

INCORPORATED 1952
(845) 351-4745 (Voice)
(845) 351-2668 (Fax)
Website: tuxedopark-ny.gov

VILLAGE BOARD MEETING
UPCOMING DATES
January 18, 2017 @ 7:00 p.m.
February 15, 2017 @ 7:00 p.m.
March 15, 2017 @ 7:00 p.m.
April 19, 2017 @ 7:00 p.m.
May 17, 2017 @ 7:00 p.m.

VILLAGE OF TUXEDO PARK
P.O. BOX 31, 80 LORILLARD ROAD
TUXEDO PARK, NEW YORK 10987

Mary Jo Guinchard
Mayor

January 18, 2017

Dear Residents and Neighbors:

I hope everyone had an enjoyable holiday season. On behalf of the Village, we wish you a Prosperous and Happy New Year. The Board of Trustees also extends its gratitude to the Village employees and First Responders for all of their hard work and dedication. Thank you also to the residents for all of your "well-wishes" to Village employees.

This is the eighth Mayor's newsletter to the Village since taking office on July 6, 2015. Previous versions of these newsletters can be found on the Village website at www.tuxedopark-ny.gov under the heading "Mayor's Newsletter". Please read any inserts that accompany this newsletter as these may contain important dates and upcoming events and information. Please note, the Mayor's Newsletters and any inserts accompanying the Mayor's Newsletters are approved and official communications of the Village of Tuxedo Park. Similarly, any information posted on the Village website or message boards at the Main Entrance and South Gate are approved and official communications by the Village of Tuxedo Park. We also post updates on Village matters on the Village website at www.tuxedopark-ny.gov. Conversely, any messages posted on personal blogs, personal texts, personal email broadcasts, Twitter, Facebook or any other means of electronic or written communication referring to Village matters are not officially endorsed by the Village of Tuxedo Park and only represent the personal opinions of the individual(s) or organization(s) creating such communications.

Tuxedo Farms Easements Closing:

On December 19, 2016, the Village of Tuxedo Park, along with various other parties such as Town of Tuxedo, Orange County Land Trust, The Related Companies, Tuxedo Park Associates (TPA) and The Tuxedo Club, executed the final documents pertaining to the easements for the Tuxedo Farms project. This was the culmination of much hard work by many Village residents over decades. Special thanks to the late former Mayor Neal Madera, former Mayor Kent Kroeber, Peter Regna, JoAnn Hanson, former Trustee Paul Gluck and others. The final executed documents are available for review in the Village Office.

Pilgrim Pipeline Committee Update (by Gary Pompan, Chair):

As we all are aware, the proposed Pilgrim Pipeline (dual crude oil and oil products pipelines connecting terminals in Albany NY with terminals in Linden NJ) has been pending for approximately 2 years. The route originally submitted by Pilgrim has a direct and substantial impact on both the Town of Tuxedo and the Village of Tuxedo Park. The originally submitted plan reflects a routing adjacent to Route 17 (on the east side of Route 17) then crossing Route 17 into the Village near St. Mary's just behind the Main Entrance Gate, crossing Tuxedo Road, then exiting the Village and continuing through the Town of Tuxedo and then crossing through the land designated for Tuxedo Farms and eventually exiting the Town of Tuxedo.

Over these many months The Village BOT (and the Pilgrim Pipeline Committee) has expressed its objection and concerns to government officials at the town, county and state level and to Pilgrim Pipeline directly. The Village BOT introduced and passed local legislation to ban any petroleum pipelines on Village property and to provide the Village BOT with the authority to vote against any petroleum pipeline project that would be formally presented to the Village and State governments.

The obvious potential threat to our property and the environment we have so long cherished and fought to protect is clear. The Village continues to work with the various coalitions, both in New York and New Jersey to support their efforts to defeat the Pilgrim Pipeline project.

As you may also be aware, for many years the Town and Village negotiated with The Related Companies to limit the scope of the Tuxedo Farms project (in the Town of Tuxedo) as part of the Town of Tuxedo SEQR/Special Permit processes. As part of the final agreement, it was agreed upon the creation of an environmental “doughnut” around the Village, thus protecting the “doughnut” areas adjacent to Village property from development. This “doughnut” had been agreed much before introduction of the Pilgrim Pipeline. The final agreement also provided that land owned by The Related Companies referred to as the Northern Tract, on the northern side above the Village, become part of a permanent conservation easement and then gifted to the Town. A small portion of the Northern Tract would also be gifted to the Village.

The completion of this conservation easement (Orange County Land Trust was selected as the steward of such easement) was completed (documents signed by all parties) along with the transfer of the lands from The Related Companies to the Town and to the Village this past December 2016.

What is significant is that, with the threat of the Pilgrim Pipeline effectively coming through the center of the Town of Tuxedo and directly through Tuxedo Farms, The Related Companies began discussions with Pilgrim Pipeline to seek a revised route for the proposed pipeline. Early on, the Village interjected itself into these discussions since the Village has both a direct and significant indirect interest in the pipeline routing. The revised route finally proposed by The Related Companies did not involve any Village property and these discussions quickly became limited to the sole affected landowner, The Related Companies, and the Pilgrim Pipeline. Ultimately, Related and Pilgrim came to an agreement on such revised route. As the Village is not a party to this private agreement, we do not have full disclosure of the details of this agreement. What we do know is that the agreed revised route crosses Route 17 north of the Village around Warwick Brook Road and then circumvents the Village to the west. A portion of the Northern Tract property will be used as an easement for a portion of the Pilgrim Pipeline (if the project is approved). The Orange County Land Trust ultimately accepted such additional encumbrance of the Pilgrim Pipeline easement (through a portion of the Northern Tract property) and the land was transferred to the Town.

To date no re-filing of a revised routing of the pipeline has been made with the State. We would anticipate seeing something in the not to distant future. Those interested can see a draft of the revised routing in the Village Office.

What are the implications to the Village? First, the Village stands fast in opposition of the pipeline in its entirety, period. The revised route (once filed) takes the pipeline outside of the Village. Thus the Village is not directly impacted and is effectively sidelined both legislatively and from being a “direct” vote in opposition of the pipeline. Indirectly, of course we are impacted as to its existence on the Northern Tract and of course as a community as residents of the Town.

The Village will actively be participating in the SEQR process once the official filings are made and work with the Town and the other coalitions to defeat the pipeline.

The “Keep”:

The “Keep” renovation at the Main Entrance to Tuxedo Park is largely complete.

The “Booth”:

Finalized construction plans will be submitted for RFP as soon as possible. A contractor will be selected and the construction of the new “manned” booth will take place as soon as possible (weather permitting).

Police:

In addition to our 4 full-time Police Officers, which presently include two Officers, a Detective and our Chief, the Village has 16 part-time Police Officers. At the last few monthly scheduled Board of Trustee meetings, Chief Melchiorre has introduced a part-time Police Officer at the beginning of each meeting and he will continue to do so going forward. The purpose of this introduction is for Village residents to become familiar with their part-time Police officers and for the part-time Police officers to become familiar with Village residents. Please contact Chief Melchiorre at (845) 351-4741 (the main Village of Tuxedo Park Police telephone number) or by email at Police@tuxedopark-ny.gov to make an appointment to meet in person or to provide any suggestions or comments.

Wee Wah Dam:

Please take time to drive around the Wee Wah Lake. As residents can see, the water has been lowered in Wee Wah Lake in order to allow work on the Wee Wah Dam to begin in the spring, weather permitting. Clough, Harbour & Associates LLP (CHA), headquartered in Albany, New York, the engineering firm contracted by the Village for dams and dam inspections, has finalized plans and is preparing bid documents (RFPs) which will go out in the next month or so.

The Financial Committee, chaired by Maureen Coen, is working together with the Mayor and BOT to evaluate the best

possible alternatives for issuing municipal bonds to pay for the Wee Wah Dam.

Tuxedo Park Tree Advisory Board (TAB), Tree City USA, www.tptreeboard.org:

Chiu-Yin Hempel (Chairman), Dena Steele, Christopher Gow, Jack Kilgore, Fred Rella, Jeff Voss, and the Mayor (Committee members). The Tree Committee promotes environmentally friendly maintenance and planting of trees throughout the Village including applying for grants to support such efforts.

-The Tree Advisory Board emailed to residents a 4-page, full-color Winter Guide to the Race Track Nature Preserve: "What to look out for" during the week of January 9. The Guide is illustrated with color images of trees, birds and other wildlife observable in the winter months. This is a very handy reference when you next go for a stroll in the Preserve on a clear, crisp day.

-For those residents who do not receive email, please visit the Village Office to obtain a hard copy.

-Please visit the Tree Advisory Board website, www.tptreeboard.org. The site is updated monthly. It contains excellent tree/plant care and related environmental information. In particular, go to Homeowner's corner (for tips on controlling invasive plants and choosing the right trees/plants for the right place, etc.), News (for photos and news of the Race Track Nature Preserve Dedication Ceremony, the 13-person-strong "Deviners" and their superb "de-vining" work around the Park, Arbor Day Celebration, etc.) and Race Track Nature Preserve (for updates on work at, and fundraising for, our community nature sanctuary).

-Residents who get the Mayor's letter by email attachment (about 60 names) will also receive the Winter Guide as a second attachment.

Resident and Non-resident Vehicle Tags:

Please contact Village Deputy Clerk Denise Spalthoff at (845) 351-2251 or dspalthoff@tuxedopark-ny.gov with any questions regarding vehicle tags.

Orange & Rockland (O&R): Please visit www.oru.com to sign up to receive alerts of power outages that may affect you, to report outages, etc. There is also an O&R mobile app for your smart phone that you will find most helpful. It is critical that when there is a power outage, you always report such outage to O&R directly either by phone (877-434-4100), online, or text. Each report is logged in and helps O & R to locate the areas of impact.

CodeRed:

We encourage all residents to sign up to receive CodeRed announcements. If you haven't done so already, please go to the Village website at www.tuxedopark-ny.gov and click on CodeRed to sign up. If you don't have computer access or wish to speak to someone, please call CodeRed at 866-939-0911.

Suggestions:

Your suggestions are always important. The Board of Trustees will be given all suggestions to review and, if warranted, discussed at the meeting following such suggestion. E-mail to suggestions@tuxedopark-ny.gov, mail (ATTN: Suggestions), drop off in person, or after hours slide under door at the Village Office.

Reminders:

Check the website for updates and dates of various Village board meetings.

Mayor of the Village of Tuxedo Park Open House, *Come as you are and stop by to say hello or discuss anything on your mind.*

194 East Lake Road
Tuxedo Park, NY 10987
3:30 p.m.-5:30 p.m.
Saturday, February 25, 2017 and Saturday, April 22, 2017

Help us to be green, to reduce paper use and postage costs. You can elect to receive future editions of this newsletter via e-mail by sending your name(s) and e-mail addresses to suggestions@tuxedopark-ny.gov and requesting to be put on the newsletter email distribution list. Please state whether you will like only electronic, mail, both, or neither.

As always, please call, text, email, or come see me at your convenience. To accommodate your calendar, I am always available at the Village Office by appointment. Please note, my standing office hours are Tuesdays from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mary Jo". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Mayor Mary Jo Guinchard
mayormaryjo@gmail.com
845-351-4745, ext. 5 (office)
713-501-9960 (c)