

## **WEST HARRISON NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION**

### **Minutes of Meeting: January 20, 2005, West Harrison Fire House**

**Attendance: 51**

**Fred Sciliano** opened the meeting at 7:35 pm. He, along with **Lori Wilson** and **Jeff LaGrotte** spoke about the following:

- Applications for membership are being passed out tonight for signing, although the dues will not be collected yet. Our legal status is not yet set up and that is being worked on.
- Work is continuing on the by-laws and they are going to the attorney tomorrow.
- Committees are listed on the application and to make this association work we need members working on committees. Everyone was encouraged to sign up for a committee.
- Committees should meet soon, pick a chairman and make lists of complaints.
- The new trustees were introduced: Gerri Barbagallo, Mario Gallo, and Gregg Rosenberg.
- Four of us attended a meeting of the Brentwood Preservation Committee. Our groups have similar goals and similar workings. There will be greater impact with both groups moving forward together. Their lawyer offered to help us with some legal work in return for Jeff helping them with some accounting work.
- Fred spoke to the mayor who agreed to come and speak at a future meeting. He is willing to work with us. He is in the process of forming a task force to deal with illegal housing, and he is looking to use the White Plains model. He invited us to the Feb. 15 board meeting to present our organization.

The **minutes** of the last meeting were read and approved. Later a correction was made: The fireman's plan that was voted on last month was not a pension plan but an awards program.

- We have been invited to present our new organization to the Feb. 15 Town Board meeting and a sign-up sheet was passed around.
- Angela spoke of an idea about a tree lighting ceremony at Christmas time and the decorating of the tree in the island.
- Joan Walsh told us about the reworking of the water pipes with a new 12 inch line in this end of town and this info should be followed up by the utilities committee.

Discussions:

- Ideas for other guest speakers, one being the Commissioner of Public Works.
- The fact that we need to make time and make our committees work.
- An attendee, a chairman of the democratic committee in town, Cory Raymond, stated that we will be working for some of the same goals as his group and offered his services as a lawyer.
- Our organization is open to business owners and some are here tonight.
- Joan, town clerk, will e-mail town board agenda to our board whenever requested.
- The fact that we need to make time and make our committees work. We will contact the Mintzer Center to see if we can have our committee meetings there. Members spoke together about joining committees as we awaited the arrival of our guest speaker.

Fred introduced our guest speaker, **Dave Hall, Chief of Police for the Town of Harrison**. He spoke of recent events and various issues:

- Albanian gang being investigated for 2 home invasions here and may be responsible for many others. They have millions of dollars in recovered merchandise at the police station.
- The double homicide down town – a son killed his mother and brother.
- The shooting in the bar.
- The Sound Federal Bank robbery for which the made an arrest.
- Our police issue a large amount of summonses, in the top five departments in the state. A minimum of 50 speeding summonses a day.
- A cop arrives at your door when needed in approximately 2 minutes.
- Governor Pataki appointed him to represent Westchester County on his terrorism task force.
- Not a lot of crime in Silver Lake.
- Homeless men removed from camp behind the tennis courts.

The Chief took problems and complaints from the floor. He encouraged all to call him for ongoing problems. He recorded many items and promised to take care of them.

- Dangerous driving conditions on Underhill Ave. - He will put a speed trailer out on Monday. The County won't approve of a traffic light at Main and Underhill.
- Parking problems and the need for one way streets.
- Speed and large trucks on Lake Street - He will put up pedestrian crossing signs and do more vehicle checks. Traffic checks are done often to keep unsafe vehicles of road.
- Car on Daniel St. with flat tires still there since July after many calls.
- 2 hour parking around Preston has to be enforced.
- Youth doing damage at night at Mintzer Center.
- Teens have no where to go to congregate.

The police were complimented from the floor on their excellent response to emergencies.

The next meeting will be held **Thursday, Feb. 17 at 7:30** here at the fire house.

Respectfully submitted,  
Angela Amodeo, secretary