

Village of Mamaroneck Board of Trustees Planning Session - March 9, 2008
Minutes

Attendance: Mayor Kathleen Savolt, Trustees Tom Murphy, Randi Robinowitz, Toni Pergola Ryan and John Hofstetter

Meeting opened at 3:38 p.m.

1. Fire Chief's Car: Trustee Murphy reported that the oldest fire chief's car has more than 130,000 miles on it and "it just passed inspection." The Board noted that the department did not request a replacement in FY 2007 and will do so in FY 2008.

2. At the request of the Building Inspector, the Board discussed code enforcement and the role of the Building Department. There was agreement that safety was the primary concern. The Board agreed that code compliance was the primary objective, with revenue generation secondary. The department should ensure that people follow our codes employing a procedure that starts with "persuasion" but allows the staff to use their judgment if and when persuasion is not effective. The Board stressed that the same procedures are to be applied fairly and equitably throughout the Village, regardless of neighborhood or property owner.

Regarding illegal overcrowding, the Board believes that, like all codes, codes pertaining to illegal overcrowding should be enforced fairly and equitably throughout the Village.

3. Budget Process – The Budget Committee has submitted an extensive list of data elements to aid with the upcoming budget process. Trustee Hofstetter presented this list along with a general discussion of the committee's concerns. It was agreed that the Committee should go through this year's budget process, participate fully and ask whatever questions they felt necessary. If their questions were reasonable and unanswered, the Board would follow up with the staff. After this cycle, the Committee could comment on the process to the Board. The Board felt the Committee should participate in the creation of a comparable/trend database and that the hiring of a student from Columbia University be put on hold.

4. The Board discussed status of board initiatives for the first quarter of 2008 and noted that many of the 20 items were completed or showed progress. After much discussion, the board selected the following items as their priorities for the second quarter of 2008:

1. Begin process to hire new Village Manager
2. Flood Mitigation
3. FAR law
4. New Ethics Code
5. Revise environmental land use codes (required for flood mitigation grants)
6. Neighborhood visits
7. New Website
8. Mamaroneck Avenue trees and lights
9. Budget
10. Review and revise policy for private use of Village property (License agreements)
11. Master Plan Update
12. Continue review of land use codes; revise as necessary
13. Sportime Agreement
14. Policy regarding overcrowding enforcement
15. Policy regarding firefighters elevator service keys
16. Policy regarding background checks for new volunteer firefighters
17. Library project
18. Leaf Blower Law
19. Livable Communities initiative
20. Greenprint initiative (County) – determine if Village will adopt

On the motion of Trustee Robinowitz, seconded by Trustee Ryan, the Board went into Executive Session to discuss personnel history.

Meeting adjourned at 6:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathleen Savolt