



## MINUTES

### Ardsley Village Board of Trustees

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**8:00 PM - Monday, February 7, 2022**

Meeting Held Via Zoom Platform

Present: Mayor	Nancy Kaboolian
Deputy Mayor/Trustee	Andy DiJusto
Trustee	Asha Bencosme
Trustee	Steve Edelstein
Trustee	Craig Weitz
Village Clerk	Ann Marie Rocco
Village Attorney	Robert J. Ponzini

Absent: Village Manager	Joseph Cerretani
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#### 1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

**MOMENT OF SILENCE-** Robert Horan Mayor Kaboolian asked for a moment of silence for Robert Horan a long time Ardsley resident and was the Assistant Judge in the Village of Ardsley for ten years.

#### ARDSLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY ANNUAL REPORT PETER MARCUS

1. Peter Marcus, President of the Ardsley Historical Society read the following 2021 Annual Report:

During 2021 the Ardsley Historical Society (AHS) was very active in the Ardsley community. Last year we had 213 dues paying members, 56 of whom were new members and including 39 former residents who have moved out of the Ardsley area. Our membership increased more than 30% over the previous year, including 16 local business sponsors. Our 2021 calendar featured several buildings and businesses from early Ardsley (supporting the 125th Anniversary theme).

One of our major activities was the redesign of our website, which was launched on April 1. For this major accomplishment we owe a huge debt of gratitude to our new web master, Blake Rappaport. We modernized the appearance of our website which now presents an easy-to-use resource for members, students and teachers. We updated the page content and posted new photographs. We added video links for 9 of our most popular past programs. We added a Timepiece blog section which has been updated multiple times throughout the year by one of our directors, Gary Rappaport; thank you Gary, for your significant contributions. The website is now integrated with analytics software which is used to track page and site performance. The site now allows for secure electronic payments for membership and donations. We added our list of business sponsors and encouraged our members to support them.

On April 1 we sent out a link to all AHS members for the Spring newsletter which was in color. For those members who did not have an email address we mailed them printed copies. The newsletter contained articles about Anna Louise Giusti (George Calvi), Ardsley's 125th Anniversary (Walter Schwartz), Betty Giaccio (George Calvi), Ardsley High Schools' Baseball State Championship Website Launch (Matt Arone), Origins of the Ardsley Historical Society (Arline Weston), Ardsley in Time (Pierre Fontaine), The Day Jerry Orbach came to Ardsley (George Calvi), and Part 2 of The First Amendment at the Ardsley Schoolhouse Gate (Gary Rappaport).

On November 1 we mailed our Fall newsletter to all Ardsley village residents and business owners. This year, to try and increase our membership, we also mailed newsletters to some of the residents of the Ardsley School District. The newsletter contained articles about the following: A Tribute to Barbara Novich (George Calvi), Reminiscences of several of our former fire chiefs (Bill Beck, Bob Reid, and Troy Roberts), an update of an article (Spring, 2000) by Mary Lichtenberg about a long lost (and now recovered) World War II plaque from the Ashford Avenue School, Alexander Hamilton and his family (by Gary Rappaport), Part 3 of The First Amendment Lawsuit brought by Ardsley high school students (by Gary Rappaport), and we also expressed our thanks to Joann D'Emilio and Mary Keehan (departing Board members) for their many years of dedicated service.

This year we continuously refreshed our presence on Facebook by posting announcements and promoting events and videos on our website. We also continued to use Burbio to post the dates for our monthly Board meetings and programs. We have continued to maintain our archives and expand our digital inventory as people continued to make donations of articles, photographs, and other memorabilia as well as monetary contributions.

In April I had several meetings with the AUFSD Superintendent (Dr. Ryan Schoenfeld) to try and establish a closer partnership between the schools and the Ardsley Historical Society. One of the meetings included the three building principals where we established representatives in each of the schools to serve as communication focal points. Throughout the year we have contacted them to inform the faculty and students about upcoming events and programs. During the summer we made our archives available to two of the social studies teachers from the Middle School who

used some of the materials to develop a program for their students. They also used our archives to prepare for the school's 50th anniversary events.

On May 23 we conducted our annual business meeting via Zoom. The featured presentation was by Dr. Robert Murray, a Mercy College history professor. The program was titled: "The American Colonization Society; A Challenge to E Pluribus Unum" for which we received excellent feedback. The recorded program is now on our website.

In June I was interviewed By Henrietta Toth for two articles she was writing about the different historical societies in Westchester. The first article appeared in the November, 2021 issue of Westchester Magazine (Are Historical Societies History in Westchester County?). The second article appeared in the Winter, 2022 issue of Bee Local: The Neighborhood Buzz (Rivertown's Historical Societies).

In September, as part of the Village's 125th Anniversary celebration, Rob Pellegrino and I, with the support of Blake Rappaport and Rosemarie Marcus, conducted 12 walking tours of the Village (each ran over 90 minutes) for over 100 participants. Each person was loaned a binder with over 40 pages of photographs which their guides referenced throughout the tour. The feedback we received was so positive that we are planning to hold additional tours later this year.

The Historical Society paid for an ad congratulating the Village of Ardsley on their 125th Anniversary. The ad appeared in the October 8th edition of the Rivertown's Enterprise.

On October 10 we supported Ardsley's 125th Anniversary event in Pascone Park. Our table displayed some materials from our archives, the most popular being old high school yearbooks. Our contest attracted much interest although only a few residents were able to correctly identify the photo (fire at the Lewisohn mansion).

On October 20 Rob Pellegrino and I attended an event at the Ardsley Middle School where, as part of their 50th anniversary, the cornerstone was removed from the front of the building and the time capsule was extracted.

On November 7 some of our members attended a "welcome wagon" event at Macy Park for new residents of Ardsley. We helped answer their questions about life in the village and we handed out our car magnets as prizes for our trivia contest winners. The event garnered a great story in the Enterprise.

On Veterans Day we sent out a link to our membership telling them about the Living History program that was being broadcast on the local public access TV channel. We also unlocked the video program on our website from a few years ago about the 14 Ardsleyans who made the supreme sacrifice during WW2 and who are honored with a star on the Roll of Honor in Pascone Park.

In November we received approval for two NY State historical markers from the William G. Pomeroy Foundation (they took over responsibility from NY State after 1939): for the Ardsley train station on the old Putnam Division Railroad and the

American Encampment during the Revolutionary War. The installation of each marker is planned for some time in the Spring.

Also, in November we began submitting information and announcements for the Village's *Ardsley Connect* weekly email communication.

In December we acquired one of Anthony Radomski's leatherworks (about American Indians) from the Town of Greenburgh (on permanent loan). After some repair work has been completed, we will discuss where it should be displayed (e.g., Ardsley Public Library, Ardsley Middle School, or Concord Road School). We also assisted the Town of Greenburgh's assistant historian with information on Ardsley for an article they wrote about the impact of the building of the New York State Thruway in Ardsley.

During 2021 our organization has actively supported the Odell House Restoration. We have communicated updates on the progress of the restoration by circulating their status reports and updates from their website. We have also communicated information about any upcoming events (e.g., Colonial Day that was held on Sept 18). Also, we have encouraged our membership to support the Odell House restoration by joining the Friends of Odell House Rochambeau Headquarters (OHRH).

During 2021 our organization has also actively supported the RW250 initiative (an organization that is working to promote events that focus on the 250th Anniversary of the Revolutionary War) in Westchester. We have attended several of their activities: (May 8) Toward Yorktown – The French & American Armies in Westchester County in the Summer of 1781 (by Dr. Eric Weiselberg), (May 13) Applying Theory to Practice: Laying the Foundation for Yorktown (by Dr. Iris de Rode), (Oct 16) Living History Encampment at St. Paul's National Historic Site, (Sept 30) Battle of Edgar's Lane Walk Celebration, (Oct 19) Road to Freedom Walk, (Oct 24) Battle of White Plains, and (Dec 11) This Man is a Spy.

The AHS president (Pete Marcus) and the Village Historian (Rob Pellegrino) have continued to respond to inquiries from current and former village residents. These inquiries include requests for information and pictures about past events, their ancestors, and their homes. Our archives have been a great resource in responding to these inquiries.

We have already begun implementing some of our plans for 2022. This year's 40th anniversary calendar featured significant events from the past 40 years. The calendar was mailed to all AHS members on Dec 20-21.

In January we were assigned a new liaison to the Village Board, Any DiJusto. We would like to thank our prior liaison (Craig Weitz) for all of his support during 2021 and we look forward to working with Andy in 2022.

For the last week of January, we plan to hang our new banners on the Village Bulletin Board, in honor of the 40th anniversary of our organization's founding. Again, we would like to thank Gary Rappaport for developing the design for the two banners and working with a vendor to produce banners of such excellent quality. We would also like to express our appreciation to the new Village Manager (Joseph Cerretani) and his confidential secretary (Charles Hessler) in getting the DPW staff to hang these two banners.

Work on our Spring newsletter will begin soon. Some subjects being considered for articles include ASVAC (which is celebrating 60 years of service to the community), Tales of the Fire Chiefs – Part 2 (Pat Lindsay and Rick Thompson) and Remembering Dan Mulholland (40 years of teaching at Ardsley High School) who passed away on January 15.

On January 30 we will conduct a program via Zoom: Our Navy Today and Tomorrow – Facts, Strategy and Challenges.

We plan to add a search capability to our website so users can find specific information in our PDF documents (newsletters, etc.). We are also investigating a long-term project of digitizing the back issues of the Rivertowns Enterprise.

We plan to continue to support and participate in the RW250 initiative and the Odell House restoration. In January we distributed links to our membership of three new videos on Westchester's role in the American Revolution: "Revolutionary People: Patriots and Loyalists" featuring local acting students (including Ardsley's own Piya Kathikeyan, age 11).

We plan to continue to collaborate with the Ardsley Schools to explore ways to encourage students to learn about Ardsley history. We would like to work with the school district to recreate a WWII Memorial Park (which was formerly at the Ashford Avenue School) at the current high school using the old plaque. We plan to update the binders for the Ardsley walking tours, which will return in 2022 by popular demand.

We plan to display Anthony Radomski's Leatherwork (the American Indian) after completing some minor repairs.

In the Spring we plan to install the historical markers for the Ardsley Depot (west side of Elm St) and the American Encampment (on the high school property). Hopefully we can also schedule a formal dedication for each marker.

We will continue to explore sponsoring a Little League baseball team.

We will strive to make the American Legion museum building more accessible to the public in the coming year.

The AHS has an opening on our Board of Directors. If you have an interest in Ardsley history, please contact me for more information (Pete Marcus at 914-393-3222).

Of course, we are always happy to have new members. To become a member or to renew your membership go to our website ([ardsleyhistoricalsociety.org](http://ardsleyhistoricalsociety.org)) and under “membership” you can either pay by credit card or go to the bottom of the page and download our membership application, enclose your check and mail it to our PO Box (523). Our next monthly Board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 22 at 7:30 via Zoom. All Ardsley residents are welcome to attend.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Peter Marcus, President

## **2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

### **2.1 January 18, 2022 Regular Meeting Minutes**

**Moved by Trustee DiJusto, Seconded by Trustee Weitz and passed unanimously. RESOLVED**, that the Village Board of the Village of Ardsley hereby approves the minutes of the Regular Meeting of Monday, January 18, 2022 as submitted.

### **2.2 January 20, 2022 Special Meeting Minutes**

**Moved by Trustee DiJusto, Seconded by Trustee Weitz and passed unanimously. RESOLVED**, that the Village Board of the Village of Ardsley hereby approves the minutes of the Special Meeting of January 20, 2022 as submitted.

## **3. DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

### **1. LEGAL**

- 1.a Village Attorney Ponzini stated there is nothing to report other than those items that he submitted in memorandum form and he is continuing to work on various matters with members of the staff and he stated that he is available for an Executive Session.

### **2. MANAGER**

- 2.a February 7, 2022 Manager Report

Village Clerk, Ann Marie Rocco read the following report on behalf of Village Manager Cerretaini:

**1.Village Hall Closing:** Village Offices will be closed on Friday, February 11th and Monday, February 21st in observance of President Lincoln's and President Washington's Birthdays.

ALL Recyclables will be collected on Wednesday, February 9th for the entire Village.

Refuse will be collected on Thursday, February 10th for the entire Village.

Refuse will be collected on Tuesday, February 22nd for the entire Village.

Please refer to the 2022 Sanitation Schedule posted on the Village's website at [www.ardsleyvillage.com](http://www.ardsleyvillage.com).

**2. NIXLE:** This past week the Village launched a new alert system. NIXLE keeps you up-to-date with relevant information from your local public safety departments & schools. Receive community information instantly! It's quick, easy and secure. To sign up, please visit [www.ardsleyvillage.com](http://www.ardsleyvillage.com).

### 3. TREASURER

- 3.a Acknowledging Receipt of Report on Uncollected Taxes  
Mayor Kaboolian accepted the report under submission:

Treasurer's Return of Unpaid Taxes as of February 1, 2022  
Village of Ardsley

#### **Fiscal Year June 1, 2021-May 31, 2022**

Budget Appropriation \$11,856,020

Taxes collected by Treasurer through and including January 31, 2022	\$11,557,677
Uncollected taxes as of January 31, 2022	<u>298,343</u>
<b>Total Tax Levy</b>	<b><u>\$11,856,020</u></b>

- 3.b February 7, 2022 Abstract Report

Village Clerk Ann Marie Rocco read the Treasurer's Report for February 7, 2022.

Village Clerk Ann Marie Rocco stated that the bills for the past two weeks totaled as follows: From the General Fund: \$174,183.50; from the Sewer Fund: \$7,500.00; from the Trust & Agency fund: \$2,992.00 and from the Capital Fund: \$13,500.00

**Moved by Trustee Weitz, Seconded by Trustee DiJusto and passed unanimously.**  
**RESOLVED**, that the Village Board of the Village of Ardsley hereby authorizes the Village Treasurer to make the following payments: From the General Fund: \$174,183.50; from the Sewer Fund: \$7,500.00, from the Trust & Agency Fund: \$2,992.00 and from the Capital Fund: \$13,500.00

**4. BUILDING** No Building Department Report

**5. FIRE** No Fire Department Report

**6. POLICE** No Police Department Report

**7. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mayor Kaboolian announced the following:

- Thanked the Fire Department for their work at the house fire this weekend and they were also out this morning due to gas odor.

**8. COMMITTEE & BOARD REPORTS**

Trustee DiJusto announced the following:

- Also thanked the Fire Department for working at the house fire on Saturday and for investigating the gas odor today.

Trustee Weitz did not have anything to report.

Trustee Bencosme announced the following:

- The Climate Advisory Committee along with the Village team is preparing to launch two campaigns that will be supported by Sustainable Westchester.
  - Clean energy communities clean heating and cooling and energy efficiency campaign
  - Clean energy communities community solar campaign

Trustee Edelstein announced the following:

- Interested residents are welcome to join our Zoom meeting February 8th to learn more about the Multicultural Committee. The committee is looking for new ideas on how the committee can support the community.

**4. VISITORS**

**5. OLD BUSINESS:**

**6. NEW BUSINESS:**

- 6.1 Consider a Resolution Rescheduling Board of Architectural Review Meetings for 2022



**Moved by Trustee Bencosme, Seconded by Trustee Edelstein and passed unanimously. RESOLVED**, that the Village Board of the Village of Ardsley hereby reschedules the Board of Architectural Review meetings as follows:

February 16th, Wednesday

March 2nd, Wednesday

March 16th, Wednesday

April 6th, Wednesday

April 20th, Wednesday

May 4th, Wednesday

May 18th, Wednesday

## 6.2 Consider a Resolution to Schedule a Public Hearing for Tax Override

**Moved by Trustee Edelstein, Seconded by Trustee Bencosme and passed unanimously. RESOLVED**, that the Village Board of the Village of Ardsley hereby schedules a public hearing on Tuesday, February 22, 2022 via Zoom Platform to consider a resolution to override the property tax levy for fiscal year 2022-2023.

### **Section 1. Legislative Intent**

It is the intent of this local law to allow the Village of Ardsley to adopt a budget for the fiscal year commencing June 1, 2022 that requires a real property tax levy in excess of the “tax levy limit” as defined by General Municipal Law § 3-c.

### **Section 2. Authority**

This local law is adopted pursuant to subdivision 5 of General Municipal Law §3-c, which expressly authorizes a local government’s governing body to override the property tax cap for the coming fiscal year by the adoption of a local law approved by a vote of sixty percent (60%) of said governing body.

### **Section 3. Tax Levy Limit Override**

The Village Board of Trustees of the Village of Ardsley, County of Westchester, is hereby authorized to adopt a budget for the fiscal year commencing June 1, 2022 that requires a real property tax levy in excess of the amount otherwise prescribed in General Municipal Law §3-c.

### **Section 4. Severability**

If a court determines that any clause, sentence, paragraph, subdivision, or part of this local law or the application thereof to any person, firm or corporation, or circumstance is invalid or unconstitutional, the court’s order or judgment shall not affect, impair, or invalidate the remainder of this local law, but shall be confined in its operation to the clause, sentence, paragraph, subdivision, or part of this local law or in its application to the person, individual, firm or corporation or circumstance, directly involved in the controversy in which such judgment or order shall be rendered.

### **Section 5. Effective date**

This local law shall take effect immediately upon filing with the Secretary of State by the Village Clerk.

## 6.3 Consider a Resolution Appointing Police Officer Lindsay Braig

**Moved by Trustee DiJusto, Seconded by Trustee Weitz and passed unanimously.**  
**RESOLVED**, that the Village Board of the Village of Ardsley hereby appoints Lindsay Braig to the position of Police Officer Fourth Grade, contingent upon successfully meeting all Civil Service requirements at the annual salary of \$75,230, effective 2/1/2022; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that in accordance with the civil service rules and regulations of the Westchester County Department of Human Resources such appointment is subject to a probationary period of not less than 12 weeks and no more than 52 weeks.

- 6.4 Consider a Resolution Authorizing the Village of Ardsley CEC/CSC Task Force to produce a NYSERDA Clean Energy Communities Clean Heating and Cooling and Energy Efficiency Campaign

**Moved by Trustee Bencosme, Seconded by Trustee Edelstein and passed unanimously.**  
**WHEREAS**,  
on February 1, 2021 the Village of Ardsley, New York, created a task force known as the "Clean Energy Communities/Climate Smart Communities Task Force" (CEC/CSC Task Force), be it

**RESOLVED**, that the Village Board of the Village of Ardsley hereby authorizes the CEC/CSC Task Force to produce a CEC Clean Heating and Cooling and Energy Efficiency Campaign. The campaign scoping document was provided to NYSERDA via their portal on February 2, 2022 for review. As was the case with the CEC Demand Response / GridRewards campaign of Summer 2021, this Clean Heating and Cooling and Energy Efficiency campaign will be administered in and serve the eligible participants in the Village of Ardsley. The Village of Ardsley CEC/CSC Task Force along with partner organizations and volunteers shall organize a campaign to encourage the adoption of clean heating and cooling technologies (e.g., ground- and air- source heat pump systems and heat pump water heaters) as well as energy efficiency retrofits to homes, eligible businesses, and community institutions.

- 6.5 Consider a Resolution Authorizing the Village of Ardsley CEC/CSC Task Force to produce a NYSERDA Clean Energy Communities Community Solar Campaign

**Moved by Trustee Bencosme, Seconded by Trustee Edelstein and passed unanimously.**  
**WHEREAS**, on February 1, 2021 the Village of Ardsley, New York, created a task force known as the "Clean Energy Communities/Climate Smart Communities Task Force" (CEC/CSC Task Force), be it

**RESOLVED**, that the Village Board of the Village of Ardsley hereby authorizes the CEC/CSC Task Force to produce a CEC Community Solar Campaign. The campaign scoping document was provided to NYSERDA on February 2, 2022 for review. As was the case with the CEC Demand Response / GridRewards campaign of Summer 2021, this CEC Community Solar campaign will be administered in, and serve the residents and eligible community solar

participants in the Village of Ardsley. Community Solar broadens accessibility of renewable energy for homeowners, renters, businesses, and property owners.

**7. CALL FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**8. ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING**

8.1 Adjournment

**Moved by Trustee Edelstein, Seconded by Trustee Bencosme and passed unanimously. RESOLVED**, that the Village Board of the Village of Ardsley hereby adjourns the regular meeting of Monday, February 7, 2022 at 8:46 p.m.

**9. ANNOUNCEMENTS** February 8, 2022 Recreation Commission Meeting 5:00 pm  
February 8, 2022 Multicultural, Diversity, & Inclusion Committee Meeting 7:30 pm  
**February 11, 2022 All Village Offices Closed-Lincoln's Birthday**  
February 14, 2022 Planning Board Meeting 8:00 pm  
February 15, 2022 Board of Architectural Review 8:00 pm  
February 17, 2022 Library Board Meeting 7:30 pm  
**February 21, 2022 All Village Offices Closed-Washington's Birthday**  
February 23, 2022 Zoning Board of Appeals 8:00 pm  
February 26, 2022 Westchester County Shredder Event 10 am - 1 pm

**10. NEXT BOARD MEETING:** Tuesday, February 22, 2022

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Village Clerk, Ann Marie Rocco

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Date: