

## WEST HARRISON NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

### **Minutes of Meeting: April 21, 2005, West Harrison Fire House**

#### **Attendance: 58**

**Fred Sciliano** opened the meeting at 7:40 and thanked everyone for coming.

**Gregg Rosenberg** gave the treasurer's report of a balance of \$1077.00 from dues and donations. The minutes of the March 31 meeting were approved.

**Your secretary** gave a membership report of 97 signed members with 38 that paid dues. The committee is working on a press release and a membership drive. Membership cards will be supplied upon payment of dues.

**Fred** welcomed Councilman **Tom Scappaticci** who joined the membership, and he gave an update on the post office issue. He has been in touch with Congresswomen Lowey's office. Two sites are being looked at – the old Lake Farms market and the old post office site. He stated that there will be a future meeting with the mayor and the consultants to give us an update on the streetscape and park renovations project.

**Committee Report: Charlie Russo** for the Parks and Recreation Committee – he and Donna D'Alessandro met with the mayor who showed them the updated streetscape plans which is not too much different than before. They reviewed the 3 options for the overhead wires, some costing the town little others costing a lot. They saw some changes on the park plan including a gazebo out into the water, boating facility, expanded picnic areas, bocce and beach volley ball courts. The field renovations will commence after Labor Day. There will be artificial turf, a full football and soccer field and baseball field. There is a big change for the entrance. It may not be final. We will all be able to view the plans here soon.

**Floor discussion: Councilman Scappaticci**, attending, mentioned that everything was still preliminary and we need to ask questions when the planners come to our meeting. The field is the only completed project ready to go.

There was a complaint about the work that Con Edison is doing now replacing poles – why are they doing this when all these changes are planned. Tom Scappaticci replied that that work was based on long time project plans for safety measures that had to be taken.

Tennis courts are in disrepair and is probably why they are not being used.

Tom said that the town board was meeting with bonders and the plan was as minimal a tax impact as possible for the project.

**Code enforcement update: Fred** – The town task force has been actively pursuing illegal apartments, hitting the streets at dusk and bringing a lot of people into court. The code enforcement officer is still looking for signers of legitimate complaints.

Your secretary thanked **JoAnn King** and **Kathy Sgro** of our membership committee for the good job they have been doing as our “greeters”, welcoming people as they come in and helping in various ways.

#### **More floor discussion:**

- Many blacktop repairs needed. Tom said that a street gets done over every once every 6 or 7 years. They review and do so many each year.

- Complaints on the unkempt condition of some grassy properties at the entrances of West Harrison from White Plains – may be county owned.
- A member thanked the board of the WHNA for forming this organization, complimenting our mission.
- A member said that we must discuss school board finances and form a schools committee. A school board member present, Dan Monteforte, stated that no one comes to the school budget public meetings or board meetings and that is where the input is wanted and needed. He gave a short overview of the school systems needs that they want to address, mostly facility based. Lengthy discussion. **Lori Wilson** interjected that our board will discuss such a committee, but it was appropriate for residents to go to the school board meetings.
- Lori also mentioned the availability of general issue/complaint forms.
- Suggestion offered to invite a school board member to speak at our meeting.

The next general meeting is tentatively scheduled for May 19. It may have to be changed to accommodate the mayor and his update presentation on the streetscape/park project.