

Community Center Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

Ridgewood, N.J.

January 23, 2025

In attendance: Deanna Schablik, Liz Kloak, Gwenn Hauck, Sheila Brogan, Mayor Paul Vagianos, Cathy Greve (via Zoom), Claudia Fortunato, Lillian Blood, Ronan Ozaydin, Benji Young, Beth Abbott (via Zoom).

5:08 p.m. Call to Order

For approval of November minutes Gwenn motioned and Claudia seconded. All in favor.

Old Business—Foundation President position

- Gwenn has agreed to take this position. Sheila nominates her and all approved.
- Gwenn talked about she and Liz working together. Her goal is to raise awareness and funds for the Community Center of Ridgewood Foundation.
- There was a discussion about the members of the Community Center Advisory Board and the Foundation. Deanna appreciates the new members of the Advisory Board who have volunteered and hopes that the Village Council will interview and approve them soon. Mayor Vagianos will follow up.

Old Business—Fundraising-Liz Kloak and Deanna Schablik

- Deanna would like to see the Foundation solicitation letter finalized. She will send out an email about a subcommittee of members to work on that task, the Lunch and Learn sponsorship solicitation letter and the first Lunch and Learn.
- Liz suggests that the Foundation sponsors the first Lunch and Learn in March. Advance reservations necessary and would be limited to 75 people.
- There was a discussion about the appropriateness of sponsors marketing their services to the attendees. It was decided that since

this is hosted by the Foundation (not the Village) the sponsors can tell everyone who they are and what they do.

- Everyone is meant to think about good speaker ideas for our first lunch and learn. Sheila talked about the Stay New Jersey property tax relief program which should begin in February.
- Liz suggests that 60% of the Foundation Board should be present at all Foundation events.

CYC Report-Ronan Ozaydin and Benji Young

- The Cookie Bake-Off event will be March 2 in the Community Center
- The CYC is working on developing a volunteer program for snow shoveling. They plan to start with seniors who live near CYC members.
- CYC members helped with an event at BF Middle School.
- Gwenn pointed out that CYC is student run so leadership skills are learned as well.

Community Center Report—Deanna Schablik

- Deanna spoke about this time of year when Village department budgets are developed. This past year the Parks and Recreation expenses for the Community Center were over budgeted amounts.
- Deanna invites anyone to come to the Village Council budget meeting to support Parks and Recreation funding on February 19 at 5 pm.

Village Council Report combined with Age Friendly Ridgewood-Mayor Paul Vagianos, Beth Abbott and Sheila Brogan

- Paul described the meeting between himself, Beth, Sheila, Councilwoman Pam Perron, Keith Kazmark, Carol Bialkowski and Dylan Hansen to discuss the possibility of expanding services for seniors and developing a survey to determine needs. The first focus will be on senior transportation and programming at the Community Center.

The next Meeting will be February 27 at 5 pm.

6:17 p.m. The meeting was Adjourned

Respectfully submitted by Beth Abbott.