



Glen Ridge Community Fund

P.O. Box 27, Glen Ridge, New Jersey 07028

October 3, 2016

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Heather Kobylinski

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Lois Waldman-Goodchild

Dear Friends at the Borough of Glen Ridge,

The Glen Ridge Community Fund is pleased to announce that the 10th Annual Fitzgerald's 1928 Lager Run held on Sunday, June 26th was once again a terrific success, proving to be one of the community's favorite annual traditions.

This first class, USA Track & Field-NJ Long Distance Running 5K Championship event, is open to athletes and non-athletes of every ability. Over 1,200 runners and walkers participated to raise funds for the Community Fund's mission to support several social service agencies that give care and services to Glen Ridge community residents.

Generous donations from both families and local corporations totalling over \$35,600 allow us to give much-needed support to the agencies we serve including, the ARC of Essex County, Neighbor to Neighbor Network, Chrill Care, Human Needs Food Pantry, A Lot to Grow, and the Glen Ridge Volunteer Ambulance Squad. In these difficult financial times, it is more important than ever that we are able to continue providing aid to area social service organizations, and for that we thank you.

On behalf of our Board of Trustees, we truly appreciate your generous support, presence and service to help make this event such a success. We hope you will continue to sponsor our future efforts.

Sincerely,

Heather Kobylinski
President

Glen Ridge Community Fund
Tax ID 226083612



Municipal Building, P.O. Box 66, Glen Ridge, New Jersey, 07028

January 27, 2017

Dear Mayor Patrick,

We, the members of the Shade Tree Commission, wish to thank you and the Council for significantly increasing our budget for the current year. This increase will allow us to begin a program of maintenance pruning throughout the borough on a regular five-year cycle. As you are undoubtedly aware, such systematic and recurrent pruning is key to the health and longevity of our mature street trees. In the past, however, we were unable to afford such a maintenance pruning program: the pruning done was primarily on a reactive, "as needed" or emergency basis. Therefore, these additional funds should actually save the town money in the long run, while preserving an invaluable asset.

As much as we appreciate the money, we also appreciate the vote of confidence that it represents. The Commission has been extremely fortunate to have had the wholehearted support of the Mayor and Council from its inception in 2010. Attached, you will find our year-end report for 2015. It is presented to you in recognition of your being an important stakeholder in our accomplishments, including the "Green Communities Achievement Award," which we so proudly won in 2015. It also comes with our assurance that your continued confidence in our efforts, as reflected in our budget increase, shall be fully warranted.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Baker, Chair
Joan Lisovicz, Vice-Chair
Larry Stauffer
Eric Hanan
Robert Baum

THE GLEN RIDGE SHADE TREE COMMISSION'S YEAR-END REPORT: DECEMBER 2016

**Respectfully submitted to the Mayor and Council in appreciation of
their unwavering support by:**

**Elizabeth Baker, Chair
Larry Stauffer, Vice Chair
Eric Hanan
Joan Lisovicz
Robert Baum**

A Year in Highlights:



In October 2016, Glen Ridge became the sole recipient of the 24th annual "Green Community Achievement Award." This prestigious award, given by the NJ Forest Services in cooperation with the NJ Community Forestry Council and the NJ Tree Federation, spotlights conspicuous efforts to "improve the Garden State's environment and overall quality of life through wise management and care of trees, raising awareness of the value of community trees, and enhancing the beauty of towns and cities with trees." The borough was cited in particular for its many initiatives to preserve and restore the historic character of its urban forest, not only with bold replanting expenditures, but also with innovative educational programs and outreach projects. In accepting the award for the town, Deputy Administrator Michael Zichelli noted that these initiatives had begun in earnest in 2010 when a Shade Tree Commission was reestablished.

While the Shade Tree Commission can take a bow for spearheading this awarded community forestry program, others have made both substantive and essential contributions to its success: Michael Zichelli for his tirelessness, enthusiasm, and innovativeness; Rich Wolowicz for his professionalism and expertise; our DPW for its increasing skillfulness and responsiveness; the mayor and council for their unwavering support; and, last but not least, those residents who conscientiously cared for our newly-planted trees during the prolonged summer drought. This report, therefore, is being prepared to highlight the combined efforts of these many stakeholders.

Planting:

In 2014, the Mayor and Council approved an expenditure from the capital account for the planting of 1,000 trees in 5-years. Thus, 2016 marked the halfway point in this auspicious replanting of the borough. Indeed, the Shade Tree Commission oversaw the planting during the year of 217 saplings: 119 in the spring and 98 in the fall. Most procedures of the past year were followed:

- Commission members, along with the town arborist, toured the town to determine the ideal planting spots and the tree species most appropriate to each.
- Weeks before the planting, the Commission sent residents a letter telling them what tree was scheduled to be planted in front of their house. If the resident demurred, the tree was not planted.
- At the time of the planting, homeowners were given a specially-prepared sapling-care brochure. In addition, each tree was affixed with a tag indicating the tree species, along with a QR code linked to tree care information.
- Each sapling was similarly outfitted with a gator bag to facilitate its watering. The gator bags also call the community's attention to the new trees and their needs.



This past year, however, we did institute some procedural changes. Realizing that tree-stock quality is essential to a successful planting, the decision was made to split the bidding process so that the tree-planting contractor was no longer asked to provide the trees. This meant that our arborist was able to preselect each sapling to be planted. In addition, the contractor's planting specifications included far more rigorous deadlines for the tree plantings.

In choosing planting sites, we gave preference to tree requests and tree replacements. Another focus of our efforts was the choice of particular streets, often with dramatic results. This past fall, Chapman Place and High Street were given such transformative attention. In addition, we continue to use a wide variety of tree species, to increase biodiversity and to accommodate a range of planting-strip widths. In the fall, we introduced a new species, the Japanese lilac tree, which should add a spectacular element to several of our streets in the spring.

Tree Removals and Tree Maintenance:

The summer drought of 2016 followed almost equally dry summers in 2014 and 2015. This pattern of repeated stress took a dramatic toll on our public trees. Some 111 trees were removed in the summer (78 by contractor, 33 by DPW), and another 58 in the fall. Considering that the value of each of Glen Ridge's mature public trees is estimated at \$7,500¹, these removals constitute a significant loss to our community assets. Admittedly, several of these trees had simply reached the end of their lifespan. But the vast majority had not, as a disproportionate number of our removals continue to be our mid-range maples.

Proper pruning, of course, is essential to long-term tree health and safety. It prolongs the lives of trees by minimizing the spread of disease or pests and reducing wind resistance, while ensuring public safety. In the late spring, 33 trees had low-hanging limbs removed. This was followed by the major pruning of 62 trees during the summer months (40 by contract, 22 by DPW), and 2 days of contract pruning on Chestnut Hill Place and Glenfield Road in the fall. Additionally, 76 young trees were elevated by the forester. Low limbs were removed to train new growth to ensure our new trees grow straight and true.

Because most of this pruning was on an "as needed" basis, the Commission has been fiscally restrained from doing the regular cycle of maintenance pruning throughout the town that is ideally required. We hope that in the year ahead more monies can be found for this vital aspect of tree maintenance.

Community Outreach:

As in the past, community outreach has been a key element of our year:

- For Arbor Day in 2016, the Commission enlisted the help of Boy Scout Troop #58 to place protective collars around the saplings that had been planted in 2015. They also delivered letters to the respective homeowners reminding them that their young trees would continue to need regular watering. Also for Arbor Day, the Rotary Club planted 6 elm trees, provided by David Stinson, in the Glen, in honor of the Club's 6 decades of service to the town.
- In the spring, the Commission and the Library developed a scavenger hunt to identify and find different tree species on the lawn of the municipal building complex. Some 45 children and adults enthusiastically participated.
- The Girl Scouts also asked for a talk about the town's trees and the Commission's ongoing efforts to preserve them. The girls and the parents who attended were appreciative and responsive.
- As in the past, the Commission maintained a prominent spot at the annual eco-fair. At this event, 98 White Pine seedlings were planted with and distributed to children. In addition, residents' questions and concerns were addressed and tree requests were accepted.
- In October, the Commission sponsored another well-attended tree walking tour, led by Betsy Ginsburg, which was followed by a reception at the Benson Street Green.
- A "notable tree" initiative was commenced, the ultimate goal of which is to develop a database of such trees that can be accessed for self-guided tours.

¹ To establish the value of each tree in the Borough, I took the average diameter of our street trees from the inventory, and applied the latest Tree Evaluation Figures assuming a normal, realistic and conservative approach to each category (species rating, condition, location, etc.). With this approach, each tree in the Borough came up with an average value of \$7,500.

Looking Ahead:

During the years that the current Commission has been in existence, the DPW has made significant strides in its tree-service capabilities. Not only does this save the town money, but it also allows for a speedier response to emergency situations. However, the DPW's efforts are hampered by the lack of two key pieces of equipment: a stump grinder and a lift. It is the Commission's considered opinion that the addition of these items – especially the stump grinder – would constitute a net savings to the town in just a few years' time. (The lift, of course, could be used for other vital tasks such as cleaning the gutters on the Municipal Building.)

WILENTZ

Attorneys at Law

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Woodbridge, NJ 07095-0958
732.636.8000

January 30, 2017

Via Regular Mail and Electronic Mail

Mr. Christopher J. Durkin
Essex County Clerk
Hall of Records – Room 247
465 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard
P.O. Box 690
Newark, New Jersey 07101
Attn: Mr. Anthony Jackson
Attn: Ms. Jasmine Ramos

Ms. Edna Y. Baugh
Superintendent of Elections
Hall of Records – Room 417A
465 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard
P.O. Box 690
Newark, New Jersey 07101

Ms. Linda Von Nessi
Clerk
Essex County Board of Elections
Hall of Records – Room 411
465 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard
P.O. Box 690
Newark, New Jersey 07101

Mr. Joseph Zarra
Interim Essex County
Superintendent of Schools
Leroy Smith Public Safety Building
60 Nelson Place
1st Floor South
Newark, New Jersey 07101

Ms. Karin Garver
Chief of Staff/Assistant Commissioner
New Jersey Department of Education
P.O. Box 500
Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0500

Mr. Michael J. Rohal
Borough Clerk
Borough of Glen Ridge
825 Bloomfield Avenue
P.O. Box 66
Glen Ridge, New Jersey 07028

**Re: The Board of Education of the Borough of Glen Ridge
Special School District Election to be held
Tuesday, March 14, 2017**

Ladies and Gentlemen:

My firm serves as bond counsel to The Board of Education of the Borough of Glen Ridge. I am writing you at the request of the Board to advise that the Board intends to conduct a special school district election (the "Election") from 7 a.m. – 8 p.m. on Tuesday, March 14, 2017. On January 27,

#8959018.1(126402.002)

2017, the Board adopted a resolution setting forth the **exact form of the Proposal and Explanatory Statement**. I have enclosed herewith a copy of the resolution.

With respect to the various administrative procedures to follow in connection with the Election, I am assuming the following:

(a) The office of the Essex County Clerk published the Notice to Persons Wanting Mail-In Ballots as full display ads in the Star-Ledger no later than January 17, 2017.

(b) The office of the Essex County Clerk will prepare, make available and distribute, as applicable, the absentee, sample and actual ballots and the voting machine inserts in the School District.

(c) The Essex County Board of Elections will be preparing and publishing in the Star-Ledger, the following election notices:

(1) Notice required by N.J.S.A. 19:12-7 **to be published once during the 30 days preceding the date fixed for the closing of registration**. This notice must set forth those items set forth in N.J.S.A. 19:12-7(b)(3)(a) through (f) including the substance of the public question; and

(2) Notice required by N.J.S.A. 19:12-7 **to be published in the calendar week preceding the week in which the election is held**. This notice must set forth those items set forth in N.J.S.A. 19:12-7(b)(3)(a) through (c) including the substance of the public question.

Thank you for your assistance and please call me at (732) 855-6459 if you have any questions or need any additional information.

Very truly yours,



Lisa A. Gorab

LAG:cpz

cc: Mr. Dirk Phillips, Superintendent
Mr. Peter Caprio, Business Administrator/Board Secretary
(via regular mail and electronic mail)

**EXTRACT FROM THE MINUTES OF A MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF BOROUGH
OF GLEN RIDGE IN THE COUNTY OF ESSEX,
NEW JERSEY**

The meeting of The Board of Education of Borough of Glen Ridge in the County of Essex, New Jersey, was held on January 27, 2017 at the Glen Ridge Board of Education Administrative Offices Conference Room, 12 High Street, Glen Ridge, New Jersey. The meeting was called to order at 8:02 a.m.

Members PRESENT:

Mr. David Campbell
Mr. Michael de Leeuw
Mr. Timothy Keppel
Ms. Alison Lang
Ms. Tracey St. Auburn
Ms. Elisabeth Ginsburg

Members ABSENT:

Ms. Alexandra Hilberth
Mr. Paul Romano
Dr. Heather Yaros-Ramos

The following resolution was introduced and moved for adoption by Member Ms. Tracey St. Auburn and seconded by Member Mr. David Campbell:

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF
BOROUGH OF GLEN RIDGE IN THE COUNTY OF ESSEX,
NEW JERSEY PROVIDING FOR THE SUBMISSION OF A
SPECIAL BALLOT QUESTION TO THE SCHOOL DISTRICT
VOTERS AT A SPECIAL SCHOOL DISTRICT ELECTION TO BE
HELD ON TUESDAY, MARCH 14, 2017**

WHEREAS, The Board of Education (the "Board" when referring to the governing body and the "School District" when referring to the territorial boundaries governed by the Board) of the Borough of Glen Ridge in the County of Essex, New Jersey (the "State") in order to provide upgrades and improvements to Forest Avenue School, Linden Avenue School, Ridgewood Avenue School and Glen Ridge High School and the acquisition and renovation of the prior Central School, located at 5 High Street, to provide for early education and elementary school classes is seeking authorization to undertake various school improvements (collectively, the "Project"); and

WHEREAS, to accomplish the Project, the Board seeks to authorize the submission of a ballot question and an explanatory question at a special School District election to be held on Tuesday, March 14, 2017 (the "Election") and to authorize certain actions required to be taken in connection with the conduct of the Election and the undertaking of the Project.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by The Board of Education of Borough of Glen Ridge in the County of Essex, New Jersey (not less than a majority of the full membership of the Board concurring) as follows:

1. The following Explanatory Statement and Proposal (the "Proposal") shall be submitted to the legal voters of the School District at a special School District election (the "Election") to be held on Tuesday, March 14, 2017, commencing at 7:00 a.m. in the School District. The polls shall remain open until 8:00 p.m. and as much longer as may be necessary to permit all the legal voters then present to vote and cast their ballot.

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

The Project

As set forth in the Proposal below, the Board is seeking to:

- renovate Forest Avenue School to provide upgraded HVAC, electrical systems, corridors, and toilet rooms and window replacement;
- renovate Linden Avenue School to provide site/drainage improvements and upgraded HVAC, electrical systems, corridors and toilet rooms;
- renovate Ridgewood Avenue School to provide upgraded HVAC, electrical systems, corridors and toilet rooms;
- renovate Glen Ridge High School to provide for upgraded toilet rooms; and
- acquire and renovate the prior Central School, located at 5 High Street, to provide for early education and elementary school classes.

Project Costs and State Contribution

The total cost of the Project shall not exceed \$23,758,854. The Board has been awarded State funding for the Project in the amount of 18.20% which will offset the total project costs. Such State funding reduces the taxpayers' share of the project to 81.80%. The Board anticipates bonding the Project over a 20-25 year period.

The State funding will be received in the form of debt service aid on the bonds issued for the Project, which is in the amount of 40% of "final eligible costs" of the Project and which aid equates to 18.20% of the total costs of Project.

Such State funding will only be available if the referendum passes.

PROPOSAL

The Board of Education of Borough of Glen Ridge in the County of Essex, New Jersey is authorized to upgrade and improve Forest Avenue School, Linden Avenue School, Ridgewood Avenue School and Glen Ridge High School and to acquire and renovate the prior Central School, located at 5 High Street. The Board is authorized to expend on such Project an amount not to exceed \$23,758,854 which expenditure shall be funded with bonds of the School District. The State has agreed to provide debt service aid of 40% of the final eligible costs. The final eligible costs are \$10,827,308. The Project includes \$12,931,546 school facilities construction elements in addition to the facilities efficiency standards developed by the Commissioner of Education, or that are not otherwise eligible for State support pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:7G-5(g). The local shares of each of the projects may be transferred among projects.

1. The Board hereby approves and adopts the Proposal and, subject to the approval of the legal voters of the School District, hereby determines to carry out the same.

2. The Business Administrator/Board Secretary is hereby authorized and directed, in conjunction with Bond Counsel, to deliver a certified copy of this resolution and such other information as shall be necessary to comply with applicable provisions of the Education Law and Election Law, to the Executive Essex County Superintendent of Schools, Essex County Clerk, Essex County Board of Elections, and to the Clerk of the Borough of Glen Ridge, and to request such persons to undertake their respective functions under the Education Law and the Election Law, as applicable, in connection with the Election. The Business Administrator/Board Secretary is hereby authorized to amend the Proposal and the Explanatory Statement to conform same to statutory requirements.

3. The Board hereby acknowledges and confirms that, in accordance with the requirements of Sections 24-16 and 24-17 of the Education Law, a Supplemental Debt Statement have been prepared as of the date of this resolution by the Chief Financial Officer of the Borough of Glen Ridge, giving effect to the proposed total authorization of School Bonds of the School District in the maximum amount provided for in the Proposal, and that such Supplemental Debt Statement has been filed in the office of the Clerk of the Borough of Glen Ridge, and in the office of the Business Administrator/Board Secretary prior to the adoption of this resolution. The Board hereby directs the Business Administrator/Board Secretary to cause such Supplemental Debt Statement to be filed in the office of the Director of the Division of Local Government Services, New Jersey Department of Community Affairs prior to the date of the Election.

4. The School Administration and such other officers, professionals and agents of the Board as are necessary, including Wilentz, Goldman & Spitzer, P.A., Bond Counsel and the Architects for the Project, are each hereby authorized and directed to perform such acts, execute such documents and do such things as are necessary and proper for the submission of the Proposal to the voters of the School District at the Election, including preparation and submission of all required applications for receipt of the State debt service aid.

5. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon final New Jersey Department of Education approval.

The foregoing resolution was adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Mr. David Campbell
 Mr. Michael de Leeuw
 Mr. Timothy Keppel
 Ms. Alison Lang
 Ms. Tracey St. Auburn
 Ms. Elisabeth Ginsburg

NAYS:

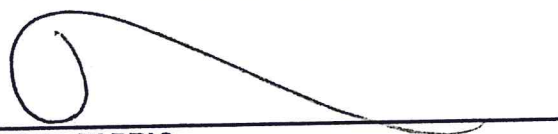
ABSTENTIONS:

ABSENCES: Ms. Alexandra Hilberth
 Mr. Paul Romano
 Dr. Heather Yaros-Ramos

STATE OF NEW JERSEY)
) ss.:
COUNTY OF ESSEX)

Peter Caprio, being first duly sworn on oath, deposes and says:

That deponent is Business Administrator/Board Secretary of The Board of Education of the Borough of Glen Ridge in the County of Essex, New Jersey aforesaid and that the annexed extract from the minutes of a meeting of the Board of Education of the School District held January 27, 2017 at the time and place therein stated has been compared by deponent with the original minutes of the meeting recorded in full in the official Minute Book of the Board and is a true copy thereof and of the whole of the original so far as it relates to the subject matters referred to in this extract.


PETER CAPRIO,
Business Administrator/Board Secretary