

BROOKLYN VILLAGE NEWS

April 16th, 2010

Clerk's Office - 455-4201
Fax - 455-1385
PO Box 189 102 N Rutland Ave
Email: vbrook@verizon.net

Police Department - 455-2131
Fax - 455-1799
Email: Brooklynpd@charter.net

Public Works Dept. - 455-1842
Fax - 455-1501
102 Windy Lane
Email: brooklynpw@verizon.net

Municipal Court - 455-1168
Email: brooklynjudge@charter.net

Village Board - Nadine Walsten, President
Economic Development – Nadine Walsten, Chair
Finance – Tim Belter, Chair
Ordinance – Tim Belter, Chair

Personnel – Helen McCord, Chair
Planning/Zoning – Nadine Walsten, Chair
Public Works – Mark Bruner, Chair
Recreation – Janeen Podgorski, Chair
Safety – Nadine Walsten, Chair

BROOKLYN RECREATION COMMITTEE ANNUAL DIME-A-DIP DINNER

**Thursday, May 6th, 2010
4:30 pm – 6:30 pm**

The Dime-A-Dip is an 18 year old tradition in Brooklyn that brings the community together and raises funds for park improvements.

Residents donate a dish and/or come to feast at the bargain price of a “Dime-A-Dip”! Please come and help support the Brooklyn Recreation Committee!



BROOKLYN VILLAGE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

April 12, 2010

The Village Board meeting was called to order by President Walsten on April 12, 2010 at 6:32 pm. Trustees present were Helen McCord, Tim Belter, David Natzke. Trustee Klahn arrived at 6:34 pm. Others present were Clerk Strause, PW Director Anderson, Chief Barger, Steve Lust, Dean Van Den Eng, Traci Schaefer, and Sue Gallmeier. Trustees Bruner and Lilly Irvin-Vitella were absent.

Public comments: None were offered.

Trustee McCord moved, second Belter, carried to approve the minutes of 3/8/10. Trustee Natzke abstained. Trustee Klahn arrived. Trustee McCord moved, second Belter, carried to approve the minutes of 3/22/10. Trustee Klahn abstained.

President's report: New official's workshop will be held on May 14 from 8:30-4:30 in Madison. This workshop is sponsored by the League and the Village will pay the cost to attend. Anyone interested will need to let the clerk know. Request forms for committee assignments will be handed out at the end of the meeting. Trustees should fill them out and return them to the clerk's office. Emergency preparedness committee met for the first time last week. Fire/EMS, public works, public safety, Village President and the Clerk will be working on updating our emergency response plan. Walsten will be attending a public information officer training on 4-27 and 4-28 in Monroe. The Village needs to create an Ad Hoc advisory committee on a sustainability policy looking at environmental issues; i.e., energy conservation, energy plan, creation of bike paths, green-related activities. Without an energy plan, it is difficult to qualify for any or limited funding dealing with energy conservation or environmental projects. In recognition of Clerk's Week, the first week of May, President Walsten thanked Clerk Strause and Deputy Clerk Brewer for their service to the community.

Clerk Strause spoke on AB895 and SB640 relating to **election law changes** that will go to a vote this week. Most of the changes are not supported by municipal clerks in the state and will create more work and much more expense. Satellite voting, permanent absentee voting, DOT records being transferred to the GAB (Government Accountability Board) for voter registration, electronic voter registration, residency of election officials are just a few of the changes being presented. The bills are expected to pass. Wisconsin leads the nation on **Census returns** at 77%. The national average is 66%. There was no data on the returns for Brooklyn. Midnight April 17th is the filing deadline. After that, a Census worker will contact individuals who have not returned their forms. **County wide assessment** is being proposed by DOR citing there is inequity, non-uniformity, and inefficiency in the existing local assessment system. Eliminating the equalization bureau is also being discussed as property would always be maintained at 100% of value. The shift would be over a five year period. Boards of Review would then be at the County level not locally. Much work will need to be done on this proposal with some opposition from assessors.

Unfinished Business: Trustee Klahn moved, second Natzke, carried to postpone until the May meeting approval of the **Village historian job description**. **Policy work group for legislative and political communication issues** will need to be taken to the Personnel committee to work on as Trustee Irvin-Vitella will no longer be on the Board.

Consent agenda: Trustee Klahn moved, second McCord, carried to approve all items on the consent agenda. Trustee Natzke abstained. Items as follows: Approve payment of invoices for April 2010; Temporary Class "B" beer license for Brooklyn Lions Club for June 11-13 (Bluegrass Festival) and temporary Operator licenses for David James, Wilfred Wendt, Richard Anderson, Anthony McDowell, Roger Schneeberger, Howard Woodbridge, Harry Bernholdt, James Scallon; Approve Clerk Strause and Deputy Clerk Brewer attending the Dist IV Clerk's meeting on May 20th at Shorewood Hills and annual Clerk's luncheon at Maple Bluff on May 5th; Approve request by Union Bank & Trust to release \$300,000 collateral bond (recommended by Finance Committee).

New Business: Chapters 1-8 of the updated Personnel Manual were presented. Chapter 7 was questioned about needing more updates. Trustee McCord moved, second Klahn, carried to approve Chapters 1-6 and Chapter 8. Chapter 7 will go back to Personnel committee for confirmation that the current protocols for confined space entry and prevention of blood borne diseases are still up to date. **Department head and employee review forms** were presented. Trustee McCord stated the committee looked at several forms from other communities and chose the

forms from New Glarus to best fit our needs. Trustee Klahn moved, second McCord, carried to approve both forms. Personnel committee reviews the forms once completed. Police department's **Use of Force Policy** is recommended for approval by the Safety Committee. Trustee Klahn moved, second McCord, carried to approve the policy. A policy for taser use is being worked on. Officers have had proper training and once the policy is approved, officers can be equipped with the taser.

Walsten moved, second Klahn, carried to approve as recommended by the recycling committee, Saturday, May 22 as the date set for a community **electronics round up**. Microwaves, televisions, computers, monitors, VCRs, telephones, etc will be collected. Some are no charge while there are charges for other items. A private company will do the collection. The Village only does the publicity and provides a location which will be the parking lot at the Community Building. More specifics will be in the newsletter and on the website.

Jim Miller, owner of the plaza on N. Rutland, currently has 1600 sq ft between the Middleton Community Bank and the day care center available for rent. He has offered it to the Village for \$500-600 a month rent. Considering the space crunch in the police department and clerk's office, the Board may wish to research this further for temporary use. Potential entrepreneurs could also share this space. Trustee Belter stated he doesn't think this is realistic or cost effective for the Village to use this space. Trustee Klahn suggested the need for more information as to how it would work and at the same time fit within the tight budget. Trustee Natzke asked how long temporary would be? A space needs study was done a few years back with the plan to purchase the Bank of Brooklyn building for expansion, however, the Bank withdrew their offer to sell the building to the Village. Department heads will discuss the pros and cons of this further at the next Dept. Heads meeting.

Curb and gutter Special Assessments for Hotel St., Kerch St., and N. Rutland was discussed. The curb and gutter on Hotel and Kerch Streets are in good shape but needs to be removed for the storm water project being done this year in Smithfield Park. The Public Works committee feels the property owner should not pay the curb and gutter cost because of the good condition. The only reason to remove it is for the construction. Prorating the cost based on the life of the existing curb and gutter (approximately 37%) and splitting the cost was discussed. Two lots are owned by the Village. Past practice for charging back special assessments was also discussed on Market St. and Hwy 92. Curb and gutter on N. Rutland will also need to be removed; however, about a dozen properties have deterioration with the need to upgrade. Anderson stated about \$3200 would be charged back using the 37% theory. Clerk Strause questioned the timing of establishing special assessments as bidding the project has begun with bid opening the end of the month. A preliminary resolution with notification to all land owners should have been done prior to this followed by a final resolution with documented costs to each parcel. Anderson stated the contract would have to be put off for a couple of months. Trustee Klahn stated if the contractor is OK with backing off on the start up date, it could be worth special assessing; but if not, the curb & gutter price is a low cost to pay by the Village. Trustee McCord moved, second Klahn, carried to not special assess curb & gutter on Hotel, Kerch, and a small portion of Teddy Streets because the only reason the curb & gutter is being removed is due to the installation of a storm water system. President Walsten voted NAY noting there was not enough preparation time to make an informed decision, determine if the precedent set for Market St. holds, and the information was not timely as bidding has begun for the project.

Trustee McCord moved, second Klahn, carried to postpone until the May meeting discussion on **special assessments for N. Rutland**. This reconstruction project is being handled by Dane County with jurisdictional transfer after the project is completed.

Tony Wickersham, candidate for the **27th Senate District** running against Sen Erpenbach, spoke briefly to the Board. His priorities are getting jobs back to Wisconsin, lowering taxes thinking of future generations. He wants to create incentives for businesses and lower the unemployment rate.

Committee reports:

Public works -WWTP-final close out of the plant has not happened because the lawn hydrants have not been working properly. It has been determined that paint covered up air relief holes causing problems. With this being corrected, the construction project will be closed out very soon. Odor problem in the building is also being worked

on. EAB public informational meeting was held on March 29th with a very small attendance. Eight trees along Hwy 92 were removed today and replanted with ivory silk lilac and Hawthorne trees. Mulch around the trees will also be done this week. April 20th the street sweeper will be here. Clean up days are scheduled for April 23 thru May 2nd.

Planning and Zoning-The Comprehensive Plan Open House was held on March 22. About thirty people attended to review the updated plan and check proposed zoning for their property and what that would mean. Work will continue on the plan. As recommended by the Commission, a public hearing will be held on Chapter 43, sign code on 4-26 at 6:30 pm at the beginning of the PZ meeting per a motion by Trustee Belter, second Klahn, carried.

Ordinance -No meeting was held.

Safety-Chief Barger stated since Officer Engelhart has been hired, there is almost 100% coverage for each shift. Walsten stated Chief Barger is instrumental in helping the Village revise our emergency management plan. Barger reported the Village will need to establish an ordinance to incorporate the registration suspension program through DOT. The department will be working with residents to become compliant on unregistered, junk vehicles in the community. Training consortium that the Chief and Officers are involved in, updating the records management system, and joining other communities for the "slow down" campaign April 26 were all discussed.

Fire /EMS-No report. There will be a pancake breakfast at the station on April 25th, Depot Days weekend.

Personnel-Trustee McCord reported the Personnel Manual revision is mostly done. Chapter 7, as discussed previously, job description for public works employee, and committee definitions are all that is left to be updated. There is a need for electronics use policies for employees as well as one for privacy/information violations due to photos or other data released outside proper channels (special concern for law enforcement and evidence).

EDC-Meeting is on Thurs night which will have another discussion on the issue of a business park and creating a community wide survey for marketing analysis, quality of life questions, community development data.

Recreation-The music series is ready to go in June as all bands have been hired. Dime a Dip will be on May 6th. There will be no craft show this year as only \$200 was made last year. Next meeting is Wed night at 7 pm.

Bluegrass -The final stages are being worked on revamping the website. Publicity and sponsorship are being worked on. Walsten reported the Dane County Cultural Affairs Commission awarded a \$500 grant and the Wisconsin Arts Board gave \$2100 for this year's event which is June 11-13 including Sunday morning performances.

July 4th -Committee has not met. Recreation committee citizens may be interested in working on this event.

Recycling-Met last week to work on electronics collection program, preparation for recycling at Clean Up Days beginning 4/23, and what remains to be done before the Committee can disband or be absorbed into the Sustainability Committee.

Website-Met three weeks ago and will meet again soon. The Board and committee information will need to be updated with reorganization of the Board.

Finance-Belter reported a policy to dispose of village property (surplus) is being created defining what procedure the Board and employees will follow. The committee will put together an educational piece for budgeting guidelines for committees.

President Walsten introduced the **two newly elected trustees, Steven Lust and Dean Van Den Eng**. They will be sworn in at a special reorganizational meeting of the Board on Tuesday, April 20th at 6:30 p.m.

Resolution #2010-05 was read by President Walsten in **Appreciation of Trustee Helen McCord's service to the Village** from 1994-2001 and 2004-2010. Trustee Belter moved, second, Natzke, carried to approve this Resolution..

Resolution #2010-06 giving **Appreciation of Trustee Lilly Irvin-Vitella's service to the Village** from Dec 2009 to April 2010 was approved upon motion by Trustee Klahn, second McCord, carried.

Trustee Klahn moved, second McCord, carried to adjourn at 8:40 pm

Carol A. Strause,
MMC, WCMC, CMTW

President's Letter
April, 2010
Nadine S. Walsten

It is very difficult to sit at my computer and write this letter when my daffodils, grape hyacinths, and flowering shrubs are in full bloom! We have been truly blessed with an early Spring; how wonderful it is to have the sunny days, warm temperatures and kite-flying breezes return. This weather can't be beat!

I'd like to welcome our three new trustees, Steve Lust, Dean Van Den Eng, and David Natzke. Steve and Dean will be sworn in at the next Board meeting, 4/20/10. Steve has been a Commissioner on the Planning and Zoning Commission and is a member of the Economic Development Committee and along with Tari, his wife, has initiated the Get Fit Brooklyn activities. Steve works for GE Health Care which makes anesthesia and life support systems. Dean Van Den Eng, a first time trustee, but a frequent supporter of the Recreation Committees activities, where his wife Jill is a member, also brings talent and experience that will greatly enrich the Board as it addresses the needs of the community. Dean is the corporate manager for the home office division of American TV; a role which requires strong financial, personnel, and management skills. Dean and Jill have 3 active boys. David Natzke, a retired Lutheran pastor, from southern Illinois, was appointed at the March 22, 2010, Special Board meeting, replacing Wendy Layton. It was "love at first sight" when he and Nila saw their Brooklyn house and they are enjoying getting to know the area since they arrived 9 months ago. David brings a commitment to community service and a 30 year history of working with church and Habitat for Humanity boards before his retirement. Being closer to their grown children and their families brought them to Brooklyn. Welcome to all three of you and we wish you well!

Mark Bruner, a 5 year trustee, was reelected for another term. His experience as a union carpenter has been valuable as a member of the Public Works and Personnel committees and as a Commissioner on the Planning and Zoning Commission for the past 5 years. He and Julie, his wife, have a daughter, Aubrey. Congratulations, Mark, and thanks again for your willingness to serve.

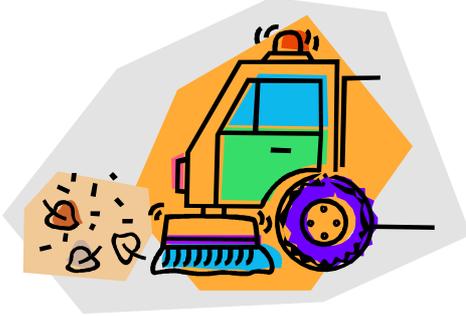
Helen McCord and Lilly Irvin-Vitella, outgoing trustees, were honored at the April Board meeting for their service to the Village. Helen for her thirteen (13) years as a valuable trustee and Lilly for her willingness to step in until a permanent trustee could be elected on April 6. Thank you so much!!

I am concerned about what effect, if any, our not mailing the newsletter is having on how well informed the current residents are on ongoing Village activities. It is very difficult to have citizen participation in general, but in these times of changing mass communication technologies, it is even more difficult. Many municipalities are using not only a web site but are using multiple sources such as Twitter, Facebook, myspace, to name a few in addition to regular mail and email. Having resident feedback and input is especially important as we are working on obtaining your opinion on so many subjects that address our future community and economic development goals. Now that we have a new Board in place, we can get address citizen engagement issues. If you have any ideas or feedback, please call or send off an email to me or the Village Clerk's office.

I still need committee members, too! (See last month's letter.) Oh, yes, return your census form!!!!

PUBLIC WORKS DEPT

The Street Sweeper is coming on Tuesday, April 20th. Please have all vehicles off the Street by 5 am that day.



Spring Clean Up Dumpster

Fri. April 23rd - 12 noon – 7 pm
Sat. April 24th - 10 am – 4 pm
Sun. April 25th - 10 am – 2 pm
Mon thru Fri - 7 am – 7 pm
(Apr 26th -30th)
Sat. May 1st - 10 am – 4 pm
Sun. May 2nd - 10 am – 2 pm

Dumpster will be located at the Treatment Plant – Windy Lane (S. end of Village on Hwy 104)



Brush Pickup Has Begun (2nd Tuesday of each month)

Please place brush in the terrace at the curb, staying away from any electrical/telephone equipment. All cut ends need to be placed in the same direction.

Note: Leaves are NOT picked up in the spring. You can bring them to the compost pile at the Wastewater Treatment Plant on S. Rutland.

Village Clerk

The Clerk's office will be closed from 9:30am – 2:00pm on Tuesday, May 4th for meetings/training. The office will also be closing at 11:30am on Wednesday, May 5th. On Thursday, May 20th, the office will be closed from 8:00am–2:00pm for a District clerk's meeting.



OPEN BOOK & BOARD OF REVIEW

Open book will be held on Tuesday, April 27th from 5 – 7 pm at the Brooklyn Community Building. If you have any questions regarding your property assessment, take this opportunity to talk with the Village Assessors.

Board of Review will be held on Thursday, May 13th from 5 – 7 pm at the Brooklyn Community Building. (*You must make an appointment.*)

BROOKLYN RECREATION COMMITTEE

Thanks for attending our monthly family movies. Our last movie for the season was in March. We hope you enjoyed our selections. We will not be showing a movie from April until October, but are looking forward to seeing you again next fall with a new selection of movies for the entire family.

LOST AND FOUND

A pair of men's black rubber slip on boots were found outside the gym after the Brooklyn Recreation Committee's Zumbathon on March 27th. To claim these boots, please call the Clerk's office at 455-4201.



EMS/Fire Department Pancake Breakfast

When: Sunday, April 25th
Time: Serving pancakes, eggs, and sausage from 7-11am
Where: At the Fire Station – 3 blocks west of the tracks
Cost: Adults \$6, Kids 10 and under \$4

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Activity for March

Theft	1
Traffic Incidents	13
Alarms	1
Assists	5
Animal complaint	2
Foot patrol	1
Neighbor complaint	1
Parking violation	21
Parking complaint	2
Suspicious vehicle	3
Court violation	1
Preserve peace	1
Open records request	2
Radar	4
Vacation watch	1
Total	59



April 24 & 25
14th Annual

“Depot Days in Brooklyn”

All aboard for family fun!
**Saturday 10 am-5pm and
 Sunday 10am-4pm**

“Speeder Car” rides (we will accommodate group rides- call 2 weeks prior), model train raffle, model railroad displays with children play area, NEW- seek game Geo “Caching” in on the Rails, GPS based with prizes each day, Village wide garage sales (residents must contact Oregon Observer to be considered in their ad), meet local artists & “Collect the Art of Depot Days”, Bake sale & concessions, Fire/EMS pancake breakfast Sunday morning. Call for brochure or download from website. Chamber sponsored.

Info: (608) 455-3121/455-1627

www.Depotdays.info

2010 CENSUS DEADLINE

If you haven't already mailed your census form back, please do so!

Forms need to be received by midnight on April 17th! Addresses that still have not responded are visited in person by a census worker beginning in late April through July. Remember, by participating in the census, you can help create a better future for you and those important to you.

Brooklyn Dairy Queen Candidates Sought

It is that time of year again. Brooklyn is seeking candidates for the 2010-2011 Brooklyn Dairy Queen. Qualifications are: 1) high school girls entering their sophomore, junior or senior year; 2) live in the village of Brooklyn, Brooklyn Township, or have a Brooklyn phone number; 3) willingness to promote Brooklyn and the Green County Ag Chest.

The Brooklyn Dairy Queen is one of 11 Green County community dairy queens that are then eligible to compete for Green County Dairy Queen and Green County Dairy Princess during June Dairy Days. This year Dairy Days will be held in Monroe.

The Community Dairy Queen's role is to represent their community, Green County and Wisconsin in the promotion of agricultural products, tourism and community activities. They attend fairs and festivities promoting dairy products. They take part in area parades and make appearances through out the communities. Community Queens attend monthly Ag Chest meetings, give radio presentations, and write newspaper articles. All in all, they visit new places, meet new people and make new lifetime friends.

Being a Community Dairy Queen is an honor, a privilege and a very rewarding experience. For more information, contact Sue Rieder, Brooklyn Dairy Queen Chairperson (862-3992) or Anila Russell, 2009-2010 Brooklyn Dairy Queen (455-1448) before May 17th.



Village Wide Garage Sales

April 24th & 25th

Ads will be in the Oregon Observer and Great Dane.

Watch the Observer for more information or call 835-6677.



JOB OPPORTUNITY

The Village of Brooklyn is now accepting applications for the following LTE Positions:

Seasonal Grounds Person LTE position for 1 seasonal Grounds Person for the Parks and Public Works Dept. Maximum term: 4-1/2 months – 8am-3:30pm not to exceed 40 hrs per week. Salary for the position is \$8.00 per hour.

The term of this position will not exceed 600 hours.

The application and job description are available at the Village Clerk's Office at 102 N Rutland Ave, or call 455-4201 to have info mailed. Applications must be returned to the Clerk's Office no later than 5:00pm on April 30, 2010.

Must be 16 years of age to apply. An Equal Opportunity Employer.