

June-July 2020 Newsletter

**OUR JUNE ELECTION
& INSTALLATION OF
OFFICERS MEETING
& SEPTEMBER
TESTIMONIAL
DINNER HAVE BEEN
POSTPONED**

**WE HAVE NO
MEETINGS
SCHEDULED FOR
JULY OR AUGUST**

[Click here for our future meeting
schedule](#)

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK:

Dear Colleagues:

For nearly three months, we have been in the midst of an unprecedented national health crisis. Long Island has had the misfortune of being incorporated in the COVID-19 epicenter, trailing only New York City in the number of COVID-19 related hospitalizations and deaths. For the most part, we reacted as New Yorkers typically do in a crisis – with gritty determination and unwavering resiliency. We refused to succumb and responded to the challenge by taking the necessary actions - staying home, wearing face masks and practicing social distancing. After enduring weeks of unprecedented restrictions, it seems our efforts have been successful in flattening the curve and curtailing the virus' rampant spread.

We have learned many lessons during the past few months that will influence our decisions as we rebuild our lives, businesses and communities. With COVID-19 loosening its grip on us, we can shift our focus and begin the protracted process of restoring daily activities and adjusting to a “new normal.”

After months of being confined, our residents desperately desire a quick return to normalcy. While we understand their perspective, we must proceed cautiously and resist the



*President Edward Lieberman
Mayor of the Village of Sea Cliff*

pressure to sacrifice safety for expediency. As community leaders, we are facing challenges from many different fronts. We must be proactive in implementing progress while reinforcing the importance of socially responsible behavior. We may have turned the corner but the battle is far from over. If we relax cautionary behavior, we easily could see a spike in COVID-19 cases and a mandated return to unpleasant restrictions.

We also need to be creative and innovative in helping our local businesses recover. For many villages, downtown businesses contribute to the community's vibrancy and play an integral part in contributing to the tax base. Now, more than ever, all levels of government need to remove jurisdictional constraints and work together. I am hopeful some of the ideas being discussed to jumpstart our restaurants and small businesses will materialize.

The NCVOA remains operational and committed to serving as a resource for our member villages. To maintain consistency of operations and minimize disruption to our organization, the Executive Committee decided to forego the annual June election of officers and have the current officers remain in their roles for an additional year. The officers and I appreciate the Executive Committee's confidence and look forward to continuing working with you during the next year.

As I mentioned in previous messages, please do not hesitate to contact me on my cell phone at 516-359-4691 or via email at elieberman@seacliff-ny.gov if I can provide any assistance. You also can contact Ralph Kreitzman, NCVOA executive director, at exec@ncvoa.org.

I know this will be a summer unlike any we have ever experienced. Please stay safe, healthy and strong and try to make the best of a difficult situation. Together, we will get through this.

Sincerely,



Mayor Edward Lieberman

ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND TESTIMONIAL DINNER POSTPONED:

Our Executive Board has decided to postpone our election and installation of officers until June 24, 2021. Our current officers will continue to serve in their current positions until that time.

Our September Testimonial Dinner to honor our outgoing president has been postponed until September 9, 2021.

DID YOU KNOW:

For those who do not know the history of the NCVOA, here is a little primer of its earliest days --

In June of 1925, officials from four villages – Freeport, Lynbrook, Rockville Centre and Hempstead – including each of their presidents (that’s what village mayors were called back then) met mainly to discuss traffic problems -- does that sound familiar. At the meeting, they had a presentation (also familiar) from a company that proposed adoption of three-color traffic signals to avoid some of those traffic problems. Importantly, they agreed that a close association of those and other villages should result from that meeting.

At the next meeting, the traffic committee issued its report and by-laws were adopted for the Village Officials Association of Nassau County. Significant among its provisions was its purpose -- “the promotion of mutual community welfare” -- and a provision that there were to be monthly meetings.

During the first year of the NCVOA:

Speakers at some of the meetings included the Deputy State Comptroller and a Deputy Attorney General.

The NCVOA president was appointed by the New York State Conference of Mayors and Other Officials (NYCOM) as a member of a committee to advise with the State Joint Legislative Committee on a complete revision of the Village Law.

Other topics discussed were problems of garbage dumping, a proposal to have town-wide incineration, County and other police matters and a joint sewer proposal. Amazing that those still are important matters for us 95 years later.

By the end of the first year, there were 14 village members, and monthly meetings were attended by as many as 30 to 35 village officials.

The first annual dinner was held on January 13, 1926 at the Pavilion Royal in Valley Stream. The Director of the Bureau of Municipal Research, the Secretary of NYCOM and a representative of the State Department of Farms and Markets spoke, as did the local assemblyman. Also, a gift of a purse of gold was given to the secretary of the Association. Well some things do change.

MEET THE FRIENDS OF THE NCVOA:

The logos of our Friends of the NCVOA appear at the end of this newsletter and on our website – ncvoa.org. If you click on a Friends’ logo, you will be taken to their website home page.



The Last Word:

Some things are just better left
unsaid,
and I usually realize it right after
I say them.

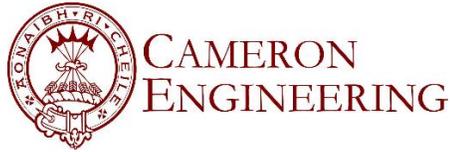
-- Anonymous

Published by the NASSAU COUNTY VILLAGE OFFICIALS ASSOCIATION
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