



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 16, 2024, 7:30 pm Ridge Firehouse

Call to Order and Pledge

- Meeting called to order at 7:31 pm by **President Scott Wood**

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, scholarship, downtown beautification, and savings. Please note regarding the county grant for summer entertainment, we now await just \$3,700 from the county. All invoices have been submitted.

Correspondence

- None at this time.

Guest Speaker: Dan Owens, St. Charles Hospital

- As a physician assistant at [St. Charles Hospital](https://www.stcharleshospital.com), visiting local community groups to help ensure area residents are aware of the services we offer
- Viewed primarily as an orthopedic and rehab hospital, but we are actually a full-service hospital, with a recent 50% expansion of space for our ER as well as a separate space for individuals who are detoxing from an addiction for their privacy
- Consider St. Charles for medical needs; we hear from patients that our personal touch is what sets us apart from the others.

Guest Speaker: Mike Loguercio, Town Councilman, Town of Brookhaven, District 4

- Thankful to Ridge Civic for consistency in reaching out about issues, e.g., concerns regarding Ridge Community Park

- You should know that state paving of Middle Country Road from Mt. Sinai to N. Ocean to the west and from Calverton to Splish Splash Water Park to the east, has begun; roadwork by impact your travel/commuting plans
- Saturday, November 2, is another one of [our popular recycling events, 9 am to 1 pm, at South Country Library in Bellport.](#)
- Saturday, December 7, will be the annual Santa Comes to Longwood event at Longwood Estate, from 11 am to 2 pm. Come to enjoy holiday festivities, the train display, tour the historic home and Ridge Schoolhouse, and have your photo taken with Santa.

Old Business

- **Review of Brookhaven Country Fair at Longwood Estate — [September 21 and 22 was a beautiful weekend!](#)** We had a wonderful time at our booth. Seems to remain very popular. We had 300 yellow construction hats that we put Ridge Civic logo stickers on, and on Sunday evening less than two dozen remained.

We had our booth right by the Ridge Schoolhouse again and hosted our Bubble Base, Cardboard Construction Zone, Art Creation Station, and Ridge Civic Beanbag Toss. Grateful to both Ninette DiGaetano Kayton for staffing Bubble Base and Cynthia Eaton Tvelia for staffing Cardboard Construction Zone all weekend, 10 am to 5 pm each day. We had several local Girl Scouts volunteer on Saturday morning as well as Micah Tvelia all weekend and Kai Tvelia on Sunday morning.

New Business

- “The Ridge Reporter” and increasing postage/ mailing concerns
 - We currently have around 130 members to whom we mail newsletter via U.S. Postal Service 9 months of the year (not in July, August, or December). The cost of stamps just increased to 73 cents a couple months ago, so between the costs of printing the newsletter and purchasing mailing labels plus clear sealers as well as stamps, we would like to offer members some new options.

Our Board met and agreed to three options for members to keep up with Ridge Civic news:

1. I want to continue receiving my printed newsletter via U.S. Postal Service
2. I prefer to receive a pdf version of the newsletter by email
3. No need to send me a newsletter; I follow Ridge Civic on social media (Facebook and Instagram) and get my news that way.

Comments, questions, or concerns?

- This is a smart move; most civic associations and other organizations do not mail paper copies of newsletter any more
- Good to be mindful of how we spend member dues
- So much is done electronically nowadays, no need to waste paper.

Member Concerns

- Legislator Chad Lennon is doing a collection drive for homeless veterans; there’s a drop off box at Gray’s Hardware if you’d like to contribute.

- Blessings in a Backpack is doing a Neighbors Feeding Neighbors event on November 12, 6 to 8 pm, where you get to sample foods from local restaurants as part of the fundraiser
- Neighbors Being Human is a local food pantry with a location in Yaphank that's open three days a week, so spread the word if you know of anyone in need
- Next month our guest speaker will be LHS social studies teacher Jeanne Knudsen who will have NYS Seal of Civic Readiness students here to discuss their civic projects; please attend if you are able to
- We are working with Ridge Elementary School social worker Ann Marks again this year on a toy drive for children in need. You can drop off new, unwrapped toys at Gray's Hardware.

Committee Reports

- Community Park — Grateful to Town Councilman Mike Loguercio, Victoria Molloy, and staff member James for their work to fix the light in the gazebo
- Membership — Members are reminded to pay their dues: online, by check via U.S. Postal Service, or by check or cash in person (at our meetings or at Gray's Hardware)
- Downtown Beautification — Looking into a project to replace the old banners on the utility poles
- School House — No updates at this time
- Clean Up — Could use some new volunteers for this committee
- Scholarship Committee — No report at this time
- Events – Next event is Meet Santa at Ridge Community Park on December 7 at 5 pm
- Brookhaven National Lab – Community Advisory Committee has been discussing strategic initiatives at the lab

Adjournment

- Meeting adjourned at 8:11 pm.