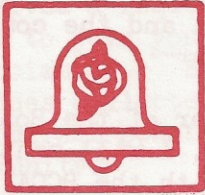


action news



bellerose commonwealth civic association, inc.

VOLUME 3 NO. 11

JANUARY

1977

OFFICERS / 77

Our last general meeting was "Election Night" and officers to lead the B.C.C.A. for 1977 were elected. Although we provide for additional nominations from the floor, none were forthcoming, and the five nominees presented by the Nomination Committee were elected.

The new officers are:

President:

Dennis McGann

Vice President:

John Reh

Treasurer:

Sebastian Platania

Corresponding Secretary:

Darlene Galvin

Recording Secretary:

Virgil Regalbuto

For Board of Directors (2 year term) three additional candidates were added from the floor for a slate of seven, with four positions open.

Elected to full terms are:

Robert Costagliola

James Delaney

George Sharp

Howard Slaney

One year terms (to complete unexpired terms) brought three candidates for the two vacancies.

Elected are:

Maria Copertino

Edward Galvin

Bernard Wechsler and George Wolf elected last year to two year terms complete the Board of Directors.

We congratulate our new officers and wish them success as they assume their new positions. We have full confidence that they will help the B.C.C.A. exert its influence with the new Community Planning Board which will assume added powers in 1977 and continue to make Bellerose a good place to live.

(Note: Read Howard Slaney's article)

Happy New Year

The B.C.C.A. extends its sincerest wishes for a Happy New Year to its members, friends, and neighbors.

With the New Year comes hope. With a new administration in Washington, and with more enlightened leadership at City Hall, 1977 should see sunlight breaking through the clouds.

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NOTICE

THE NEXT MEETING

JANUARY 6, 1977
8:30 P.M.

INSTALLATION
OF OFFICERS

GUEST SPEAKER

MRS. SUSAN NOREIKA

CHAIRPERSON
COMMUNITY PLANNING
BOARD #13

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PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Corner of 248th St.
& 85th Avenue
Bellerose

The President Reports

My sincere thanks to everyone for giving me the opportunity to serve as President during our nation's Bicentennial year. The cooperation and enthusiasm of many members, the new acquaintances I've made, the solution of some of our problems and even the encounters with certain city agencies have all made it a very rewarding personal experience.

We're proud of the success of our Spring Dance and the Bicentennial version of our annual June Walk. BCCA Citizenship medals were again presented to outstanding graduating students of P.S. 133 and St. Gregory's. Our Block Security Program included auto identification this year as well as bicycle identification and the availability of engraving instruments and burglar alarms for use by members.

At many of our monthly meetings members heard informative talks. Guest speakers included elected officials and representatives of the Police and Parks Departments and Con Edison. Demonstrations were given by our local ambulance corps and by our own BCCA gardening expert. At our October meeting, Mrs. Rhoda Salter was honored for her 16 years of dedicated service to our children at the Parks Department Pre-School program.

Through the guidance and hard work of dedicated editors and a few members who give up some of their precious time to write articles, our ACTION NEWS has continued to improve as a high-quality civic newspaper.

Many favorable comments have been received concerning it, and it has been quoted at least fifteen times during the past year by the Long Island "Press".

We supported the colonial Farmhouse Restoration Society's application for landmark status which was recently granted. We testified at a Board of Estimate hearing concerning proposals for the revision of Community Board boundaries.

The BCCA has been fighting to have the new Belle-rose Library Building opened as a library. In the meantime we have, with the support of other local organizations, been attempting to obtain an acceptable temporary community use for the vandalized building. While the fight continues for a public library, and with the help of the Borough President's Office and the N.Y.C. Office of the Aging, a Senior Citizen's center and a mini-library maintained by the community may open there.

Our complaint form, which was distributed in the spring, brought a flood of mail to the BCCA. City agencies and other appropriate parties were advised of the complaints and many problems were rectified. Response varied from agency to agency. For example, the Traffic Department installed over 30 traffic signs which were needed in our neighborhood. The Parks Department, however, has yet to prune a tree or, for that matter, answer four letters from our Association, including one mailed to the Commissioner.

I am most grateful for the advice, support and friendship of those officers, committee chairmen and members who have given unselfishly of their time in serving the BCCA and the community.

As a member of the Board of Directors, I will continue to work with the BCCA for the betterment of our community and I invite you to join in the effort. Helping hands are always welcome.

I wish to take this opportunity to wish you all a Happy New Year and remind you that with your support and involvement, our Association will be even better this year.

James K. Delaney

SOCIAL SECURITY CHECKS

Many savings banks advertise that recipients of Social Security checks may now have their checks mailed directly to the savings bank it chooses. The procedure is quite simple and the officers of the bank will be glad to help you fill out the necessary authorization.

There are various advantages to consider. One is that the elderly will not be relieved of their cash as they leave the bank. Those who prey on the elderly know pretty well when pension and social security checks are expected to be delivered. And, YES, the elderly can be relieved of their money even in this area.

MEMBERSHIP - CLOUT

You have all been recently contacted by your Block Captains, or have received a request in the mail to join your Civic Association. Every dollar of dues collected is used for direct benefit of the community.

All who volunteer give their time and often more in their never-ending efforts to make Bellerose a better place to live.

Our membership drive this year is of greater importance than in past years.

Beginning January 1st, 1977, your local community representatives - Civic Associations - are going to have more "clout" in determining the distribution of services than ever before. Many of you voted for Charter Revision last year, now the results of that referendum are going to take effect.

Basically, the distribution of services will be under the direct control of your local Community Planning Board. Who will have the most influence with these Boards? The answer should be obvious --- a well organized local Civic Association that can speak as a representative of a large majority of residents in a specific area.

Do not sit back and complain about those other groups who can exert pressure and obtain additional service for their community.

If you do not speak loudly and with authority, you are not heard. Only you,

the residents of Bellerose, can give those who represent you the "clout" to get things done for Bellerose.

Join your Civic Association NOW -- invest Two dollars (\$2.00) in your community's future and make things happen in your community.

Howard Slaney

THANK YOU

In these days when immorality is the norm, it's time to pause and publicly issue a heartfelt "Thank You" to the Columbia Savings Bank and the Bellerose Theater. On the morning of December 11, 1976 these worthy neighbors presented a free holiday film festival for the children of Bellerose and surrounding communities featuring "Dr. Doolittle" and four cartoons.

Gone are the days we remember of taking lunch to the local movie house and sitting through hours of "Tarzan" or Westerns, plus weekly chapters of thrills and chills -- "Flash Gordon", "Buck Rogers", "Deadwood Dick", etc. And yet somehow watching the children file in for the special show brought it all back to mind. The Bellerose Theater has proven a good friend to the children on other occasions, presenting Walt Disney films during the summer months and Mr. Katz, the manager, is to be commended for providing a decent source of entertainment for our young people.

To Columbia Savings and the Bellerose Theater -- many long years of continued success in our community!

Betty Platania

L.N.P. SPEEDWAY

Since Little Neck Parkway was re-graded and re-paved, speeding has become a great concern to the residents of this street.

The elimination of intersections, except at the avenues, has created long stretches of road inviting drivers to speed.

The clamor of B.C.C.A. members that the Traffic Department "do something about this" resulted in an eight day survey by the Radar Unit of the Traffic Department to verify the situation. Although some fourteen tickets were issued for speeding, it was found that in general, trucks and autos were observing the speed limits.

It would appear that we may be over-estimating the speed of traffic on Little Neck Parkway. Since there are only two Radar Units assigned to the Borough of Queens, it is unlikely that this street will be re-surveyed in the near future. However, we will continue to observe the situation and not consider it "closed".



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SANITATION SNAFU

Despite the financial "crunch" sanitation pick-ups in this area remain at two per week. However, when holidays fall on pick-up days, a disruption of the regular schedule occurs.

November, with three holidays falling on pick-up days created a problem for some of our residents. Several streets experienced one pick-up per week for a couple of weeks. Calls to the Sanitation Department did not prove fruitful.

Current practice is to pick up as scheduled. After the regular pick up has been completed, the sanitation men will go back and clear up as much of the area skipped because of the holiday. It may be that not all of the area skipped can be cleared.

A "no overtime" rule is in effect, and a reduction of the number of sanitation crews does not always permit complete pick-ups in the areas by-passed. Also, since the pick-up day starts

at midnight, it may very well be that if the trash is not at the curb when the truck comes by, the householder may have to wait until the next scheduled collection.

We realize that explaining what is happening does not result in a pick-up, but it enables us to understand the situation.

The B.C.C.A. suggests that homeowners put their complaints in writing, and forward them directly to the agency involved.