



Ridge Civic



Caring Citizens in a Quiet Country Community

Ridge Civic Association • P.O. Box 354 Ridge, NY 11961 • ridgecivic@gmail.com • ridgecivic.org • facebook.com/ridgecivic

Officers

Scott Wood
President

Ninette Kayton
Vice President

Cynthia Eaton Tvelia
Secretary

John Capurso
Treasurer

Directors

David Donofrio
George Fernandez
Susan Kaufold
Holly Wood
Scott Wood

Trustees

Ninette Kayton
Victoria Molloy
Cynthia Eaton Tvelia

General Membership Meeting October 18, 2023, 7:30 pm Ridge Firehouse

Call to Order and Pledge

- Meeting called to order at 7:31 pm by **President Scott Wood**
- Cub Scout Pack 187 leads pledge for the group; **Scott Wood** thanks pack leaders and Scouts for doing a terrific job.

Reading of the Minutes

- Minutes are accessible on our website: ridgecivic.org.

Financial Report

- President **Scott Wood** reports the amounts in the Ridge Civic accounts—general checking, community park, schoolhouse, scholarship, beautification, and savings.

Correspondence

- None at this time

Unfinished Business

- Proposed amendments to Ridge Civic bylaws were presented in writing at September 20, 2023, meeting for consideration. **Secretary Cynthia Eaton Tvelia** briefly reviews proposed amendments regarding three provisions: Objective (mission statement), Officers, and Expenditures as shown in September minutes and draft bylaws that was made available.

Motion to bring to floor for discussion made by **Treasurer John Capurso** and seconded; discussion ensues. Motion to approve proposed amendments to Ridge Civic Association bylaws made by **Suzanne Siegel** and seconded. Motion is approved, with no votes against and one abstention.

Thank you to everyone supporting this; current bylaws should keep us in good stead

in coming years. Will post 2023 updated Ridge Civic bylaws to website before next meeting.

- Board would like perpetual motion to spend up to \$250 for monthly printing and distribution of the informational and promotional materials, which includes the monthly newsletter printing and mailing costs.

Motion to bring to floor by **Vice President Ninette Kayton** and seconded. Discussion: Why \$250? Estimating on very high end but likely will not cost nearly that much. Recently identified Amron Printing in Middle Island as far more cost effective than Staples, but printing and mailing is often time pressured so this will more than cover us. Monthly costs are typically much lower (newsletter less than \$50; stamps are actually the expensive item). This also includes any flyers, brochures, or needed promotional materials to be ready for our annual or other events.

Motion for up to \$250 spending limit for monthly printing and distribution of materials made by **Director Holly Wood** and seconded. Motion is approved, with no votes against and one abstention.

New Business

- **Secretary Cynthia Eaton Tvelia** shows newly revised Ridge Civic Association website on flatscreens. Cleaner designer, blue and green colors (reflect one thing we love about Ridge, i.e., being surrounded by nature), larger and ADA compliant fonts. Main sections:
 1. Home page — Lists membership meeting dates, basic info about hamlet of Ridge, our core purpose
 2. About us — Lists all members of executive board (officers, trustees, directors) as well as business sponsors (including links to individual pages so business sponsors get more for their investment than just business card sized ad in newsletter)
 3. Events — Describes annual events: Easter Bunny at Park/Egg Hunt, Earth Day Celebration, Santa at Park; Memorial Day Parade (with Ridge Fire Department); Summer Concerts; and at Brookhaven Town Fair at Longwood Estate host a booth that features Cardboard Construction Zone, Bubble Base, Crayon Creation Station, and our Bean Bag Toss
 4. Committees & Scholarship — Describes our committees and Phil Reany Jr. Scholarship
 5. Become a Member — How to join (multiple options) as well as why you should join
 6. Contact Info — How to contact us as well as elected representatives (local, state, federal)
- **Cynthia Eaton Tvelia** describes fall 2023 membership drive in collaboration with Caryle Francis and Keibo Bryan of Unique Tastes Wine & Liquor. Flyers are available. Current or new dues-paying members—who have paid their 2023-24 dues in full—are eligible to enter a drawing for a \$150 gift certificate to Unique Tastes.

After joining Ridge Civic, go to bit.ly/ridgeunique and enter your name, contact info, and what you find UNIQUE about living in Ridge or what you love most about living in Ridge. Contest ends 12/1; winner announced on Sat, 12/2, just in time for the

holidays! Please share with neighbors so we can increase membership.

- **Scott Wood** reports that Gray's Hardware is hosting a Neighborhood Food Drive in coming months, so please bring nonperishables to Gray's at 1878 Middle Country Road if you can. In addition, State Farm here in Ridge as well as Kaufold's Country Sheds and Gazebos are collecting new, unwrapped toys for Toys for Tots.

Guest Speakers

- COPE Officer Cummings reports that the #1 concern recently are vehicle larcenies. It is critical that all residents lock car doors at night, especially if your car is not in a garage; this is simplest and most effective deterrent. SCPD patrol areas constantly, and residents can let Officer Cummings know after meeting if you have questions.
- Candidate for Suffolk County 6th Legislative District Dorothy Cavalier introduces self, shares brief biography. Remember to vote on November 7; local elections are critical.

Member Concerns

- Member Kathy Megas shares flyers from American Legion Auxiliary Unit 1887, promoting their 2023 Indoor Vendor and Craft Fair on Sat., November 4, 10 am to 4 pm, at Leisure Knoll Recreation Center (108 Sheffield Drive, Ridge). Looking for a few more vendors. Will have items from Tastefully Simple, Mary Kay, Tupperware, jewelry, oil paintings, wood items, home décor, and more. Profits go to support veterans, active military, and Gold Star families. Please attend and spread the word.
- Ridge Civic had reached out to Ridge Elementary PTA to see if we could collaborate on something like a Thanksgiving food drive. Food drive not needed at this time, but they are in need of support for various other activities and events for the children. Motion to bring discussion to floor made by **Director Holly Wood** and seconded. Discussion ensues. Funds would be used for things like materials for their science fair, decorations for seasonal dances, other elementary school academic and social programs. Motion to donate \$100 to Ridge PTA to support student activities made by **Ninette Kayton** and seconded. Motion passes unanimously.
- Town Councilman Mike Loguerio announces [November 4 recycling event](#) at South Country Library in Bellport as well as encourages all to vote. Due to redistricting, Mike now represents nearly all of Ridge in District 4, with Jane Bonner covering north of Whiskey Road in District 2.

Committee Reports

- Community Park — Scott Wood reports that park was recently cleaned.
- Membership — Holly Wood reports that there have been a couple more people signing up but we'd like to see even more. As noted previously, kicking off a membership drive.
- Downtown Beautification — Scott Wood reports that there are now mums in the planters all along Middle Country Road.

- School House — No report at this time
- Clean Up — No report at this time
- Scholarship Committee — None at this time
- Events – Ninette Kayton reports that next event will be Santa at the Park on first Sunday in December, December 4 at 5. Please mark your calendars. Ridge Fire Department brings Santa to greet children, and we will light the tree at the park.
- Brookhaven National Lab – Scott Wood reports that he attended a meeting of the [Community Advisory Council](#) last week; BNL introduced new management team and you can learn more at bnl.gov.

Adjournment

- Meeting adjourned at 8:29 pm.