

LITTLE NECK PINES CIVIC ASSOCIATION

**Next Pines Town
Meetings Dates:**

April 13, 2005– Wednesday
June 16, 2005– Wednesday
September 7, 2005- Wednesday
November 17, 2005- Thursday

www.littleneckpines.org

SERVING ALL OF LITTLE NECK

LITTLE NECK PINES CIVIC ASSOCIATION, INC.
P.O. BOX 331
LITTLE NECK, NY 11363

Mailing Address Line 1

Mailing Address Line 2

Check your label for membership expiration

LITTLE NECK PINES CIVIC ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2005 ISSUE

SERVING ALL OF LITTLE NECK

Rescheduled Town Meeting with Mayor Bloomberg, Wednesday, April 13th at MS67, Marathon Pkwy & 51st Ave , 8PM.

Our first cooperative meeting with Douglaston Civic was on March 15th at MS 67. We unveiled our zoning plans for both communities. Little Neck will have the current zone R2 changed to the new R2-A, which is a smaller home and not as high. It will fit into the current style of homes now in Little Neck. The larger lots in R1, we are asking that the new homes built will be not as high by changing the current law on square foot areas. We will be asking that all new homes built in the semi attached areas stay one family and not two family or more. If you check our website you will see the map of the current zoning and you can contact us for details if you are interested. The next step will be to meet with Councilman Avella to start the process and be placed on the list for rezoning with City Planning. This may take some time but will be streamlined by having both communities working together. We are prepared and know what we want unlike Bayside who went through the process by the seat of their pants. We will keep everyone informed of the process and all public hearings. The rescheduled meeting with the Mayor is April 13th at MS67. There will be questions from the audience. We want the Mayor to commit to suggestions on rezoning and change in specific City agencies on policies.

Many questions have come up as to the boundaries of the Little Neck Pines. The Pines, at the urging of Community Activist, Ken Frisch, have expanded further south to the Grand Central Parkway. Ken Frisch by the way, has been elected to the Board of Directors of the Pines and has been using his enthusiasm to bolster membership and inform our southern most areas of Little Neck on the zoning issues. We welcome Ken and his neighbors to the Pines.

Little Neck Pines Civic Association is a Not-For-Profit Organization

Little Neck-Douglaston Lions Club



Lions Club 9th Annual Dinner Dance- You are cordially invited to join the Lions Club in celebrating 53 years of community service at the New Hyde Park Inn, Sunday, June 26, 2005, 6PM to 10PM.

Tickets are \$65.00 each and includes a cocktail hour, DJ, Dinner, Dancing and raffle. Honorees to be announced. Make checks payable to

Little Neck-Douglaston Lions Club, P.O. Box 630330, Little Neck, NY 11363. For further information call, Dr. Herman Belkin 718-229-0173 or William Balestras 718-229-1478. Please join in this gala event.

Udall's Cove Preservation

The annual clean up for the wetlands at Udall's Cove will be Saturday, April 16th at 10AM. There will be an outdoor meeting first at Aurora's Pond on Sandhill Road (known as the back road). They welcome all volunteers and if you help in the clean up there is a free lunch. Bring your boots, bug spray and gloves. If you can't clean up try to attend the meeting.

REMEMBER OUR TROOPS!

Retired Police Officers can donate their old bullet proof vest for the troops in Iraq. It will be used in addition to the government issued vest. Please call the Pines for details.

Membership Application

Membership:

\$20 yearly for family membership

\$50 for Business Charter membership Please provide a business card for advertising. Charter membership includes advertising in our newsletters and website

Make your check or money order payable to:

Little Neck Pines Civic Association, Inc.

P.O. Box 331, Little Neck, NY 11363

Last Name: _____

First Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone # _____

Email Address _____

Give this to a friend to join the Little Neck Pines Civic Association!

TREES-

One of our goals is to beautify Little Neck. Many of you will not remember that about 25 years ago Northern Boulevard was totally reconstructed (new roadway, curbs, sidewalks and trees. It was really beautiful to have all of those trees although they were small in the beginning. As time went on, some trees flourished (those in front of Stop & Shop and just east of 251 Street especially). Some trees died. We believe that some trees were intentionally killed by store owners who felt the trees hid their business signs. Instead of requesting that the tree be pruned, they took matters into their own hands. We now have on Northern Boulevard some trees, some tree planting beds with just weeds and some former tree planting beds which have been cemented over. As you walk along the Boulevard, see if you can spot the squares that have different cement. We have contacted the Community Board and written to the Borough President after reading in the newspaper that she wants 1,000 new trees planted in Queens. We have received conflicting answers to our requests. The community board believes that permission must be granted by every store owner with a planting bed or former planting bed to have a new tree planted. At first, the borough president's office said that we could get new trees planted along Northern Boulevard but they later changed their mind and told us that the store owners must fill out the forms. If you ever see someone cutting down a street tree, call 911 immediately and report that someone is destroying city property. This is a crime worthy of a 911 call. In addition to looking good, trees clean our air. With Northern Boulevard being a truck route and having such heavy traffic, we really need this. If anyone would like to walk the boulevard asking store owners to request trees, contact us for forms. We have plenty. In addition, if you would like a street tree planted in front of your house, contact us for a form. By the way, the trees are free!

Little Neck Ledger

The Ledger ran an editorial March 24th saying that the rezoning of Little Neck was unethical and we have other motives for downsizing. We think the Ledger has not been listening to our community or cares for that matter. We have responded and our letter has not been printed as of this writing. Our communities ethics should not be questioned. We are insulted and demand an apology.

Volunteers

Thank you to the volunteers who deliver flyers for the Pines. You are the backbone for getting our message out. Our thanks go out to : **Frank Mazzola, Jerry and Barbara Vilbig, Colleen Veprek, Lois Tascano, Nancy Shea , Bob Maske and James Romano.**

GRAFFITI VANDALISM

The NYPD is reaching out to enlist the assistance of the community in helping to fight against graffiti. If you know of areas in the neighborhood that require graffiti clean-up, please contact your local police precinct. You can also access the NYPD's website at www.nyc.gov/nypd for contact information. The NYPD also needs assistance in obtaining waivers for clean-up operations. A waiver is a one page legal document, which when signed by a cooperating party, i.e., a building owner, serves to grant permission for a graffiti site location to be cleaned up by the City free of charge. In instances where you witness an act of graffiti or vandalism in progress, call 911. There is a reward program of up to \$500 for those who provide information leading to the arrest and conviction of graffiti offenders. Call 311 for more details regarding the reward program.

Rumor Control

There is a rumor that the MTA wants to cut service to the Q79 that travels down Little Neck Parkway to the LIRR Little Neck station. We have investigated the complaints and have found that service will remain with no changes.

New Service from Community Board 11

Did you know that you are not supposed to throw out your household batteries in the regular trash? You are supposed to bring them to the Department of Sanitation Household Self-Help Facility in College Point. Community Board 11 wants to help the environment and Little Neck. You can bring your used batteries, of any type, to the Community Board 11 office at 46-21 Little Neck Parkway. The Community Board has arranged for the Department of Sanitation to pick up the batteries from their office as a service to the community. While you are there, tell the CB11 staff that they are doing a great job.

NYS Cease and Desist List

Tired of the junk mail from Real Estate Salespeople? There are only 17 houses listed on the NY State Cease and Desist list. This list was introduced by Senator Padavan to stop Realtors from sending mailings directly to your home soliciting sales. If you want to be placed on the list to stop the mailings. Sign up on the internet at <http://www.dos.state.ny.us/lcns/cdform.asp> or contact the Pines and we will get a postcard to you with directions. You must register yearly. It only takes a few minutes and reduces the junk mail to your home.

Speed Bump-

We requested numerous speed bumps over the winter at all our schools. We were only promised one so far. PS221 will get a speed bump on 61st Ave adjacent to the school.

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Presidents Message

Now that we have thawed out from the winter, the Pines have been busy with down zoning. The overdevelopment of Little Neck has me concerned as well as most of you that sooner or later we will have four times or more people in our community. We have the opportunity to make new laws in zoning and have the final say in what size homes are built in our community in the future. I must say that you are going to hear from developers, builders and architects that you can no longer expand or refurbish your home if we change the laws. This is not true. Your home can only be as large as your lot can accommodate. These are scare tactics that were tried in Bayside to stop them from rezoning and totally confused many people. Unlike Bayside, you can always call and contact the Pines to get a straight answer. The Pines will make every effort to inform the community of what we have in mind and we will post our proposals on the website. You all have input. We will not leave anyone out who wants to have a say in the matter.

The Pines have agreed to make a cooperative effort with Douglaston Civic to work on zoning issues. Councilman Avella has said that Little Neck and Douglaston would have a better chance in streamlining the re-zoning process if the two communities work together. I welcome the challenge.

I would like to congratulate Ken Frisch, our new Pines Board member who is eager to help his community as are the rest of the Pines Board. Ken brings fresh ideas to our association. If anyone is interested in getting hands on with our association, please feel free to contact us and to come to our board meetings.

As President of the Pines, I would like all our members to know that your ideas and concerns about our community are important. Let us know what is happening on your block and what you see. Visit our website often because it is updated as things progress. Volunteer if you can and please do not forget to patronize our local business members advertised in this newsletter.

Have a great spring!

Bob Nobile

Share your happiness!

If you are having a happy event and wish to share it with Little Neck, let us know. We would be happy to put it in our newsletter. Graduations, births or wedding announcements are free to our members.

Wedding Announcement

Tom Hagan - son of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Hagan and Michele Larkin daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Ed Larkin were married At St. Anastasia Church on Dec. 10, 2004. Congratulations to the happy couple!

Donations to the Pines

- John Pillartz
- Mr. & Mrs. E. Doster
- Joe & Kay Gallagher
- Mark Duma

Memorial Day Parade-

Show your support to our troops and community

If you are interested in marching in the Memorial Day Parade behind the Pines banner, please email or call us. We are hoping to have free Little Neck Pines t-shirts made for everyone willing to march. If you can't march, we will try to have a mini van or car to wave from. We have to plan ahead so don't delay, call us as soon as possible.



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