

**Baldwin Civic Association
General Body Meeting
January 7, 2021
Via zoom**

The meeting opened at 7:41 by President Darien Ward. Before meeting gets under way, Assemblywoman Judy Griffin installed the new Executive Board:

President Darien Ward
Vice President Kimberly Malone
Treasurer Steve Greenfield
Recording Secretary Marguerite Keller
Corresponding Secretary Samantha Cools

Legislator Debra Mule made a statement and congratulated the Board and spoke to the members before the meeting commenced.

Rob Weisser recognized and expressed gratitude to the outgoing Board and Committee Members: Rita, Constance and Ashley. This is the 10th year for the BCA as it was established in 2011.

Officer Reports

- Recording Secretary
 - Adoption of minutes suspended.
- Corresponding Secretary
 - Samantha Cools is looking to organize a committee to help with social media content and communications, i.e. Zoom, YouTube, Constant Contact, etc. Other than that, there were no planned posts for Facebook, just check it daily.
- Treasurer Report
 - Treasurer Steven Greenfield reported just over \$15,000 and with no fundraisers, funds are going fast. Largest bill is insurance for \$2600.00 but that is not due for a few months.
- President/Vice President Report
 - Dates were listed on the agenda. September through December dates to be determined. President Darien Ward would like to focus on getting individuals engaged in the different committees and would like the BCA to be the “go to resource” for information on Baldwin. If you know someone who has a skill, invite them in to further enrich the BCA.
 - Unfinished business out there is the DRI and other business. Participation of the community make the BCA a better advocate. Diverse opinions are always welcome.
 - Thanked those who have already laid the groundwork and wants to maintain and achieve more. New goals are to be as productive as we can.
 - Vice President Kimberly Malone reported that she is looking forward to working with everyone and engaging more of the community.

Standing and Adhoc Committee Reports

- Economic Development
 - Economic Development Chair Replacement: Vice President Kim Malone is still looking for someone to be Chair of the Economic Development Committee. If anyone in the community has a recommendation, please let her know. The person she had in mind is unable to take on the responsibilities at this time, so she is open to suggestions.
- Government Liaison
 - President Darien Ward expressed how Karen Montalbano has been a” one woman crusade” in this obligation and it’s really more of a one person responsibility and would like to get more members involved with the committee.
- Beautification
 - Matt Ponsot spoke about a meeting planned for next week with Rita to get a plan in place.
 - Elissa Kirchner spoke about communicating with the high school guidance department to get students involved in adopting a senior where they would help mow the lawn, etc. Additionally, cleanups around town whether it’s residential or commercial will be on the Beautification agenda.
 - Elissa pitched the idea of having food trucks at the Community Garden in the Spring/Summer and is seeking thoughts on it. She would love to do this every Friday night. Discussion took place on what permissions she may have to get in terms of the Town and a proposal from her was encouraged.
- Fundraising
 - Rob Weisser spoke for Constance in relation to the brick fundraiser that has been taking place. Polar Engraving has a website for people to go look at the product, www.polarengraving.com/baldwincivic associations. The fundraiser so far has paid for the gazebo and would like to continue this.
 - Steve Greenfield spoke about the fundraising idea, he is trying to recruit 25 BCA members who would agree to raise \$100 selling baked goods, skills, or other ideas sometime in the spring to help raise funds. We have been “living” on funds raised in 2019 because due to the pandemic fundraising has not been able to happen.
 - Darien asked if there were any members interested in helping with fundraising to reach out.
- Membership/Website
 - Rob reported 101 paid members last year. Membership is trending up and has increased.
 - Website is undergoing renovations and updates for new pictures. The blog will hopefully be used more for people to take action. Always wanted to have a newsletter monthly but we need people to create content.
- Quality of Life

- Rodney Levi spoke about resident complaints and was happy to report there have been no new complaints. Two past complaints, one on a business and the other on an intersection, have quieted down.
- The marketing campaign on QOL issues in Baldwin is trying to come up with a survey to present to the Baldwin community by putting it on the website to see what the larger issues are in Baldwin. QOL committee will be meeting again to work on the survey and other items.

New Business

- Claudia Rotondo announced that the Coalition is co-sponsoring yarn bombing workshops via zoom on January 26th at 7 p.m. To participate you have to email the library and they will send you a link and it's run by Sara Hill.
- Sara spoke about what yarn bombing is all about and that there will be three different workshops. One workshop is an overview. The workshops are: 1/26 (overview), 2/17 and 2/24 at 7:00 p.m for knitting and 3/3 and 3/10 at 7 p.m. for crocheting. Then a crew will be put together to install sometime in the spring. The Baldwin Library's Piper has more information on this.
- Karen Montalbano announced that the Historical Society just did a presentation for the library. It is going to be the 3rd Thursdays of the month so keep your eyes open for them. They are looking to put together several of them.
- Sheree Lindsay got an email from Senator Kaminsky's office about grants for restaurants who suffered in the pandemic. The grant is for restaurants who are struggling can apply and get up to \$5,000.
- President Darien Ward reported that they asked our political representatives to speak to Empire State Development Corporation about DRI prospects and what were the mechanics of when they are going to get back to us. The Empire State Development was not forthcoming with information. The aim is to keep asking New York State what is going on with the DRI. There have been some rumors about developers looking to go elsewhere and those are only rumors. Nothing solid.
- There is a supermarket coming into the Pathmark site. It's a small start up. They have property in Brooklyn & Queens. They will be leasing it from PickQuick. They are not associated with Key Food. No timeframe on when it is moving in.

Since no other announcements and nothing new to add, President Darien Ward asked for a motion to end the meeting. Motion to adjourn was made by Claudia and Karen seconded. Meeting adjourned at 8:54.

**Baldwin Civic Association
General Body Meeting
February 11, 2021
Via zoom**

The meeting opened at 7:34 by President Darien Ward.

Officer Reports

- Recording Secretary
 - Marguerite Keller sent out the minutes and asked they be adopted.
- Corresponding Secretary
 - Samantha Cools uploads the minutes onto the website and will email link in the monthly newsletter.
 - Any information that needs to be posted to the different social media accounts, just send her way and she will post.
- Treasurer Report
 - Treasurer Steven Greenfield reported that 2020 was a grim year, a year of deficits in the BCA budget. Budgeted for 2020 was income of a little over \$9,000 but only Membership was able to bring in a little over \$2,000. Expenses managed to stay close to budget. There were expanded activities on the website. Constant Contact was used more so more was spent than budgeted. Most of the committees could not function. BCA still has \$15489.56 cash on hand. 2021 Budget proposed anticipates \$3,000 in dues, 2 fundraisers and that would generate \$8200 in revenue which would keep us close to budget expenses. Funds were allocated to committees and if fundraising does better, it will bring in more money.
 - Treasurer moves to adopt budget. Kim seconds along with Claudia.
 - Rodney asked for a small amount of funds be allocated to Quality of Life.
 - Treasurer will add funds.
 - President Darien Ward asks if there are any objections to the budget passing. All on zoom gave the “thumbs up” approval with no nays.
 - Budget carries.
- President/Vice President Report
 - DRI: President Darien Ward emailed David Ashton. They have not come up with a strategic plan for the 15 projects submitted. It’s very disappointing. A timeline had been presented. They have not followed the timeline. Next step may be to have all participants ask Assemblywoman Judy Griffin to step in on their behalf with the Empire State Development.
 - Darien spoke with Franky Jorge who shares the title of President of the Baldwin Chamber. He is looking to make changes, help businesses and expand their presence up north to make Baldwin more business friendly. Franky had seen the Main Street Alliance and was intrigued. He would like to have more collaborative events.
 - Executive Order 203 Nassau County Police Dept: Reforms for the police department. There were community meetings that the community did not know about. There have been proposals presented.

Standing and Adhoc Committee Reports

- Economic Development
 - Economic Development Chair: Darien introduced Willy Zambrano as the new Chairperson. Willy gave a brief introduction to the members.
 - Willy told the members that they held a meeting to focus on bringing the Split the Bill back and will report back with more information.
 - Willy asked if anyone is interested in joining the committee, they will have a meeting on the first Wednesday of the month at 7:00. His email is Willy@Zambranoarchitects.com.
- Government Liaison
 - Karen Montalbano reported that she continues to work with the Main Street Alliance and will continue to push out information on services. If anyone is interested in more information, reach out to Karen.
 - Executive Order 203 was discussed and conversations are taking place, information is being reviewed and she is trying to get an appointment with Nassau County.
- Beautification
 - Elissa and Matt have been working on letters to be presented to the legislature for approvals for the food trucks set for April 23rd. Food trucks will be at the community garden parking lot. People can bring chairs. She is looking to add in local artists and wrap up the summer with the Oktoberfest. All pending pandemic.
 - Beautification/Earth Day: sending out information about “it starts in your own front yard” about people adopting blocks to clean.
 - Waiting to hear back on plant sale.
 - Diana Mann asked if something is happening with the Baldwin Harbor Club and Darien explained the BCA cannot do anything with that space as the BCA does not have authorization.
- Fundraising
 - Steve Greenfield spoke about the fundraising idea, he is trying to recruit 25 BCA members who would agree to raise \$100 or \$150 selling baked goods, skills, or other ideas sometime in the spring to help raise funds. If anyone is interested to please reach out to Steve. His email is Sgreenfield04@gmail.com
 - Elissa asked about doing a raffle.
 - Vice President Kimberly Malone spoke about doing a Popcorn fundraiser where multiple organizers leverage the power of social media to get enough people to participate. She hopes to do this in March. More to come.
 - Rob and Kim spoke about an idea to have people share on social media what they love about Baldwin in the hopes that people would join.
 - Sheree Lindsay spoke about the PTA looking to do the same fundraiser as the popcorn fundraiser and Darien said for that conversation to take place offline.
- Membership/Website

- Rob Weisser reported that last year we ended with 106 paid members, which is the highest so far. He explained that people can go to the website and pay with a subscription so that every year, your credit card is automatically billed.
- Trifold is being worked on. He is happy for people to give him ideas on what should be included.
- Sara Hill asked if there is any way to get an alert when membership dues are due. Sammy is working on Constant Contact to set that up so people will get a happy anniversary and a thank you for the membership dues.
- **Quality of Life**
 - Rodney Levi reported that last time we spoke he talked about doing a Best Practices of Baldwin. He said the next day a poll will be presented to the Executive Board to get it on to social media for people to take the poll and what they think are the best practices. Then when poll is over, he will look at the results.
 - All complaints have been handled. Any complaints should be emailed to QOL at: BaldwinCivicQOL@gmail.com.
 - Rodney is trying to be proactive and try to promote a better QOL to everyone so less complaints. The marketing campaign on QOL issues in Baldwin can be put out to the town, being repetitive and getting people to talk.

New Business

- Sam Cools spoke about Facebook Fundraising where virtual events can take place and people can pay to see or participate. 100% of the proceeds goes to the organization. Example would be a cooking class and people pay to watch and learn.
- Darien reported that the Chamber reached out to him about the Honor Our Vets banners. He sent back a counter proposal to do lawn signs so they can be used multiple times. Chamber has not gotten back yet.
- Claudia Rotondo announced that the Coalition is co-sponsoring yarn bombing workshops via zoom in April. You can learn how to knit a piece to give to the Library to yarn bomb.
- Sara reported that the first workshop was well attended. She will probably engage the youth from the 3D Community Center and on April 11th, they will wrap yarn around the bike racks. There are multiple opportunities for all levels.
- If anyone is interested, go to the Baldwin Library website to sign up. There will be workshops on 2/17 & 2/24 for knitting and 3/3 & 3/10 for crochet. When you sign up you can come pick up a bag of 3 skeins of yarn, knitting needles and crochet hook.
- Helena Hillian asked about a sign to be put up by the train station to let people know what is happening in Baldwin. Darien explained that the Chamber has been trying to get this funded through the DRI
- Kevin Cain had an idea about fundraising. He owns a brewery in Farmingdale and if the local bars sell the “Baldwin Beer”, a percentage raised will go towards BCA.

- The new members of the BCA who were present on the zoom introduced themselves.

Since no other announcements and nothing new to add, President Darien Ward asked for a motion to end the meeting. Motion to adjourn was made by Claudia and Marguerite seconded. Meeting adjourned at 8:47.

**Baldwin Civic Association
General Body Meeting
March 11, 2021
Via zoom**

The meeting opened at 7:30 by President Darien Ward.

Officer Reports

- Recording Secretary
 - Marguerite Keller asks that the minutes be approved. Claudia Rotondo seconds. Minutes approved.
- Corresponding Secretary
 - President Darien Ward reported for Sam Cools. Sam will be posting the popcorn fundraiser on Facebook
- Treasurer Report
 - Filing 990
 - Filing Char500 NY State
 - Treasurer Steven Greenfield reported both reports have been filed.
 - Cash on hand as of end of February is \$15523.30.
- President/Vice President Report
 - Police Reform: President Darien Ward reported that there were recent conversations; one with Legislator Debra Mule, and the other with County Executive Laura Curran, Police Commissioner Ryder and Deputy County Executive for Public Safety Tatum Fox. There are 2 competing plans that will hopefully come together and make the police more accountable and public safety a priority.
 - Member Diana Mann brought up an issue. She lives on Lydia Place and there is a house by her that's known as the "drug" house. She's called the precinct repeatedly and nothing gets done. Darien told her that's a Quality of Life issue and to touch base with Rodney.
 - Karen Montalbano said that both plans on Police Reform are on the website and there is a Legislative meeting on Monday. Monday's meeting will be live streamed.
 - Jonathan Prevost asked that Diana Mann email him about the drug house.
 - 1641A-1649 Grand Avenue: Owner wants to do some development. He is supposed to forward information to his architect. Building Department can be problematic and take longer than anticipated.
 - Supermarket 1764 Grand Avenue: Darien reported that he learned from Pickwick who is the landlord that the owners of the beauty supply store will be the one tenant maintaining the site. One concern will be the traffic light. As of now, there won't be one. Owners and Town of Hempstead fighting over tax lots. BCA will speak with owners to see if the BCA can put some kind of planting where there is an ugly fence. The Beautification Committee may be able to come up with something.

- Popcorn Fundraiser: Vice President Kimberly Malone reported that the BCA has partnered with the PTSA and are looking to have a goal of \$50,000. If we raise that much, we split 50/50. Our funds will go to the Split the Bill and the PTSA will increase the size and amounts of scholarships. There is a sorority chapter that raised over \$214,000 in 4 days. Share the information via email or social media. Set a goal of \$1,000 and with 50 people we can raise \$50,000. The app is DoubleGood and the code is in the flyer.
- Sheree Lindsay reported a message is being sent out to all students about the pop up.
- Willy created a press release to go in the Baldwin Herald. ConnectEd messages are all going out to the parents. Other organizations have been approached. They are trying to make this go community wide. Flyers were going up. People can also donate if they don't like popcorn. Willy put up \$100.00 for the person who raises the most gets the \$100.

Standing and Adhoc Committee Reports

- Economic Development
 - Popcorn Fundraiser – Willy Zambrano reported the fundraiser will go for a good cause, Split the Bill or some other way, and PTSA scholarships. You only put in 160 characters that you use to create a message. An email was sent out so copy & paste what's in the email. Press release – LI Herald sending it out today. Flyers will be in local stores. Fundraiser goes into effect at 10:00 tomorrow and ends 11:00 on the 16th.
 - Committee Updates – the committee identified a few fundraisers. They talked about implementing the bike lane idea so kids can go north and south in Baldwin. Either Grand Avenue or another street. Also, promote off the streets that the Main Street Alliance talked about. Identify routes and give us a way to help restaurants. Grand Baldwin Festival is another idea we want to talk about. We met to see if we can go forward with this. Outside events can only get up to 200 people. Hopefully with vaccines and masks maybe we can flex that but we'll see.
 - Claudia Rotondo reported that she called the Town of Hempstead for permits for either 10/2 or 10/16, both Saturdays. Person to speak to was not in so she'll call back. She also wants to see what the school district is thinking about homecoming but they're not that far ahead in the calendar. She spoke with Elizabeth Olesh and we would partner with them and celebrate the library's anniversary. It would be in the library parking lot. Two years ago there were 77 vendors. They are aiming for 35 to 50. Next Baldwin Coalition meeting is on 3/24 at 7:00. If you would like to join or know more, email her.

- Government Liaison
 - Nothing new to report.

- Fundraising

- Steven Greenfield spoke about the Spring fundraiser. He's trying to get 20 to 25 people to commit. 7 people have signed up so far. By the end of March, he would like to get more to sign up. He's asking each to raise \$100 to \$150.
- Beautification
 - Elissa reported that troop leaders have reached out to her about different things in the garden. She has to touch base with people but one idea was to have food donations for the St. Chris pantry.
 - Status of food trucks: Matt drafted a letter to be sent out to get the proper permits. It may be better to push it off a month or two with everything that keeps changing.
- Membership/Website
 - Rob reported 13 new people have sent in membership, 38 have recurring so we are up to 51. Last year was 93 paid so we are doing good so far.
- Quality of Life
 - Rodney Levy asked if there are any complaints to email BaldwinCivicQOL@gmail.com. For the "drug" house, he explained that the police may be doing an investigation and will not let the public know about it. He suggested Diana Mann email him the address and he'll follow up with the police to maybe maintain a presence.
 - The survey is done but he hasn't seen it posted. Will talk offline about it.

New Business

Claudia spoke about the yarn bombing project with the library. All knitting and crocheted pieces are to be dropped off at the library on 4/1. They will be meeting on 4/10 & 4/11 to assemble and decorate. Anyone who wants to volunteer, come on down.

Claudia made a motion to adjourn the meeting with Rob seconding.

Meeting adjourned at 8:33.

**Baldwin Civic Association
General Body Meeting
April 8, 2021
Via zoom**

The meeting opened at 7:34 by President Darien Ward.

Officer Reports

- Recording Sec:
 - Adoption of Meeting Minutes: Marguerite Keller asks that minutes be adopted. Karen made a motion with Rob seconding. Minutes adopted.

- Corresponding Sec:
 - April Email Newsletter: Sam Cools reported the newsletters are going out monthly. If no one has received it, email Baldwincivic@gmail.org.

- Treasurer Report:
 - Treasurer Steven Greenfield reporting a total of \$15402.68 in bank accounts.
 - BCA incurred expenses in April and always looking for more membership.
 - As a result of the popcorn fundraiser, ½ the proceeds are going to the PTA.
 - Darien reported that \$4876.75 is going to the PTA and the BCA is keeping the same amount.

- President/Vice President Report
 - Police Reform: Darien reported the vote came down to 16 to 3. Nassau County sent their police reform to the Governor's office. Police Reform came out of the George Floyd's murder under an Executive Order by the Governor.
 - 645 St. Lukes Place: Person who purchased the property is looking to do cosmetic changes and reached out to the BCA. Karen, Willy & Darien met with him. Willy reached out to the architect. Parking will be an issue.
 - Popcorn proceeds: Vice President Kimberly Malone offered thanks to the community who participated and said it was wonderful to see the community come together. Sheree was a great partner with the PTSA. There were a few who raised over \$1,000.
 - Fresh Markets is opening in late May. The Feel Beauty store are the owners, and they have supermarket experience. There is still concern over a parcel of property that has a fence around it. The BCA would like to do something to make it look nicer.
 - For anyone looking for employment at the supermarket, applications can be picked up at Feel Beauty.

Standing and Adhoc Committee Reports

- Economic Development:
 - Willy reported that the committee met yesterday and identified some projects. The Complete Street Summit was insightful. The talk was what to do after the pandemic with open streets. Create vibrancy. AARP has a lot of programs for

small businesses. Trust for Public Grant is spearheading Long Island's greenway. Darien asked if the Trust could be made aware of the club in the south of Baldwin. Willy said he would reach out.

- Willy said a shout out to Lonnie Hart for selling the most popcorn with Van White in second and Sheree in third.
 - Karen reported that she & Willy attended the Complete Street Summit. This year was different because of the pandemic. There is a big push to create a greenway. The pandemic pushed us forward in a number of issues: walking, biking, use of parks.
 - Diana asked about NY Water and Karen reported that Senator Kaminsky is pushing to make it public, but the Assembly is not buying it.
- Government Liaison:
 - Updates: Karen reported that the contract is going in front of the Legislature in April.
 - Karen reported that both she and Willy attended the Complete Street Summit. Many things have changed because of the pandemic and she will share her notes after she speaks to Willy. She reported that there were PSE&G and AARP grants to look at.
 - Willy spoke about the AARP grants that are available for small businesses and startups.
 - He spoke about how informative the summit was in relation to walkable strategies and bike paths.
- Beautification:
 - Matt has been in touch with the library about doing a story time at the Garden.
 - Elissa put out the call for volunteers to come help plant. She is relying on those who have helped in the past. She is looking to purchase plants that have been budgeted.
 - Elissa is looking for the flyer with the BCA logo on it so she can put the word out on the Food Pantry/Garden idea. She has been calling different religious houses of worship to see if they would be interested.
 - Mommy & Me classes start up this Saturday.
 - Elissa has reached out to different food trucks for Garden event.
- Fundraising:
 - Jessie came up with the name "Freestyle Fundraising" for the different fundraisers members are doing. Jessie is looking to do a fundraiser where she can marry people since she is ordained, and the couple would donate the fee to the BCA.
 - Diana is making "mug rugs" and selling them.
 - Steve reported that Diana is one of nine people who signed up for the "Freestyle Fundraiser".
 - Sam asked if Jessie could come up with a flyer to promote this.
 - Darien explained that a meeting needs to take place about the popcorn proceeds. We needed \$15,000 to do a Split the Bill for the foundation to come in and do a

match. Since we did not raise that amount, we have to meet to figure what else we can do. Ideas were then discussed.

- **Membership/Website:**
 - Committee Updates: Rob reported 56 paid members for 2021. Mary Jo is going to help with membership trifold. Rob is looking for anyone to give him new ideas on what else to put in it. He spoke to a photographer to get new photos of Baldwin to use for social media and website, which includes subscriptions. He will speak with Sam about putting out another membership email.
- **Quality of Life:**
 - QOL Poll: Rodney is waiting for the poll to be posted. He reported that he went over to the mechanic shop and watched what was going on. One complaint is that they are parking on the sidewalks. He noticed they do not have much footage on the property so there is no place to put the cars. Rodney spoke about his own mechanic where when you bring in your car for service you sign a contract that you will have to pick it up within 24 hours.
 - Darien said at some point the BCA is going to have to talk to the owners about the business spilling out into the street.
 - Rodney reported that someone asked if a community refrigerator could be stocked for those in need. After discussion the idea was to come up with a list of places where people can go in need.

New Business

- **Board of Advisors @ Shubert School:** Shubert School reached out to Darien to see if anyone from the BCA Board would agree to be on their Board of Advisors. Rodney joined and Willy joined as a business owner.
- **Oktober Fest Plans & Grand Baldwin Festival:** Darien reported all dates hinge on homecoming. As soon as that information comes from the Board of Ed, the BCA can solidify dates.
- **Silver Lake Clean Up w/Kaminsky on Sunday, April 18th.**

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 with Rob making the motion and Marguerite seconding.

**Baldwin Civic Association
General Body Meeting
May 13, 2021
Via zoom**

The meeting opened at 7:37 by President Darien Ward.

Officer Reports

- Recording Sec:
 - Adoption of Meeting Minutes: suspended.
- Corresponding Sec:
 - May Email Newsletter.
- Treasurer Report:
 - Updates: Steve Greenfield reported \$20391.56 in between two accounts. He is working on the “Freestyle Funraisers” and hoping different members can raise between \$100 to \$200 each. First event coming up on the 27th is by Kevin Cain from Lithology for a beer tasting in the garden.
- President/Vice President Report
 - Presentation of School Budget: Dr. Cahmi, Dr. Robinson and the School Board presented the school budget to the general body.
 - Jason Vitale Scholarship: Darien reported this will be posted on the website. It’s \$300 for a high school senior going to college. Rob will upload the application with a due date of May 30th.
 - DRI Announcement Lt. Governor: Darien spoke about the different projects to be funded through the DRI. Rob reported that the DRI information is on the website. The announcement was made by the Lieutenant Governor and all the people who will receive an award were present at the Baldwin train station where the announcement was made.

Standing and Adhoc Committee Reports

- Economic Development:
 - Committee Updates: Willy reported that the committee did not meet this month but they are honing in on bicycle routes for the community, specifically north/south along Grand Avenue. More to come.
 - Advisory Board @Shubert: Willy reported that the first meeting of the Business Advisory Board is collaborating with businesses for high school students to intern with.
 - BCC and BCA Meeting: Willy reported that he attended a meeting and the discussion was mostly on the DRI projects and to solidify the BCA collaboration. Since the funding just came out, they should be meeting again and possibly support those that could not get funding and to collaborate on future opportunities. More to come on that.
- Government Liaison:

- Updates: Darien reported that Karen had reached out to Councilman Carini's office about the project on Grand on the northside.
- Bay Conveyance Project: Karen attended the first meeting into the Cedar Creek Outpour to the ocean. It is a 33 month long project that will affect Baldwin.
- Beautification:
 - Committee Updates: Vice President Kim Malone reported that Matt & Elyssa are planning to create a calendar to split up the responsibilities for the Community Garden and the Beautification. Planting in planters starts next week.
- Fundraising:
 - Schedule of "Funraising" Events: Jessie sent the new flyer but it needs a few changes. Flyer has space for four events. Steve is looking to do a craft fair in the summer. Jessie spoke about a non-profit website where you can donate. She will look into it.
- Membership/Website:
 - Committee Updates: Rob reported 61 paid members with more subscribing. He is working on an email to go out to remind people to pay their dues. The BCA needs many voices to speak up.
- Quality of Life:
 - QOL Poll: Officer Bilello representing the First Precinct's POP Unit spoke to the members about different events in Baldwin. He said there has been a rise in larcenies and grand larcenies. People are being scammed through unemployment. Police are still getting COVID calls. The Officer gave the telephone number of 516-573-6170 if anyone would like to speak with him. Darien brought up the issue of drag racing and if there could be a person in the precinct who could look into that. Claudia asked about the incident in the Harbor and the Officer stated he would get the information to Rodney who will disseminate it.
 - Rodney reported he is trying to strengthen the relationship with the First Precinct. Any complaints he gets he calls the precinct. The precinct is aware of what is going on on Lydia Place and off Seaman Avenue. Rodney received the results from the poll and will be focusing on those quality-of-life issues.

New Business

- Announcements:
 - Darien announced that the last meeting is in June. There are none for July and August. We start up again in September.
 - Kim reported that she along with Rodney and Willy had a meeting with the Long Island Nets. They are interested in participating with Baldwin.
 - Grand Baldwin Festival is scheduled for Saturday, October 16th in the parking lot behind the Library from 12 to 4:30. They are looking at ways to reconfigure booths for social distancing, revising vendor forms and maybe the Nets would like to sponsor.

- Johnathan from Legislator Mule's office announced a Districtwide mailer is going out with a few events such as the History of Baldwin on May 22nd and in June as well. Any questions, contact him.

Motion by Rob to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Claudia. Meeting adjourned at 9:11.

Next General Body Meeting will be Thursday, June 10th.

BCA General Body Meeting
June 10, Thursday 7:30 PM
Via zoom

President Darien Ward started the meeting at 7:36.

Officer Reports

- Recording Sec:
 - Adoption of Meeting Minutes: Marguerite asked that minutes be adopted, Karen so moved. Minutes adopted.

- Corresponding Sec:
 - Updates: Darien reported that the BCA is still looking for a replacement for Sam by October/November. He is looking for the general body to recommend someone who could do this. It would be a sworn in position until elections the following year.

- Treasurer Report:
 - Updates: Treasurer Steve Greenfield reported a combined amount of \$20661.13 in bank account and PayPal.
 - Calendar of Fundraising Events: Steve reported that there a variety of “funraisers” scheduled. On 7/17 in the Community Garden there will be an Arts Crafts Fair. He is looking for 10 or more crafters. Also, looking to have music there. Darien asked if there was a calendar. Steve stated that so far there are only 2 fundraisers scheduled. Matt is working on a music event but no other details.
 - ✓ Summer Art @ the Community Garden

- President/Vice President Report
 - Corresponding Secretary Search/Appointment: see above.
 - Jason Vitale Scholarship: Darien reported that the information was sent out to Baldwin High School and posted on the website. It needs to go on social media tonight. It’s \$300 for books or school
 - Insurance Renewal 7/16/2021: Darien reported that he did get a new quote from Brenda from Geist.
 - 785 Merrick Rd (Park Grove Realty): Darien reported it received DRI funding under Conifer. Allan Handelman will meet with the Executive Board to hash out plans.
 - Long Island Nets: Kim reported that the Nets reached out to the BCA to see if there is an opportunity to partner with the community/fundraising. A meeting took place. Nets came back with a proposal. We are looking for them to refine the proposal and come back with a new one.
 - Legislator Debra Mule reported to the General Body to be on the lookout for future events. Karen Montalbano just did a history of Baldwin. Complete Streets is approved, contractors set to go and shovels should be in the ground late

summer/early fall. Silver Lake Project, a fully funded project, should have shovels in the ground in the beginning of the summer. Legislator Mule spoke about the Bay Park Conveyance completely revitalizing the western bays, the sewage treatment plant in East Rockaway and the different components of the project. Jonathan from Legislator Mule's office spoke about the upcoming scavenger hunt they are planning for the middle of July, an event on Juneteenth between 6:00 and 7:00; a Birds of the South Shore event in the future. The member asked questions about issues with Baldwin Park and Legislator Mule said she would look into it but suggested we invite Councilman Carini to a meeting.

- Darien reported that So Fresh is slated to open tomorrow. The owners of the beauty supply store are running the supermarket. Darien is trying to convince the owners to landscape that plot of land and offered the Beautification Committee to take this on and has reached out to the owners.

Standing and Adhoc Committee Reports

- Economic Development:
 - Committee Updates: Willy reported that the committee is concentrating on a project that involves bike routes and has created a taskforce to create health and wellness in the community, connect neighborhood streets and explained to the general body the routes. Willy also stated he joined the Baldwin Advisory Board with the high school and is looking for business owners to help create career paths for high school seniors.
 - Willy reported that the committee is trying to get together to strategize what to do with funds from the popcorn fundraiser.
- Government Liaison:
 - Updates: Karen said she sent an email to Melissa about Baldwin Park to get some answers. The Bay Park Project will be a 33-month project. There is a Facebook page and they will open an office on Sunrise Hwy. Karen stated she is working on paperwork for the different festivals. The Chamber is doing a Culture Jam and the Rotary Club is having car shows every Thursday. She spoke to David Orwasher from Breslin Realty and they are submitting their paperwork to the Town of Hempstead. They will be seeking a variance and the project will cost more because of the pandemic.
- Beautification:
 - Committee Updates:
 - Community Garden Updates: Matt reported that a story board project with the library is going into the garden on Tuesday. Matt Wilson has confirmed for 6/23 for his solo drum concert at the gazebo and the 24th is the rain date. Planting has gone well with almost everything planted. Elissa reported that she is making a map of all the planters and will not plant if people do not adopt the planter. She stated people are actually donating plants for it. She and Matt will be meeting to discuss the plot of land by So Fresh. Plaza school used the garden today for an event. Person who ran the event is going to take part in the Crafts Fair. The Girl Scouts donated a Butterfly plant and Brookside will be using the garden. The

Library is working with an adult project site to do more events there. Mommy & Me is continuing.

- Fundraising:
 - Baldwin Oktoberfest & Marketplace: Darien reported that the consensus date is October 2 with a rain date the following week. A marketplace will be added to the Oktoberfest. The idea is to have a larger audience. The BCA will contribute \$500 to the Grand Baldwin Festival.
 - Grand Baldwin Festival Plans: Willy told the members that they are still looking for volunteers and are actively working on a great line up of performers. Claudia reported the date set will be the 25th of September, rain date the 26th, from 12 to 4:30. She is working on getting vendor applications and sponsor contracts set up. The Baldwin community coalition is meeting on 6/23 at 7:00 via zoom and will send out the information.
 - Steve is looking for members to help raise funds for the BCA.
 - ✓ Funds to support festival

- Membership/Website:
 - Committee Updates: Rob stated there are 72 members paid. Membership committee is meeting next Tuesday the 15th to figure out how to get membership over 100. Rob said we are trying to get people involved in issues we are working on. He is still finishing up on the trifold and will get that out.

- Quality of Life:
 - Committee Updates: Rodney spoke about the speeding cars and stated he has made several calls to the First Precinct and hasn't heard back. He will keep pressing.

New Business

- Use of Zoom Video Post Covid 19: Darien asked to hear from non-Executive Board members to get some input in the use of zoom. What are your thoughts? Going forward should it be via zoom? Inclement weather? Claudia spoke up and said she likes the idea of zoom in inclement weather but how would that be decided. Discussion took place.
- Cristina Arroyo Rodriguez, Baldwin Herald Editor: Darien welcomed Cristina to the meeting, and she introduced herself as the new editor.
- Regional Economic Development Councils (ny.gov) & Funding Opportunities | Department of Labor (ny.gov): Fendi from Senator Kaminsky's office provided the BCA with information on grants listed on these websites.

Claudia made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:53, and Rob seconded.

BCA General Board Meeting
Sept. 9 Thursday 7:30 PM
Via zoom

The meeting opened at 7:31 by President Darien Ward.

Legislator Debra Mule announced to the General Body that the press conference that was scheduled to take place at Silver Lake was postponed because the new Governor wants to be a part of the announcement. Hopefully, the press conference will take place next week. The Grand Avenue Complete Streets will be starting in the fall. She announced that there has been an uptick in cases and even though people are vaccinated, people still need to be careful.

Officer Reports

- Recording Sec:
 - Adoption of Meeting Minutes: Marguerite Keller asked that minutes be adopted. Minutes so adopted.
 - Naming of Silver Lake Pond (Caroline Pond): Marguerite presented to the General Body the reasons behind the naming of the body of water that is a part of the Silver Lake Park. Caroline McCahon passed away in 1990 and a group of friends and family planted a tree with a memorial in her memory. The State has come to unofficially refer to that body of water as Caroline's Pond. For that reason, we are seeking to name it officially. Karen made a motion that the Baldwin Civic Association supports the naming of Caroline's Pond within the Silver Lake Park. Claudia seconded. A vote was taken, and all were in favor. Motion carried.

- Corresponding Sec:
 - Introduction of Mark Prevatt: President Darien Ward introduced Mark as the new Corresponding Secretary. Mark gave a little bio about himself to the Members.

- Treasurer Report:
 - Updates: Steve Greenfield reported a combined balance of \$19770.04 in the accounts.

- President/Vice President Report
 - Challenges Ahead: Darien spoke to the General Body about needing to make inroads with the Town of Hempstead. He expressed that we need to continue being advocates for the community we want. The Baldwin Civic Association came about because of the revitalization and now that we have the money, we have to stay engaged.
 - Committee Support: The different committees are looking for more volunteers.

Standing and Adhoc Committee Reports

- Economic Development:

- Committee Updates: Willy Zambrano reported that the core group has been trying to measure streets for the potential bike routes. Hopefully more information will be coming in October. Grand Baldwin Festival will be coming up and almost every booth is filled. Claudia asked if anyone is interested in volunteering, there is a form to be filled out on their website. The upper parking lot will be a food court. Masks are required. 62 vendors are signed up. Willy made a motion for the BCA to sponsor \$500.00 towards the Grand Baldwin Festival. Rob seconded. Motion carried.
- Government Liaison:
 - Updates: Karen Montalbano reported that over the summer she has made numerous phone calls to the Town of Hempstead about the DRI to try to find out about the different projects. She will continue to call. She also reported about receiving grant information from Senator Kaminsky's office that Marguerite will work on. Rob asked her if she needed others to help reach out to the Town of Hempstead and she said she will get back to us. There are funds bundled under a façade program and she is seeking clarification.
- Beautification:
 - Updates: Darien spoke about the Beautification Committee and how they need members and what the committee does in Baldwin.
- Fundraising:
 - Open Position: Darien reported that there is an open position on the Fundraising Committee. Jessie is unable to do this any longer.
 - OktoberFest: Darien asked what the members thought about the possibility of the Oktoberfest occurring. Discussion took place and decision will come soon.
 - Sheree asked what the plans are for the Popcorn Fundraiser and if the BCA is interested in doing it again. Darien asked when she needs the decision by and she explained that she is just looking to see if the BCA is interested. Darien expressed interest in the BCA participating and asked that she reach out to Kim.
 - Annie suggested a fundraiser of a "trunk or treat" for \$10.00 a car at the Community Garden.
- Membership/Website:
 - Committee Updates: Rob reported we are up to 82 paid members and hopefully the Festival will get more people interested in joining.
- Quality of Life:
 - QOL Updates: Rodney gave a shout out to the other members who got involved with the removal of the sign on Sunrise Hwy. He reported he has been trying to get in touch with the First Precinct about an abandoned car. The QOL campaign of "Best Practices" is still being worked on.

New Business

- Strategic 5-year plan 2021-2026: Darien spoke about the 5 year plan on how we engage with the Town. He reported it's time to re-up and decide how the BCA should move forward, we have to stay focused on the goals we have planned and to focus on select projects to see to the end.
- BCA Bylaw Review: Darien is looking to draw up a Bylaw review committee and is looking for volunteers.

Meeting adjourned at 8:55 by a motion from Claudia and seconded by Mark.

NEXT MEETING: October 7th, 2021, 7:30 General Body.

BCA General Body Meeting
Oct. 7 Thursday 7:30 PM
Via zoom

The meeting opened at 7:30 by President Darien Ward.

Officer Reports

- Recording Sec:
 - Adoption of Meeting Minute: Marguerite asked the minutes be adopted. Minutes have so been adopted and accepted as is.
 - Updates on Silver Lake Pond (Caroline Pond): Marguerite thanked the Executive Board, the General Body and Legislator Debra Mule for their support and gave an update on the status of the naming of the pond.

- Corresponding Sec:
 - Updates: Mark reported some emails that were sent out were bounced back so he asked if anyone has changed their emails, to let him know.

- Treasurer Report:
 - Updates: Darien reported that there is \$19,211 still in treasury.

- President/Vice President Report
 - Building Dept Streamline Initiative: Darien reported about a meeting that was supposed to take place with the Town of Hempstead Building Department, but it was cancelled because of Covid cases in the Town's office.
 - FYI: Covid 19 Numbers as of Oct 4 in Baldwin and Baldwin Harbor: Darien stated the information is below and for people to be aware.
 - (Baldwin 2,844, Baldwin Harbor 999)
 - As of Sept 27, Baldwin 2,819, Baldwin Harbor 949)
 - Nassau County, NY COVID-19 Cases (arcgis.com)
 - BCA Bylaw Review-ad hoc committee: Darien asked for volunteers to do a review of the by-laws. He is looking for one Board member and several members – need three people to undertake this.
 - Candidates Forum: Kim informed everyone about a Candidate's Forum to be held on October 13 from 7 to 9 at Molloy College. Each race will have 30 minutes for answering questions that can be submitted beforehand. October 8th is the last day to submit questions and they can be emailed to Baldwincivic@gmail.com. Proof of vaccination is required by Molloy.
 - Popcorn Fundraiser: Last year the BCA was able to raise \$5,000. We hoped to use the funds for Split the Bill but not enough was raised. She will be speaking with Willy to come up with ideas on how this can be used to support businesses. Discussion on the fundraiser start dates took place. Darien asked for a motion for Kim and an ad hoc committee to move forward on this. Karen made a motion to give them the flexibility to determine what is the best way for the BCA to do the

popcorn fundraiser and Rob seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried. With that, Darien appointed Kim, Willy, and Rob in charge of that committee.

Standing and Adhoc Committee Reports

- Economic Development:
 - Updates: Willy reported meeting with an organization called Sustainable Transit Solutions which looks for other types of alternative transportation such as bike lanes/bike routes. Willy spoke about the organization and future meetings with them.
 - Grand Baldwin Festival: Willy spoke about the great success of the festival this year. Claudia reported how 99 students from the high school volunteered to set up and clean. The art club did chalk art in the parking lot. There were many organizations represented and the feedback was that it was a motivating community spirit. The food vendors ran out of food.

- Government Liaison:
 - Updates: Karen thanked Willy for the great committee and presentation. Willy presented a map that showed how much work is involved. Karen attended the last Chamber meeting. She spoke about David Orwasher and the BCA is concerned about the number of units. Willy suggested we get a copy of the Breslin plans and Darien said he would reach out to the Acting Commissioner. The BCA was supposed to be consulted. Darien spoke about the process on how Town of Hempstead, Vision Long Island, engineers, and architects came up an amount for Baldwin for a number of units to be built. Breslin is seeking to get the majority of it and that's not how it supposed to be done. Darien spoke about façade improvements and the Complete Street project. David Viana spoke about the project moving forward but that bids came back higher than anticipated. The project is still moving forward with more details to share soon.

- Beautification:
 - Policy for Use and Donation Schedule
 - Updates: Matt reported that they are planning for next steps and going forward with the holidays. The garden lost its landscaper, so people have chipped in with maintaining the garden. They are getting ready to plant daffodil bulbs for spring. A neighbor of his donated 500 bulbs. Elissa is planning a get together to thank everyone who has helped out. Plaza is having a festival at the Garden. She reported she will be picking up free libraries to be placed in different spots in Baldwin. Sam Cools thanked everyone who has been working on the Garden. They had a family event there and it was beautiful. Elissa reported that Marguerite is trying to do a native plant sale in the spring.

- Fundraising:
 - Open Position: Darien reported the position is still available.
 - Eggstravaganza- Tentative Committee Lead –Sheree Lindsay: Darien reported that Sheree will be the lead person on this but will not take on total responsibility.

- OktoberFest-Statement on Facebook: Darien stated there were a multitude of factors for cancelling but it was primarily the Board's opinion that because of Covid-19 and the type of event this is where people are close together was why it was cancelled.
- Membership/Website:
 - Updates: Rob reported 72 paid memberships. He handed out membership flyers at the Grand Baldwin Festival and spoke to people about why they should join. He is looking to hold a membership committee meeting and if anyone has ideas, please email him at Robweiser@gmail.com. Rob has been able to have Officer's information updated on the website and will be doing other things. He reported that he spoke with Mark, and they talked about where to put videos of meetings. The BCA has a YouTube Channel and is looking for members for videos for Baldwin. Rob reported the Vision Long Island Smart Growth Summit will be held on November 17 to 19 virtual with the last day at the Crest Hollow.
- Quality of Life:
 - QOL Updates: Rodney reported that he did get some information about the bar on Grand Avenue. The precinct has not heard any complaints. He spoke about the reckless driving and people doing donuts late at night. He wanted the precinct to be aware of this. If there are any issues or complaints, please email him. He would like to go down to the precinct to meet face to face.

New Business

- David Viana spoke to the members about a household assistance program with Nassau County that went live today. It is funded by the American Rescue Program, and it is \$375.00 to each household. There are different tiers: those households making less than \$168,000 and those making above. Information and online application at <https://www.nassaucountyny.gov/5281/Household-Assistance-Program-Information>
- Sue Cools spoke to the members about the school, and all is going well. The only issue is the food program. There's a shortage of workers and the school is a part of a Federal program and they have to adhere to their guidelines.

Motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Claudia with Willy seconding. Meeting adjourned at 9:03.

Next meeting will be November 18, 2021.

BCA General Body Minutes
November 18 Thursday 7:30 PM
Via zoom

President Darien Ward started the meeting at 7:38.

Officer Reports

- Recording Sec:
 - Adoption of Meeting Minutes: Marguerite asked that minutes be adopted. Karen made a motion, pending any corrections, that minutes be adopted. Seconded by Rob. Minutes adopted.

- Corresponding Sec:
 - Updates: nothing reported.

- Treasurer Report:
 - Committee Chairs Prepare Budget Presentation in Jan. 2022: Steve reported a total of \$19372.80. He needs budgets ASAP. If he does not hear from anyone, their budget will be the same as last year's.

- President/Vice President Report
 - What is our responsibility if any to increase vaccination rates in Baldwin? Darien shared the numbers below to the General Body. He would like it to be a resource and have a running discussion on how we are doing.
Covid 19 Numbers in Baldwin, Dept of Health as of Nov 9, 2021
<https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/zip-code-vaccination-data>
 - ✓ Vaccination rates one dose-79.1%
 - ✓ Vaccination rates two dose-70.1%
 - Strategic 5 year plan 2021-2026: Darien charged the Executive Board with the task of revising the old plan by January.
 - ✓ How do we engage membership on goals?
 - Establishment of BCA Bylaw Review: Darien reported that Rob is spearheading this and is picking a team to make changes.
 - Popcorn Fundraiser Fall 2021: Kim reported that the popcorn fundraiser is scheduled to be held at the earliest the 12th & 13th up to the 17th of December. She has enlisted the 2 top performers from last year's popcorn fundraiser – Lonnie Hart and Van White.

Standing and Adhoc Committee Reports

- Economic Development:
 - Updates: Willy reviewed the bike path for the general body. He reported meeting with a group looking for alternative means of transportation.

- Government Liaison:

- BCC President Installation: Karen attended the Chamber meeting where there was a change over. Erik Mahler retired, and Franky Jorge is now the current president.
 - Updates: Karen is in the process of trying to get clarification on funds for the Historical Society & art project. Karen reported she and Darien attended the Smart Growth Summit. Darien presented for Baldwin. There will be a recording available. Topics on post Covid, green building climate change, etc. were covered at the Summit. Karen also reported on a Diversity Panel and how are communities being viewed from the outside. Discussion took place on that topic. Karen also reported on the Complete Streets with a new start time of the spring. Only two projects under the DRI are moving forward presently – Park Row & Breslin. Additionally, the Silver Lake Drainage has started.
 - Steve suggested the BCA generate an article in the Herald to give updates on what is going on with the DRI and other projects.
- Beautification:
 - Status of Policy for Use and Donation Schedule
 - Fundraising:
 - Flower Power Fundraising Results-Marguerite Keller: Marguerite was able to raise \$117 doing an online spring flower sale.
 - Open Position: Darien announced we are still looking for a fundraising chair.
 - Membership/Website:
 - Updates to website: Rob reported 66 paid members. If anyone wants to pay their dues now, they will include all of 2022.
 - Quality of Life:
 - QOL Updates: Darien reported that Rodney had responded to a complaint about a neighbor using their residence as a chop shop. Rodney reached out to the neighbor to speak with him. A POP Officer got involved and the matter has stopped. Darien reported on this so the members know that the BCA was the conduit to help with complaints.

New Business

- Election Civic Responsibility-Our Role: Darien asked the members what they thought the BCA should do as a nonpolitical organization when it comes to elections. Different members voiced their opinions, information should go out to the public early, get people more engaged, make them feel like they are a part of the process, use the BCA as a source of information on early voting, when and where, etc.
- Sue Cools announced that this weekend is the first musical at the high school where people can attend. Seating is limited. Sue also reported a Wellness Center will be set up in the high school sometime in the future.

Claudia made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:55, and Karen seconded

Next meeting will be December 9th, 2021.

BCA General Body Meeting
December 9th Thursday 7:30 PM
Via zoom

The meeting opened at 7:40 by President Darien Ward

Officer Reports

- Recording Sec:
 - Adoption of Meeting Minutes: Motion made by Rob to move to table the adoption of the minutes until a full quorum is present.
- Corresponding Sec:
 - Facebook, Twitter, Instagram
- Treasurer Report:
 - Update: Presentation of 2022 Budget January 6th: Darien reported that Steve is unable to make the meeting but will make the presentation in January.
- President/Vice President Report: Darien gave a quick update on the Covid numbers listed below.
 - Covid 19 Numbers in Baldwin, Dept of Health as of Nov 28, 2021
<https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/zip-code-vaccination-data>
 - ✓ Vaccination rates one dose-81.5%
 - ✓ Vaccination rates two dose-71.2%
 - Popcorn Fundraiser: Kim reported that the popcorn fundraiser will be held on January 21st to the 25th so shipments can be made by Valentine's Day.

Standing and Adhoc Committee Reports

- Economic Development:
- Government Liaison:
- Beautification:
- Fundraising:
- Membership/Website: Rob reported there are 66 paid members for 2021. He will be reaching out to people to get them to sign up. Having the membership dues is important because of the lack of fundraisers. Rob will be working on an upcoming community engagement series.
- Quality of Life: Rodney reported on not having any new information on the young people acting out but will reach out. The police are involved. Rodney spoke about the vehicle in front of Dollar Tree that had been in an accident and left there. The car is now gone after he spoke with the First Precinct.

Adhoc

- Bylaws Committee: Darien reported the committee will be meeting in January.
- Election Education Committee
 - BCA Ambassador: Darien reported nothing new to report but it is something new to get young people involved in issues, voter registration and how things affect their community.

New Business

- Hate Has No Home Signage: Marguerite presented the sign being sold through the BCA in collaboration with the South Hempstead Civic Association as a response to the Proud Boys marching in Rockville Centre. Signs are \$20 and they can be displayed in a window or in front of your home.
- Proud Boys Response (RVC): Marguerite reported on a vigil held at Central Synagogue. There were speakers there to denounce the Proud Boys and there were about 150 to 200 people present.
- Code of Conduct: Darien addressed the general body about a posting on Facebook that was brought to the BCA's attention regarding vandalism on someone's property. There was a photo posted and the BCA did not focus on why it was there but that it was vandalism. The BCA cannot tolerate this type of property damage and put out a statement to address this. The property owner and business owner put out a statement that whoever did this to come speak to them. BCA feels that property damage makes the community feel unsafe and gives it a bad view. Another business was tagged and there may be others. On Facebook, the post stated it was inspired by gang violence. That narrative caught fire on Facebook. According to the Board of Education and Dr. Camhi, there are no gangs in the high school. There are kids that hang together but they are not doing criminal activity in the gang realm. When it came into the public square, it became a community issue to understand what can we do to deter them from doing this and how this can be stopped. It is a quality-of-life issue. The BCA cares and are proactive. It is our responsibility to prevent this from happening in the future. Kim added that as a Civic a lot of us have outside relationships but a great thing about this organization is we have contacts in the community to find out what's going on. We can come together and put out facts and not innuendo. Linda asked if the POP unit was involved and asked if it was gang related. Discussion took place. Sheree added that a lot of this is centered around the high school. She reached out on the parents' page to offer a forum to get together and they met on Tuesday evening. As an internal note to the EBoard, Darien said the Board will be signing a Code of Conduct, so we know our responsibilities.
- Shop Local: Darien hopes we all are shopping local. Linda asked how do we welcome a new business and she explained about the bakery by St. Christopher's and the problems they have been having with the Town of Hempstead. Discussion took place.

Meeting adjourned at 9:01 by a motion from Claudia and seconded by Mark.

NEXT MEETING: January 6, 2022, 7:30 General Body.