

NCVOA JUNE 2014 NEWSLETTER

Published by the Nassau County Village Officials Association

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**NCVOA JUNE 2014
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
THURSDAY, JUNE 26, 2014-7:00PM
La Marmite
Williston Park, NY**

**" ELECTION and INSTALLATION OF
OFFICERS"**

INSTALLING OFFICER:

Hon. Richard Nicoletto

Nassau County Legislator 9th

District

Legislator Rich Nicoletto currently serves as the Deputy Presiding Officer of the Nassau County Legislature. Legislator Nicoletto also serves as the Chair of the Legislature's Finance Committee. He is the Vice Chair of the Rules Committee, and is a member of the committees for Budget Review, Planning, Development & the Environment and Economic & Community Development.

The Nassau County Village Officials Association welcomes and thanks Legislator Nicoletto for his participation in this very important meeting of the NCVOA.

From the President's Desk



President David E. Tanner

Dear Mayor, Trustees and Friends:

As my tenure as NCVOA President draws to an end, I am amazed how fast the time went. It has been my great pleasure to have worked with so many dedicated and talented public servants during the past year. Serving in Village governance is the highest level of public service; one that directly impacts our neighbors and the communities in which we live. It truly is about the passion to help others and improving the quality of life of our residents.

I would like to recognize the many talented professionals that I have worked with this past year, however, it would take too long to thank them individually. I am particularly grateful to the Executive Committee. They have devoted countless hours of additional time and energy to help create policies and strategies to guide our organization through these challenging times. I am confident they will continue to provide stellar leadership as we continue advocating on behalf of our residents. I also would like to thank Warren Tackenberg, our Executive Director. Warren truly is the heart and soul of our organization. He works tirelessly to ensure our operation runs smoothly and efficiently. Two broken bones didn't even slow him down this year! His assistance this past year was invaluable and I want him to know how much his efforts are appreciated.

As I reflect on my time as president, I am proud of the progress we made on several issues, namely the lever voting machine legislation and the proposed LI Water Commission legislation. I am also proud of the increased media visibility the NCVOA received as a result of my letters to the editor being published in Newsday and from the success of our sponsoring the Nassau County Executive Race Debate, this past Fall.

They say there is strength in numbers and I hope we all realize just how influential a group we can be if we work together. I look forward to remaining active in the organization and supporting the Executive Committee as it continues to guide our organization.

I would like to thank each of you for the privilege of serving as your president. It is a time I always will cherish.

Sincerely,

David E. Tanner,

President

Cavallaro Chosen to Run for Top Spot

The NCVOA Nominating Committee has recommended **Peter Cavallaro**, mayor of the Village of Westbury, for NCVOA President for 2014-2015. Completing the nominated slate of officers are **Mayor Barbara Donno** of Plandome Manor as 1st Vice President, Mayor **Bernard Ryba** of Old Brookville as 2nd Vice President and **Mayor Robert Kennedy** of Freeport as Treasurer.

While Mayor Donno, the current 1st vice president, was next in line to become president, she requested to remain as 1st vice president as her schedule would not allow her adequate time to serve as president for the 2014-2015 term.



President David Tanner would like to thank nominating committee members Mayor Kreitzman of Great Neck (committee chair), Mayor Mahler of Atlantic Beach, Mayor Murray of Rockville Centre, Mayor Celender of Great Neck Plaza and Deputy Mayor Sgambati of North Hills for their efforts in preparing the slate of officers.

County Executive Addresses NCVOA Membership at May Meeting



Nassau County Executive Ed Mangano was the guest speaker at the May General Membership meeting, held on May 13 at LaMarmite Restaurant in Williston Park. Speaking before a packed audience of village mayors and trustees, the County Executive opened his remarks by stating, “The County is in good shape.” Drawing from his State of the County address, he explained how Nassau County is in solid fiscal shape and he has not raised taxes in his last five budgets. Some of the other accomplishments the County Executive touted included:

- Nassau County has the lowest unemployment of any county in the State of New York;
- He reduced the size of the County government by 20% by consolidating departments;
- He saved \$30 million by launching public/private partnerships such as the bus company, development of Nassau Coliseum property, twin ice rinks at Eisenhower Park, and the Molloy College arrangement to install synthetic fields at Mitchell Park;
- Healthcare Services have been reduced by \$7 million by providing health services in the Nassau County jail;
- He jump started economic development by converting vacant office buildings to housing;
- Public safety improved with the implementation of the hand gun buy-back program;
- The County has embraced the Green initiative by installing LED traffic lights and saving millions in energy costs;
- He enhanced economic development by converting the Grumman hangars to movie sets and attracting millions of dollars in spending from motion picture companies.

While many challenges remain, the County Executive said he is confident the County is moving in the right direction.

NCVOA EDITORIAL

Every time State Comptroller Thomas DiNapoli issues a report scrutinizing the value of the Industrial Development Agency (IDA), he must feel the same frustration as a parent lecturing a teenager. He constantly repeats the same message and no one pays attention.

Throughout his tenure as state comptroller, DiNapoli has been an ardent IDA critic. Unfortunately, his continued analysis of the inflated claims of job development and economic development benefits for the local communities has fallen on deaf ears.

DiNapoli once again proved his point when he released a report (Newsday, May 14, 2014) citing the City of Glen Cove’s IDA having generated fewer jobs per dollar than any other IDA in the state. In the same report, the comptroller said Long Island had the highest number of tax exemptions of any region in the state, granting \$118.1 million in 2012.

In many jurisdictions throughout the State, IDA involvement in a project is enthusiastically welcomed by the local affected tax jurisdiction because the IDA participates in a commercial or industrial project resulting in employment and economic benefits to the local municipality. That has not necessarily been the case in many local affected jurisdictions on Long Island. In communities where there is no economic deterioration, the tax relief benefits afforded by the IDA are hard to justify. Even more so, the cost to the local municipalities of the tax relief afforded by the IDAs is not always justified by the jobs that are created. According to the State Comptroller, the average IDA [tax relief] cost per job for 2007 was \$4,527; in 2012 it was \$4,828.

Section 485(b) of the New York State Real Property Tax Law permits a ten year abatement of real property taxes beginning with 50% abatement in the first year and decreasing 5% each year over a ten year period. Each affected tax jurisdiction has the option of reducing or eliminating that abatement if the municipality believes it is not necessary for the local tax jurisdiction to offer such an abatement to induce real estate projects in its jurisdiction.

Local tax jurisdictions, particularly incorporated villages, should be able to insist the IDA either reduce the amount of real property tax exemption it proposes or not grant such real property tax exemptions [in the form of PILOTS] at all.

Furthermore, the IDAs should be limited to the types of projects defined in the law and should be required to demonstrate the cost of the tax relief per job created. Surely, there is no justification for significant tax relief that results in an insignificant number of new permanent jobs. And, most important, the local affected tax jurisdiction should have major input on whether the tax relief should be granted.

NYCOM GRACE UNDER PRESSURE:

INNOVATION IN A TIME OF FORCED EFFICIENCIES

Municipal Innovation Exchange Summit

June 19, 2014 • Hilton Long Island (Huntington)

Collaboration between and among local governments continues to be a key in finding new, expanded and improved ways to efficiently share services.

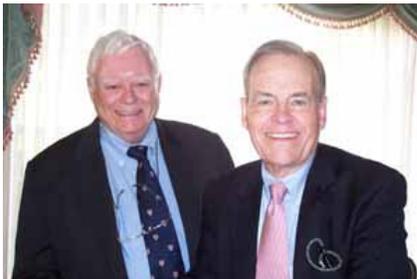
NYCOM has joined with the New York State Association of Counties, Association of Towns of the State of New York, and New York State School Boards Association to create the Municipal Innovation eXchange (the "MIX"). The MIX will, among other things, compile and make available the innumerable cooperative agreements already being used at the local level, and will facilitate the development of new and innovative approaches to shared services.

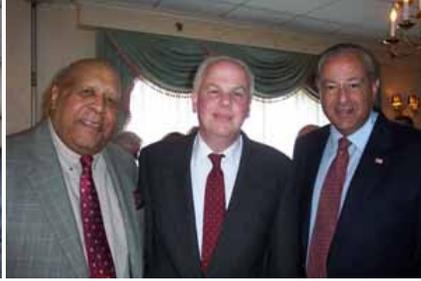
The next in a series of Municipal Innovation Exchange Summits will be held at the Hilton Long Island (Huntington) on June 19. The MIX Summit will be an opportunity for you to engage with city, village, county, town and school district leaders from your region to explore shared services, exchange success stories, and learn how to create collaboration between and among local governments, these summits continue to be a key in finding new, expanded and improved ways to efficiently share services.

This event is complimentary for all participating NYCOM organization members.

Registration Deadline: June 12, 2014

MAY 2014 MEETING ATTENDEES





The Last Word:

"Taking pride in all we do inspires us to go above and beyond."

Author unknown