

## West Islip Summit Coalition

Minutes from the Quality of Life Committee Meeting  
Wednesday, April 15, 2009

Present:

Bernadette Burns  
Margaret Campise  
Nancy Cochran  
Maria Figalora

Steve Gellar  
Bill Johnston  
Barbara Jones  
Jim Lundie

Lynn Luttenberger  
Marie Pepe  
Rocco Pepe

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m.

- The subcommittee discussed the new BMW building being erected on the south side of Sunrise Highway. The business falls within West Islip, and will therefore be taxed on the community's tax rolls. Additionally, Mr. Pepe has elicited assurances from the owner that the cherry trees planted in front of the Lowe's store will continue across the front of the dealership, further enhancing that area of town.
- Joe DiPalma, Anthony Formica, and Jim Lundie met with the management of the King Kullen/Blockbuster shopping properties to discuss the loitering situation and the need for better lighting and supervision.
  - LIPA will repair broken lights facing the property.
  - Management will organize a general cleanup of the area, including power washing and general repairs, and will investigate how to rid the area of the pigeons that nest in the façade of the building.
  - Management has agreed to install additional lighting and cameras, and to communicate with the Third Precinct. Storeowners will be encouraged to prosecute violators. Mrs. Burns will share this information with Mr. Hartill and Mrs. Shierant in the hopes that students will avoid the area if they know that prohibited behavior is being monitored and possibly filmed.
  - West Islip Beautification regularly cleans up the Union Boulevard properties, but it is difficult to keep up with the refuse that continually blows into the railroad fence. A letter will be sent to the site management requesting an update on all landscaping/garbage issues. Concrete trash receptacles are to be replaced, and additional landscaping will be attempted, but this may not be enough to keep up with the problem.
- Mr. Lundie shared that the owner of Higbie Florist is seeking \$600,000 for the plot of land. Most of the refuse from the burned-down building has been carted away.
- Conversation ensued regarding whether Pride Automotive, located at the southeast corner of Union Boulevard and Higbie Lane, is licensed to sell automobiles and motorcycles. Mr. Pepe suggested that the owner be given approximately 30 days to acclimate himself to the culture of the town before he is approached about his license and whether he is willing to beautify that traffic corner.
- On March 9, Maria Figalora and Jim Lundie met with Emily Choppell, Town of Islip Director of Senior Citizen Services, on behalf of the Summit Council. They discussed services the various groups of West Islip could provide to the senior citizens of the community. Mrs. Choppell discouraged a food drive for a variety of logistical reasons,

but encouraged intergenerational programs such as community art and a grandparents reading room at the library. Additionally, various members of the committee agreed to reach out to Our Lady of Lourdes and Westminster Church to elicit information as to what the committee could do to support their outreach programs.

- Mr. Pepe offered that West Islip Beautification is moving their efforts to the north side of town, and is hoping to improve the buffer zone at Udall Road and Bellmore Road, opposite the middle school.
- Mr. Johnston notified the committee that K.I.C. will clean up West Islip Beach in the near future, and is looking for junior commissioners to clean up the area on a weekly basis.
- Mr. Gellar explained the format of the Summit Coalition meeting to be held in the Beach Street Auditorium on April 28. All residents are welcome to attend.

The next meeting of the Quality of Life Committee will take place on Wednesday, May 13, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. at District Office.

The meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.