

NCVOA OCTOBER 2014 NEWSLETTER

Published by the Nassau County Village Officials Association

Post Office Box 484, New Hyde Park, NY 1104

NCVOA

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Tuesday, October 14, 2014-7:00PM

La Marmite Restaurant

Williston Park, NY

Guest Speaker

Eric Alexander

Executive Director

Vision Long Island

Eric Alexander is the Director of Vision Long Island, the region's Smart Growth planning organization. Eric has over twenty years of experience in housing, transportation, community development and coordinating successful community projects. Specifically, Eric has been a proponent of Smart Growth planning and mixed use development through advocacy efforts on Federal, State, County levels while working with municipalities to develop and implement smart growth policies, regulations, and projects. All told his efforts at Vision Long Island have resulted in acting as a catalyst for over 65 private and 70 public Smart Growth projects supporting 7,800 units of Transit Oriented Development across LI.

From the President's Desk



NCVOA President Peter Cavallaro addressed the crowd

Dear Mayors, Trustees and Friends

I want to thank all of the mayors and trustees and other village officials who attended our Annual Dinner this past week at the Crest Hollow Country Club. The dinner and journal were tremendous successes, and a fitting way for us to thank our Immediate Past President Dave Tanner (Mayor of East Williston) for his service as our president last year.

NCVOA President Peter Cavallaro addressed the crowd

Our keynote speaker was State Senator Jack Martins, one of NCVOA's most ardent advocates and supporters. Senator Martins gave us a brief overview of what to expect from Albany in the coming legislative session. He urged us to continue to work with him to make certain that village issues and needs are addressed. As usual, we will need to keep vigilant to protect our villages, and our residents, from Albany's impositions and mandates. As Senator Martins indicated, we also need to be aggressive in seeking additional state aid for our infrastructure and other needs. I am confident that, with Senator Martins' help (and that of Michelle Schimel, his colleague in the Assembly) we will be well represented in facing the challenges ahead.

Assemblywoman Schimel also addressed the dinner and updated the membership on the fight to address ongoing issue of the costly electronic voting machine mandate for local elections. We pledge to work with her in the coming months to make certain that NCVOA's voice is heard when the permanent solution is crafted in the next legislative session.

At our monthly meeting in October, we will be featuring Eric Alexander, executive director of Vision Long Island, as our guest speaker.

Of course, of great concern to all village officials is the long-term health and sustainability of their communities. Long Island is unfortunately well known for its "brain drain" and struggling downtown areas.

Eric Alexander is one of Long Island's most recognizable community leaders, focusing his (and VLI's) efforts on downtown revitalization, economic re-development, and building sustainable communities. He and Vision Long Island have worked with many communities to foster smart growth principles and the need for every community to address the needs of a changing suburbia. He frequently notes in his public appearances and remarks that villages have been the most successful stewards of pro-active and progressive sustainability plans. Many of the most notable successes have been because village governments have embraced the need to take affirmative steps to secure their communities' futures. Eric is quick to say that there is no cookie cutter approach to these things, and that every community needs to figure out what works best for it.

While some people view “smart growth” in a negative fashion, believing that it refers only to higher densities, mixed use, and changing community character, those things are really not the whole story, and Eric will be talking to us about how communities and villages that want to make sure that their futures are secure can approach these topics sensitively and in a way that builds consensus, not division.

So, I expect that Eric’s talk will be interesting and thought provoking, and I look forward to a good turn-out. Please bring your questions with you so that we can have a good, open and provocative debate!

2014 NCVOA Annual Dinner/Testimonial Meeting Attendees



Mayor Tanner talked about the accomplishments the organization achieved under his leadership



Mayor Tanner and his family



Mayor Tanner received a NYS Assembly proclamation from Assemblywoman Michelle Schimel



NYS Senator and former Mineola Mayor Jack Martins was the evening's keynote speaker



NCVOA Executive Director Warren Tackenberg and



NCVOA President Peter Cavallaro addressed the

President Peter Cavallaro presented Mayor Tanner with special gifts from the NCVOA crowd



Oyster Bay Town Clerk and NCVOA Past President Jim Altadonna honored Mayor Tanner with a Town citation



Village of East Hampton Mayor Paul Rickenbach, Jr. made the long trip from the East End to honor Mayor Tanner



Mayor Tanner shares a light moment with Farmingdale Mayor Ralph Ekstrand



Oyster Bay Town Clerk and NCVOA Past President Jim Altadonna honored Mayor Tanner with a Town citation



Mayor Tanner is seen accepting a Nassau County Proclamation from Jim Garner, NCVOA Past President and NC Comptroller George Maragos



Mayor Tanner greets guests during the cocktail reception

The Last Word:

“People with goals succeed because they know where they’re going. “



Nightingale

Earl

NCVOA Past Presidents attending this year's event
