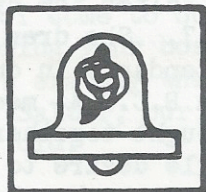


action news



bellerose commonwealth civic association, inc.

VOLUME 3 NO. 9

NOVEMBER

1976

CANDIDATES '77

The Nominating Committee, John Reh, Chairman, Mrs. Marie Copertino, Sebastian Platania, Bernard Wechsler, and George Wolf offers this slate of candidates for 1977-1978.

President:

Dennis McGann

Vice President:

John Reh

Treasurer:

Sebastian Platania

Recording Secretary:

Virgil Regalbuto

Corresponding Secretary:

?????? ?????

Board of Directors:

Two year term (2):

Marie Copertino

George Sharp

One year term (4):

Robert Costagliola

James Delaney

Howard Slaney

?????? ?????

Term of office is for two years. Where the term of office is for one year it represents filling an unexpired term.

We urge you to study the candidates offered, and to note especially that we have no candidate to offer for Corresponding Secretary or Director (one year term).

The Constitution of the

B.C.C.A. provides for nominations from the floor. Hopefully, the two slots will be filled from the floor.

It should not be necessary to point out that any association functions best when there is widespread support for the organization, and this means more than paying the annual membership dues.

All of us in the B.C.C.A. area are in Bellerose by choice, and we remain here by choice. We have made perhaps the largest investment we'll ever make by buying a house in this area. It goes without saying that we are interested in this neighborhood, and want to see to it that we receive the services we pay for and the protection that we deserve. We do not want to see our area deteriorate.

One way of assuring that the community is maintained is for homeowners and tenants participate in the activities of the community --- such as volunteering to run for office in the B.C.C.A.

Change is natural in a dynamic community. Families move away, new families move in. The community is always in movement, and we expect that the new families become part of the community and not just re-

sidents IN the community.

During the year we lost Faith and Larry Walsh (both officers) who moved out of the state. Howard York, a director, finds that other community responsibilities prevent him from continuing in office. We need you as members of the B.C.C.A. And, we need you as potential officers of the B.C.C.A. where your new ideas and programs may work wonders for us all. You might want to start either as a director for a year or as our Corresponding Secretary.

NOTICE

THE NEXT MEETING

THURSDAY

November 4, 1976

Guest Speaker

Det. William Chirkis
105th Precinct
Crime Prevention Unit

"On Security"

HOUSE OF HOPE
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

Corner of 248 ST. &
85th Avenue

COMMUNITY SPEAKS UP

Despite torrential rains some 400 interested residents crowded into the auditorium of P.S. 133 to air their views at the Community Board No.13 Area Public Hearing co-sponsored by the PTA P.S. 133, Bellerose Commonwealth C.A., Bellerose Hillside C.A., North Bellerose C.A., and the Queens Colony C.A.

The topic was the Bellerose Library Building completed and vacant for over a year.

The message was loud and clear --- the building was erected to house a library and that is what the community wants.

Some 85% of the speakers supported library use. A small minority opted for a senior citizen center, and there was a call to sell the building.

The arguments for a library were convincing. Bellerose is being short-changed. The Glen Oaks now paired with the Windsor Park branch is open three days a week. This is a reduction of 50% service. In addition, the bookmobile that provided auxiliary service has been discontinued, further reducing service. If this were not all, The schools in District 26 which includes Bellerose have been retrenched.

As some of the youngsters who decided to speak for themselves pointed out, they need a library in which to do their assignments. The Queens Village branch and the Glen Oaks branch are too distant for the students to walk to.

Should it not be possible to open the building as a library, the community reluctantly would consider other community use.

This may be the route to a library. Writing to Mrs. Susan Norėika, Chairperson of Community Board No.13, Deputy Mayor John Zuccotti has asked William Donohue, Director of the Queens Office, Department of City Planning, to pursue the matter of trying to find an alternative service to the community until such time as the Queens Borough Public Library will be able to take over the building as a branch library. Mr. Zuccotti hopes that a practical solution will be found.

Some of the possible alternative services that were presented at the meeting included --- senior citizen center, youth center, mini-library, meeting place for the Community Planning Board, meeting place for Civic Associations, auxiliary police station, volunteer ambulance corp headquarters or combinations of these services.

Whatever the final use, we will need funds. We urgently ask all members of the community to write to all their elected officials from congressman to councilman to explore the availability of funding in areas within their jurisdiction. As individuals we might follow whatever leads we might have to grants, endowments, religious or philanthropic organizations since the key to the solution is MONEY.

BELLEROSE LOVES YOU

Bellerose belonged to Mrs. Rhoda Salter the night of October 7. She drew the largest attendance in our memory to a B.C.C.A. meeting --- brought together by the single desire to honor the person who has left her imprint on a generation of Bellerose youths.

Alumnae from her pre-school program, represented by Joan Levano, now enrolled at Queens College pinned a corsage on her.

For the mothers of the community, Mrs. Maureen O'Doherty presented Mrs. Salter with a beautiful gold watch bracelet.

The B.C.C.A. members whose children benefitted from her lessons of self-reliance, good citizenship, and respect awarded her a scroll recognizing sixteen years of dedication to the community, and a plant to remind her of our appreciation.

Assemblyman John Esposito sent greetings which were read by the President, while State Senator Frank Padavan conveyed his good wishes in person.

In this genuine out-pouring of emotion, it was understandable that a person whose daily work called for talking and being heard, could actually be at a loss for words.

In leaving P.S. 133, Mrs. Salter has earned the right to do what she wants when she wants, and we wish her GOOD HEALTH AND HAPPINESS to do just that.

SOMETHING FOR ALL

Our last meeting was a case of come to our meeting and bring your boss along. That's exactly what Mrs. Rhoda Salter, our guest of honor did.

Mr. Maurice Weisbrot, Director of Recreation for the N.Y.C. Parks Department recounted in his animated way the enthusiastic programs that his Department provides for people of all ages despite the forced retrenchment which has reduced the number of recreation directors from some 800 to 270 and playground assistants down to 36 and for only three days a week.

We are familiar with the playground and baseball programs. But, the year-round activities of the Parks Department includes everything from the slow deliberate chess tournaments to whirling folk and square dances. Their programs serve all, from pre-school programs for tiny tots to hot meals for senior citizens.

Communicating its various programs to the public is difficult. But, for those interested, there is a short cut. Want to know what special events the Parks Department is sponsoring? Call 472 - 1003. If you want to know what Mr. Salter is doing, call 520 - 5331. And to get to the very top, Mr. Weisbrot himself, the number is 520 - 5332.

Of particular interest to Bellerose is that at a time when vacancies are not being filled, P.S. 133 re-

ceived a replacement for Mrs. Salter --- none other than Mr. Weisbrot's son, Eric.

At the risk of sounding boastful, securing a replacement was not a case of the Parks Department looking for a good spot in which to place a competent registered teacher and director. It came about because mothers in the community were able to point out the need and value of the pre-school program and that they would not allow the program to die with the retirement of Mrs. Salter. This was the community in action to achieve a worthwhile goal -- and it succeeded.

"VOTE"

The B.C.C.A. as a civic association whose membership represents the wide range of the political spectrum in the community takes no position on political candidates.

It does agree that as civic minded citizens we should vote, and we urge our members and neighbors to do so on November 2.

Politics are a personal matter. We may make our decisions on facts and programs, and at times on irrational factors as looks and personality. We study the issues or vote as our spouse or newspaper recommends.

Whatever the way in which you arrive at your decision, keep in mind that fiscal crises and political crises are really people crises. The develop and are the result of moral crises in man. Winning an election does not automatically make

the winner a more honest or honorable person than he was the day before the election. Know your candidates. Then vote.

THANK YOU ALEX

If you keep back issues of Action News you will find that one subject that crops up frequently is the need for block captains in the area served by the B.C.C.A.

The fact is that we do NOT have block captains on each block, and since it is our purpose to reach each household in our area, we make provision to hand-deliver the Action News where no one has volunteered to serve as block captain.

Young Alex Santelli who has delivered the Action News for the past three years has "retired" as courier for our newsletter.

Good and dependable service is always appreciated, and Mr. Santelli's service was just that. As Alex goes on to better things, we extend our thanks and good wishes.

EDITORIAL STAFF

Editor:

Virgil Regalbuto

Managing Editor:

Charles McCarthy

Copy Editor:

Christina McGann

Address news items to:

8608 Little Neck Parkway

Floral Park, N.Y., 11001


Contributors:

James Delaney

John Reh

BAYSIDE FEDERAL SAVINGS
 BRANCH OFFICES
 BAYSIDE • BELLEROSE
 • WHITESTONE •
 VALLEY STREAM • PATCHOGUE
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ON SECURITY

Come to our November meeting. Your time will be well spent.

Security is everyone's concern. Statistics show that crime is on the increase nationwide. In our area, burglary is the most frequent crime. But, that does not mean that we have to be sitting ducks for burglars. You can shift the odds in your favor.

Detective William Chirkis of the Crime Prevention Unit of the 105th Precinct will give a slide presentation and offer suggestions on burglar-proofing your residence. Specific questions will be answered in the Question and Answer period that will follow the presentation.

B.C.C.A. OFFICERS

President

JAMES K. DELANEY
 84-20 252 Street
 Bellerose, N.Y. 11426
 212-347-6950

Vice President

JOHN REH

Treasurer

ROBERT COSTAGLIOLA

Corresponding Secretary

CHRISTINA MCGANN