will always remember his generous open nature, his sense of humor and his great laugh. He gave rides to people who needed them, he visited the sick in the hospital, and he brought food to the hungry. He was the embodiment of a good neighbor and a good man.

As we leave 2019, we don't leave it with sorrow but with loving memory of a village that is growing and two men who helped it do so.


Peace in the New Year,



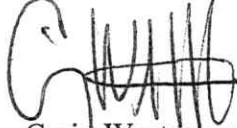
John Durkin
Mayor



Marshall Bernstein
Deputy Mayor



Marta Genovese
Trustee



Craig Westergard
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Sarah Oral
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