



# **Council of Greater Manhasset Civic Associations, Inc.**

(Greater Council)

PO Box 600, Manhasset, New York 11030-0600

[www.manhassetcivic.org](http://www.manhassetcivic.org)

## **Executive Board /Officers 2012-13**

eMail: [info@manhassetcivic.org](mailto:info@manhassetcivic.org)

President: Richard Bentley  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice Pres: Elizabeth Miller  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Pres: John Crewe  
Secretary: John Walter  
Treasurer: William D'Antonio  
Past President: Ann Marie (Curd) Fruhauf

## **Member Civic Associations**

Bayview Civic Association  
Flower Hill Civic Association  
Manhasset Park Civic Association  
Norgate Civic Association  
North Strathmore Civic Association  
Plandome Civic Association  
Plandome Heights Civic Association  
Shorehaven Civic Association  
South Strathmore Civic Association  
Strathmore Vanderbilt Civic Association  
Strathmore Village Civic Association  
Terrace Manor Civic Association

## **Liaisons to Incorporated Villages:**

Flower Hill  
Munsey Park  
North Hills  
Plandome  
Plandome Heights  
Plandome Manor

## **Other Organization Liaisons**

Coalition for Safer Manhasset  
Chamber of Commerce  
Manhasset Preservation Society

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## **Draft 2 – MINUTES OF MEETING FEBRUARY 12, 2014**

A regular meeting of the Council of Greater Manhasset Civic Associations, Inc. (GC) was held at 8:15 PM on Wednesday, February 12, 2014 at the Onderdonk House in Manhasset, NY: with Richard Bentley, serving as Chair and John W. Walter as Recording Secretary. The following persons were in attendance:

### **Officers Present:**

President: Richard Bentley, BAYVIEW CA  
Secretary: John W. Walter, Flower Hill Assn.  
William D'Antonio, Treasurer, Munsey Park  
Jeff O'Brian, North Strathmore CA  
James Brooks, Manhasset Park CA  
Andrew Schwenk, South Strathmore CA

### **Guests Present:**

Andrew DeMartin, TNH Public Safety Commissioner  
Anna Kaplan, Councilwoman, TNH  
Sabereh Samet, Legislative Aid, TNH  
Chuck Idol

1. **Call to order**. Roundtable Introduction. A hearty Thank You to North Strathmore CA for tonight's venue.
2. **Councilwoman Anna Kaplan**; [TNH Open Items List \(link\)](#) updates. Councilwoman Kaplan reviewed each of the items on the attached report, with additional discussion on following items:  
**Apple Bank**: Cut down all trees January 18, 2014. In 1992 the BZA had approved the Apple Bank landscaping plan for the buffer zone, but Apple Bank did not do anything until when they quietly on a Saturday of a holiday weekend, decided to cut down all the trees without any notice. The Town will monitor Apple Bank's replacement of new mature trees must be done within 90 days (April 18<sup>th</sup>) after the cutting. Town's internal investigation continues; has not yet concluded whether the permit that was reportedly shown to the responding police officers on 1/18/14 was in fact a valid permit.  
**Parking**: Town wants to re-visit the parking restrictions in the Plandome Rd vicinity (side streets) because they currently vary widely and better uniformity is believed to help both shoppers as well as enforcement efforts. Town action is underway to approve creation of some new parking spaces on Hillside Ave between Plandome Rd and Locust St. Town advancing revision to current Plandome Rd Taxi Stand hours (@ LIRR) to make more spaces available for shoppers during non-rush hour commuting times. Greater Council and Plandome Rd Parking committee support both efforts.
3. **TNH OEM**: Andrew DeMartin: TNH Public Safety Commissioner gave an overview of Town's Emergency Management facilities, systems, and protocols. Now has a FT assistant, Matt Temares During emergencies, All Town staff in every department come under control of OEM and can be redeployed to perform emergency duties as directed by OEM. The presentation document will be provided to Mr. Bentley to post and circulate to Greater Council.

Emergency Notifications are available by home phone, cell phone text messages and eMail. Register online at TNH website has RED BUTTON "Swift911" for adding your contact info. OEM's FEMA coordinator is Tom DeVaney – he is available for FEMA information to Town residents and Villages.

Highway services: Coordination of debris clearing functions. Town can provide emergency fuel in

emergencies. TNH has sufficient road salt on hand and is available to Villages in emergency situations. Town 's primary 'bunker' at the New Castle facility; Has secondary and tertiary back-up power systems, data back-up and recovery, and communications hub. Can function as the Town or any Villages offices in an emergency. John Walter will meet with Mr. DeMartin to review whether Congregational Church Steeple may be a site for the Manhasset signaling station.

TNH Security desk tel: 879-4480 is available 24/7. Andrew DeMartin Tel: 869-7830 C: 708-5917.

Many agencies working on disaster plan to better address LI's Natural Gas supply. Currently ALL of LI relies on a NJ pathway for its natural gas. Disruption such as floods higher than 17 feet could stop the gas flow.

4. **Quaker Meeting House.** Discussion with James Schultz, Religious Society of Friends deferred to following GC meeting to discuss future alternatives for this historic building.
5. **Inisfada:** Chuck Idol, one of the key Inisfada supporters came thanked North Strathmore for making space available in Onderdonk House for Inisfada & Brady family historical items. A vast amount of info is available on [www.Inisfada.org](http://www.Inisfada.org) concerning the prominent role Genevieve Brady had in the women's suffrage movement that he envisions could grow in future into a museum. The Quaker/ Friends facility may be a possible consideration and is willing to join that discussion.
6. **Secretary's Report:** John Walter. Approval of [January 8, 2014 Minutes \(link\)](#). The Second draft was previously on the membership website and the following motion was made and seconded.  
**Motion:** To Approve the Minutes of January 8, 2014 as presented. Motion carried unanimously.
7. **Treasurers Report:** Bill D'Antonio reported the current balance as of January 31, 2014 at \$ 3,770.91. Same four Civics' dues still outstanding (Strathmore Vanderbilt, North Strathmore, Plandome and \_\_\_\_). New business: The Manhasset Preservation Society seeks to donate the balance of their legal fund \$2,476 to GC for future legal expense and community wide projects. Rich recommend that those funds be used to establish a new separate GC savings acct as a "GC Reserve Fund" at Chase Bank. Andrew Schwenk expressed interest in developing a policy document governing appropriate uses of the GC reserve  
**Motion:** To approve receipt of donation and establish a reserve fund in a separate GC bank savings account. Moved by Bill and seconded by John Walter: Motion carried unanimously.
8. **President's Report/ Old Business Status**
  - a. **311 Stats:** Marked improvement: 87% Ontime Completion this month with similar total volume from prior Jan. Reports thru Jan 2014 SR details for Manhasset on [GC Website 311Stats \(link\)](#).
  - b. **Plandome Rd Parking Committee update:** Documents on [GC Website-Parking \(link\)](#). Andrew Schwenk noted the Committee Chair had not yet filed the FOIL request for those entities that have grandfathered parking businesses to determine the number of spaces they were grandfathered for. Need to do a "FOIL" to find out. Doesn't believe single homes with a rented car in driveway should be focus of enforcement effort. The committee's chairs seemed to have focused their main and only goal to find additional merchants spaces.
  - c. **MPD Update (see pg 2 attached).** Andrew's summary is posted with today's agenda.
  - d. **Beautification efforts (any update/new efforts?)** Shutters on town hall annex?
9. **Future GC meeting Presentations**
  - a. Follow-up discussion with David Gallo on Mt Olive site.
  - b. Religious Society of Friends (Quaker) Meeting House
10. **Upcoming Events:**
  - **Mon 2/24/14; 6-8pm:** [TNH Bldg Dept advocate Mobile Office Hours \(link\)](#) Manhasset Public Library, 30 Onderdonk Ave.
  - **Sat 3/1/14:** [10th Annual Town of North Hempstead Polar Plunge \(link\)](#). Raising Funds for Special Olympics New York. Registr 10am; Plunge @ Noon. North Hempstead Beach Park - Port Washington.
11. **Motion to adjourn:** Motion carried unanimously at 9:50pm.

Respectively submitted

John W. Walter

## Greater Council Summary of Open TNH Items

**Topic**      **Last Known Status**

**North Shore Alert:** GC previously requested TNH support to add uninc areas of Manhasset into the PW-MOEM's North Short Alert (NSA) program, currently the only areas on the PW peninsula that are not covered in the program. Peter Foreman presented a summary of NSAlert at GC 9/18/13 Meeting. Ms. Kaplan asked GC allow TNH Public Safety Commissioner Andrew DeMartin to present at Nov GC mtg, then has requested postponement each month since Nov 2013; **Being presented tonight.**

**Plandome Road Vision Project:** [5/1 Community Meeting Summary \(link\)](#) and updated [Community Feedback Summary \(link\)](#) posted on GC 'Our Projects' tab. TNH completed an interim Plandome Rd repaving project in Aug 2012. Follow-up needed on (1) Repainted crosswalk designs were the standard staggered stripes (not the expected more decorative crosswalk designs). TNH completed an extension of southbound Plandome Rd left turn lane to eastbound 25A in July 2013. TNH continues to separately fund incremental phase projects while Tom Delaney investigates alternative grants for the much broader Plandome Rd Vision project (25A to Webster). **Town funded a Manhasset Ave widening project now awaiting a 2<sup>nd</sup> round of County revisions. Architect (AKRF) will respond to NC requested minor modifications, believed to focus on drainage issues. Once County approves, implementation schedule will be coordinated with next avail warm weather school break.**

**Apple Bank:** Reported in January that TNH Bdg Dept had approved only the pre-existing variance for existing insufficient parking spaces. Bldg Dept had denied any tree removal or other work in existing buffer zone, but that If owner appeals, it could become a future BZA matter. **On 1/18/14 Sat am of the long MLK holiday weekend, an Apple Bank tree contractor cut down every tree in the buffer zone. NCPD responded to neighbor's urgent call and its reported that NCPD was shown a valid TNH permit for the tree removals. By the time TNH Code enforcement arrived, all trees were already cut down. Councilwoman Kaplan has assured that TNH will replace all trees with similar mature trees and landscaping within 90 days, Under TNH internal investigation. TNH has not yet made public whether the alleged permit shown to police was in fact valid and if so, when and who had issued it, given the community's clear objection.**

**Onderdonk Ave Traffic Calming:** TNH determined Stop Sign & Crosswalk @ George St were unsafe; recommends increased NCPD enforcement on speeders and vehicles passing into oncoming traffic lane to avoid long 25A traffic light. Ms Kaplan and Rich B both wrote to NCPD. Residents have not noticed any increased NCPD enforcement presence; Encourage residents to call 3<sup>rd</sup> Pct.to increase enforcement.

**Plandome Rd Parking Committee:** [GC website Parking Committee documents link.](#) GC previously discussed and support change recommended by Parking Committee on Plandome Rd Taxi Stand to be converted to shopper parking during non-peak LIRR times. TNH advancing it, keeping **TWO** spaces as Taxi Stand/ 24 hrs. **TNH hearing date 2/25/14 for creation of 3 additional street parking spaces on Hillside Ave, next to MPD lot as recommended by Parking Committee. Both supported by GC.**

**Bayview Ave Infrastructure:** Ms. Kaplan met w/residents at Bayview Civic (BCA) 10/17/12 and will meet again once architect concepts are ready. TNH Board engaged architect for waterside walkway conceptual design alternatives to then include funding in TNH's 5 year capital plan. TNH currently pursuing a Hazard Mitigation grant for this project. Anna to provide more details at Bayview Civic Assoc mtg on Oct 15. TNH/Tom DeVaney working on grant application due Summer 2014. Request for an imminent short extension of existing guard rail at 90 degree turn will be submitted shortly.

**Plandome Pond Park:** In Spring 2013, TNH clean up and split rail fence repairs completed; County cleanup at adjacent Sump 408 completed. TNH engaging study / pond sediment analysis that will conclude what options are available to re-establish water circulation/ flow and control worsening algae growth and stagnation of the pond. Study work completed, TNH is discussing an estimated \$300K capital project for dredging the pond and related work. **Resulting report was initially anticipated to be shared with civics, but has not yet been shared, so Rich submitted FOIL request on 1/27/14 to Town Clerk Wayne Wink for copy of the full consultant's report; FOIL Acknowledged but report not yet received.**

**Valley Park Reconstruction:** Park Plans online "Our Projects" tab [GC website Our Projects- Valley Park \(link\).](#) Reinforced wood guardrail installation completed at Maple St/grandstand. Sporadic reports of traffic congestion & insufficient parking esp @ game changes. Equinox parking lot agreement expected to be signed imminently under previously negotiated financials. No additional lease funds for Maple/ Bayview Ave intersection; TNH will fund directly. TNH has bonded field lighting work and project currently out to bid; hopes to complete by Jan 2014 weather permitting. Remaining deferred project items undetermined time frame are: comfort station/ concession, playground, as well as Army Corp Engineers creek dredging. **Lighting project installed in late Dec 2013, pending final connections and testing. Investigating state-of-the-art 'prefab' bathroom facilities as an aesthetically pleasing yet lower cost and faster project. Local sport contribution commitments not yet paid.**

**Village Bath:** Project substantially completed and much positive feedback. **Neighbors now requesting green slats installed on the cyclone fence to better hide fence; Torkan in process of installing.**

**Christ Church Parish House:** More info on [MPS website.](#) Bank opening est Feb 2014; parish house completion est July 2014.

**Mt Olive Church property** [\(Site Map Link\)](#): in Spinney Hill in development consideration by local developer David Gallo. Preliminary environmental study completed. **Developer started discussions @ Jan GC meeting.**

**BP Station at 25A/Plandome** Major tank replacement project commenced in Dec and will take couple months to complete.

**Shutters on Town Hall 200 Plandome Rd Bldg:** Jeff O'B submitted to A Kaplan a \$625 cost proposal (5 pairs shutters @ \$125/pr) on 5/31/13. Rich offered GC contribution. **Anna felt \$ was not the delay problem, just need to expedite TNH approval and procurement process.**

## -----Nassau County Open Issues-----

**Bayview Ave/Maple waterfront:** NC DPW has fence replacement in NC 2013 planned work. Legislator Rich Nicoletto is following up; confirms that fence installation is expected to occur as soon as warmer weather arrives in Spring.

**Mobil Station on 25A @ Valley Park:** Renovation Construction application received from owner in County Planning Commission review. **GC raised construction timing concerns (currently the only bathroom facility near Valley Park), and nearby BP station is under tank replacement. Legislator Rich Nicoletto is following up.**

**County DPW site on Maple St:** Anna Kaplan requested assistance and support from County Legislator Nicoletto for land transfer or shared use from NC DPW on Maple Ave: Add'l Valley Park parking, off hour postal truck parking, and intersection redesign.

From: Schwenk, Andrew

Sent: Tuesday, January 28, 2014 3:55 PM

To: 'Richard Bentley'

Subject: Greater Council / MPD Update

**MPD Update:** I attended the January 27, 2014 MPD meeting and wanted to get you updated on a few issues:

- The MPD will be submitting a letter today to the TNH notifying them that Commissioner Regan has moved out of the MPD and therefore is no longer an acting commissioner. He is currently in the process of looking for residential property within the MPD but he doesn't have specific timing as to when that might be completed. The two remaining commissioners are hoping that the TNH will re-appoint Mr. Regan back as commissioner if he can provide proof of residency in a timely manner. They are however leaving that decision to the TNH to determine how the open position should be handled going forward. The MPD did an internal audit of their records and noted that Mr. Regan did not sign any checks or participate in an official capacity while his primary residency was outside of the MPD area.
- The MPD is in the process of moving forward with a change of procedure for parking at the Manhasset Train Station during weekend hours. Under the new rule, Manhasset residents with a MPD sticker on their car will still be able to park at the train station at any time, on any day. Manhasset residents without a sticker and all other guests will have to buy a weekend parking pass for \$5. The MPD is currently researching solar powered ticket machines that will be on property at all times to sell these tickets. The MPD is well aware that a strong education will be necessary to inform Manhasset residents of this new procedure so they will be handing out flyers, communicating with the Manhasset Press and Manhasset Times and providing a grace period for those weekend parkers in violation of the new rule. The reason for this new rule will be to generate fees from non-MPD members that use the Manhasset Train Station parking lot to make weekend and overnight trips into NYC. As always has been the case, MPD members are able to purchase two permanent stickers for the cars per household.
- The MPD is in the process of exploring the idea of new permit stickers for each vehicle. Surrounding areas have more updated stickers that include an expiration date, license plate number, permit number and an empty space to list a specific parking area if needed (see my 11/04/13 email). MPD employees are currently doing a random "test", cross referencing cars with DMV computers to see on a random basis if a significant number of cars with MPD stickers are in fact residents outside of the district. This could be one of the factors in determining the speed in which they move ahead with these new stickers.
- The MPD is in the process of accepting renewal applications for merchant parking. Once all applications have been submitted by the deadline (I believe late February) the MPD will evaluate if a reallocation should take place between currently allocated merchant parking spots and additional MPD residential commuter spots. On that same topic, it is being discussed that once the newly purchased Locust Street property is converted to a parking lot, current merchant parked cars in the Hillside location will be moved to Locust and Hillside will be used for additional commuter parking. This is a net gain for MPD commuters at the expense of merchant parking.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Andrew Schwenk