

VILLAGE OF HASTINGS-ON-HUDSON, NEW YORK
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING
APRIL 4, 2006

An Organizational Meeting was held by the Board of Trustees on Tuesday, April 4, 2006 at 8:15 p.m. in the Meeting Room, Municipal Building, 7 Maple Avenue.

PRESENT: Mayor Wm. Lee Kinnally, Jr., Trustee Peter Jennings, Trustee Marjorie Apel, Trustee Peter Swiderski, Village Manager Francis A. Frobel, Village Attorney Brian Murphy, Village Planner Angela Witkowski, and Village Clerk Susan Maggiotto.

ABSENT: Trustee Michael Holdstein

CITIZENS: Twenty-five (25).

Mayor Kinnally: Trustee Holdstein could not be here this evening. He is tied up with business, and he sends his regrets.

INVOCATION

Rabbi Edward Schecter: This is special prayer that I think is an important prayer for all of us as a community.

We cannot pray to you, O God, to banish war, for you have filled the world with paths to peace if only we would take them. We cannot pray to you to end starvation, for there is food enough for all if only we would share it. We cannot merely pray for prejudice to cease, for we might see the good in all that lies before our eyes if only we would use them. We cannot merely pray, root out despair, for the spark of hope already waits within the human heart for us to fan it into flame. We must not ask of you, O God, to take the task that you have given us. We cannot shirk, we cannot flee away, avoiding obligation forever. Therefore, we pray, O God, for wisdom and will, for courage to do and to become. Not only to look on with helpless yearning as though we had no strength. For your sake and ours, speedily and soon, let it be that our land may be safe, that our lives may be blessed.

Mayor Kinnally: Thank you for those words.

This is a night of transition. We say goodbye to some people and hello to others. Tonight we say goodbye to Bruce, who has been a steadfast Trustee for the last six years. The rabbi just prayed for wisdom, and if there is one facet of this board that Bruce has brought it is wisdom. We discuss things back and forth every Tuesday night, sometimes more than every Tuesday night, but I was struck over the years by the silence that would prevail to my right. Bruce was always thinking, but the silence was punctuated. I could hear the wheels turning and the gears clicking. After everyone had their say, Bruce would tie everything up in a very

neat package and wisdom would come forth. Not everybody agreed with it, certainly, but I will say that whatever came out of Bruce's mouth was well thought out, logical, well reasoned and usually had a lesson in it for all of us, because, in most instances, he came up with something that we did not see or did not think of. I am going to miss his measured approach to things, his objectivity, his alertness. There are few Trustees who could illustrate an issue involving zoning with an excerpt from a short story by John Cheever, but that is what Bruce did. Cheever captured the absurdity of some zoning and life in the suburbs like no one else could, but Bruce was perceptive enough to seize the opportunity, and to lighten our load and educate us at the same time, with the passage from Cheever.

Bruce, for that and for many other things, I thank you for your years of service on the Board. I thank you for your years of service to the Village; Bruce worked on the police commission for a number of years before being elected Trustee. I owe you a debt of gratitude for all the hard work and thought that you put into being a Trustee and for working on behalf of the Village. So Bruce, thank you very, very much.

Trustee Apel: I would like to echo what the Mayor said. I will miss Bruce on the Board. I always appreciated the thoughts that he had. He was especially calming when it came to discussions of personnel. He had a way about him that would give us pause for thought. He will be sorely missed, and I certainly hope that he will not stop being active in the community and that we will be able to call on him to continue to help us. Thank you very much, Bruce.

Trustee Swiderski: As the junior member on the Board, and one who restrained myself from speaking until everybody else spoke, I found myself very often saying, "What he said." Because it was thoughtful, and wrapped things up neatly, and did not leave much else to be said. Most valuable to me was the ethical perspective, which sometimes embarrassed me in the sense that it made me realize how I should have been thinking and Bruce had already gotten there. That was valuable, and I will miss that. Thank you.

Trustee Jennings: Mr. Mayor and my fellow Trustees, thank you very much for those kind words. It has been a pleasure and an honor to work with you. I wish the new Board all the best and all success as you move forward with the business of Hastings-on-Hudson. Thank you very much.

ADMINISTRATION OF OATH OF OFFICE

Mayor Kinnally administered the Oath of Office to Jeremiah Quinlan and Diggitt McLaughlin.

29:06 MAYORAL AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES APPOINTMENTS

Mayor Kinnally: The issue of the Village Attorney and Village Prosecutor will be put over for a discussion at executive session later this evening.

On MOTION of Trustee Apel, SECONDED by Trustee Swiderski the following Resolution was duly adopted upon roll call vote:

A. DEPUTY VILLAGE CLERK

RESOLVED: that the Mayor and Board of Trustees appoint **Linda M. Knies** Deputy Village Clerk for a term of one (1) official year.

B. ACTING VILLAGE JUSTICE

RESOLVED: that the Mayor and Board of Trustees appoint **James R. DeVita** Acting Village Justice for a term of one (1) official year.

C. HISTORIAN

RESOLVED: that the Mayor and Board of Trustees appoint **David Willis McCullough** Historian for a term of one (1) official year.

ROLL CALL VOTE	AYE	NAY
Trustee Marjorie Apel	X	
Trustee Peter Swiderski	X	
Trustee Jeremiah Quinlan	X	
Trustee Diggitt McLaughlin	X	
Mayor Wm. Lee Kinnally, Jr.	X	

30:06 MAYORAL AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES DESIGNATIONS

On MOTION of Trustee Apel, SECONDED by Trustee Swiderski the following Resolution was duly adopted upon roll call vote:

A. OFFICIAL NEWSPAPERS

RESOLVED: that the Mayor and Board of Trustees designate the *Rivertowns Enterprise* and the *Journal News* as official newspapers for a term of one (1) official year.

B. OFFICIAL DEPOSITORIES

RESOLVED: that the Mayor and Board of Trustees designate the **Bank of New York, Citibank, N.A., J.P. Morgan Chase Bank, Hudson Valley National Bank, First Union, Hudson United Bank, MBIA-Class and North Fork Bank** as official depositories for a term of one (1) official year.

C. POLICE AND FIRE SURGEONS

RESOLVED: that the Mayor and Board of Trustees appoint **Dorian Tergis, M.D.** and **Charles Edelman, M.D.** as Police and Fire Surgeons for a term of one (1) official year each, to be compensated on a fee or contract basis.

D. REGULAR MEETING DAYS

RESOLVED: that the Mayor and Board of Trustees designate the **first and third Tuesday of each month** as the Board of Trustees Regular Meeting Days.

E. AUTHORIZATION TO SIGN CHECKS AND INSTRUMENTS

RESOLVED: that the Mayor and Board of Trustees authorize the following to sign checks and instruments of the Village of Hastings-on-Hudson, when countersigned by the Mayor or one (1) Trustee:

Francis A. Frobel, Susan Maggiotto, and Linda M. Knies except individual payroll checks which shall require two (2) of the following signatures:

Francis A. Frobel, Susan Maggiotto, Linda M. Knies

ROLL CALL VOTE	AYE	NAY
Trustee Marjorie Apel	X	
Trustee Peter Swiderski	X	
Trustee Jeremiah Quinlan	X	
Trustee Diggitt McLaughlin	X	
Mayor Wm. Lee Kinnally, Jr.	X	

30A:06 MAYORAL AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES DESIGNATIONS

On MOTION of Trustee Apel, SECONDED by Trustee Swiderski the following Resolution was duly adopted upon roll call vote:

A. VILLAGE AUDITORS

RESOLVED: that the Mayor and Board of Trustees designate the firm of **O'Connor Davies Munns & Dobbins LLP, Bennett Kielson Storch Yablon & DeSantis Division** as Village Auditors pursuant to the contract approved by the Board of Trustees on March 4, 2003 for years 2003 - 2007.

ROLL CALL VOTE	AYE	NAY
Trustee Marjorie Apel	X	
Trustee Peter Swiderski	X	
Trustee Jeremiah Quinlan	X	
Trustee Diggitt McLaughlin	X	
Mayor Wm. Lee Kinnally, Jr.	Abstain	

Mayor Kinnally: I have to abstain. This is a client of my firm.

31:06 EXECUTIVE SESSION POLICY

On MOTION of Trustee Apel, SECONDED by Trustee Swiderski the following Resolution was duly adopted upon roll call vote:

RESOLVED: that the Mayor and Board of Trustees approve the Executive Session Policy as follows:

It is the policy of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Hastings-on-Hudson to conduct Village business in an open fashion and to make available as much information as may legally and practically be disseminated.

The New York Open Meetings Law authorizes the Board to conduct business in Executive Session in a number of areas. These include:

1. Matters which will imperil the public safety if disclosed.
2. Matters which may disclose the identity of a law enforcement agent or informer.
3. Information relating to criminal investigations.
4. Discussions relating to proposed, pending, or current litigation.
5. Collective bargaining negotiations.
6. Personnel matters.
7. The proposed acquisition, sale, or lease of real property or securities.

The Board recognizes that it is authorized to use Executive Sessions in these situations, but will do so with restraint.

To maintain confidentiality, and to encourage the uninhibited discussion of the subjects of Executive Sessions, the specific subject matter and any statements made, or positions taken, by all participants must remain confidential and may not be disclosed by any participant unless and until a majority of the Board votes to authorize the release thereof by the Board.

It has been, and continues to be, the practice of the Board that all members of the Board, acting together, come to agreement by consensus on the specific information which is to be released to the public, the suitable vehicle for reporting that information, and the timing of the reporting.

Adopted by the Board of Trustees on September 28, 1993.

ROLL CALL VOTE	AYE	NAY
Trustee Marjorie Apel	X	
Trustee Peter Swiderski	X	
Trustee Jeremiah Quinlan	X	
Trustee Diggitt McLaughlin	X	
Mayor Wm. Lee Kinnally, Jr.	X	

32:06 RULES OF PROCEDURE

Mayor Kinnally: This is a multi-page document that is available for anyone who wishes to have it. It deals with the rules that govern the conduct of business before the Board of Trustees: our meetings, quorum, executive sessions, agendas, voting, minutes, order of business, rules of procedure, guidelines for public comment, use of recording equipment, adjournment, and amendments to the rules of procedure.

On MOTION of Trustee Apel, SECONDED by Trustee Swiderski the following Resolution was duly adopted upon roll call vote:

RESOLVED: that the Mayor and Board of Trustees approve the Rules of Procedure as attached.

ROLL CALL VOTE	AYE	NAY
Trustee Marjorie Apel	X	
Trustee Peter Swiderski	X	
Trustee Jeremiah Quinlan	X	
Trustee Diggitt McLaughlin	X	
Mayor Wm. Lee Kinnally, Jr.	X	

MAYORAL APPOINTMENTS

Mayor Kinnally: We have a number of boards and commissions that members of the Board of Trustees serve as liaison to. Before I announce those, a general overview of what I perceive to be the role of liaison. That role is to be a resource and a sounding board to the boards and commissions. Frequently there needs to be a channel open between the boards and commissions and the Board of Trustees, and having a point person from the Board who can relay information back and forth we found to be quite helpful.

Liaisons generally do not, and probably should not, actively participate in the meetings of the boards and commissions unless requested by the Board, because it is their operation; they are the ones looking to come up with the information. In many instances it is a recommendation that will ultimately come before the Board of Trustees. I have observed over the years that if a member of the Board of Trustees, including the mayor, goes to a meeting and participates there is somewhat of a chilling effect on the operation because the board seems to defer to what the Trustee or the Board of Trustees will want and that is not what we are looking for. We are looking for the boards and commissions to act as they always do, independently, and to come up with creative solutions and recommendations that are unattached to anything that the Board of Trustees may be doing or may be wanting.

2006-07 Mayor's Liaison Assignments

Affordable Housing	Lee Kinnally
ARB	Lee Kinnally
Beautification	Marge Apel
Chamber of Commerce	Marge Apel
Conservation	Peter Swiderski
Deputy Mayor	Rotating among Trustees according to seniority
Disabled	Diggitt McLaughlin
Draper Review Board	Diggitt McLaughlin
Finance Committee	Jerry Quinlan and Diggitt McLaughlin
Fire Department	Lee Kinnally
HRTW	Jerry Quinlan
Library Board	Lee Kinnally
LWRP	Marge Apel
Newsletter	Marge Apel and Diggitt McLaughlin
Parks & Rec	Peter Swiderski
Planning Board	Peter Swiderski
Police Commission	Lee Kinnally
Public Health	Marge Apel
Safety Council	Jerry Quinlan
School Board	Diggitt McLaughlin
Senior Council	Jerry Quinlan
Village Officials'	Peter Swiderski
Youth Council	Jerry Quinlan

Vision Plan:

Waterfront	Lee Kinnally
Village Core	Marge Apel
Residential Areas	Diggitt McLaughlin
Parks, Trailways and Public Spaces	Peter Swiderski
Large Land Tracts	Jerry Quinlan

Sharon O'Shea, 406 Warburton Avenue: Since there is currently no active committee for the disabled, although it is listed on the Village web site, can we have one?

Mayor Kinnally: We do have one. We have reappointed people, and we have reached out to them to have a meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

On MOTION of Trustee Apel, SECONDED by Trustee Swiderski with a voice vote of all in favor, Mayor Kinnally adjourned the Organizational Meeting at 8:30 p.m.