

MINUTES OF THE ROCKVILLE CENTRE CIVICS ASSOCIATION MEETING
HELD APRIL 14, 2026
LOCATION: ROCKVILLE CENTRE PUBLIC LIBRARY
221 N. VILLAGE AVE, ROCKVILLE CENTRE, NY 11570

PRESENT: President Meghan Kearns, Treasurer Emily Kearns, Membership Director Rich Collett, Corresponding Secretary Kelly Wexlar and Recording Secretary Caitlin McEntee

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

MINUTES: A motion to adopt the minutes from the April 10, 2026 meeting was made by Secretary McEntee, seconded by Secretary Wexlar and carried.

REMARKS FROM COUNTY LEGISLATOR SCOTT DAVIS

- With support from the Rockville Centre Civics Association, County Legislator Davis was able to secure funds to the Village for the purchase of a new ambulance for the fire department.

REMARKS FROM PRESIDENT MEGHAN KEARNS

CIVICS ASSOCIATION FIRST YEAR ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- April 2025 By-Laws were adopted, and the Rockville Centre Civics Association board was established.
- May 2025 The Rockville Centre Civics Association officially became a 501C4 organization that is recognized by the state of New York.
- June 2025 The Rockville Centre Civics Association was invited to join the Rockville Centre Beautification Council.
- July 2025 The official Rockville Centre Civics Association website went live with an accompanying official Instagram handle.
- August 2025: President Kearns and Secretary Wexlar met with State Assembly-woman Judy Griffin to educate her on the mission of the newly formed Rockville Centre Civics Association as well as discuss the state budget
- August 2025: President Kearns and Secretary McEntee met with the Propel NY Energy Project team leads to discuss how Rockville Centre residents would be impacted by the project.
- September 2025 The Rockville Centre Civics Association hosted the Republican candidate for Country Legislator Charlene Thompson Jackson.
- September 2025: The Rockville Centre Civics Association partnered with The Mary Ruchalski Foundation to raise funds and bring awareness to Pediatric Cancer.
- September 2025: Treasurer Kearns addressed the Village Board regarding suggested changes to the Village operating budget. These included a summary page to be written by the Mayor, Treasurer and Comptroller highlighting tax rate changes, pensions, works compensation and insurance. As well as a tax rate summary page, a headcount for departments with payroll and a comparative year to date.
- October 2025: The Rockville Centre Civics Association hosted the Democratic incumbent candidate for Country Legislator Scott Davis October 2025.

- October 2025: The 24 South Park Avenue project was officially denied by the Zoning Board in a 3-2 vote. This came after the Rockville Centre Civics Association voted as a group to speak out in opposition of the project. Members of the group worked tirelessly to gather traffic and parking studies, educate community members on the impact of the development as well as address the Zoning Board with their concerns.
- November 2025: The Rockville Centre Civics Association hosted its first annual happy hour at the North Village Tavern.
- Throughout the first year, the Rockville Centre Civics Association partnered with various organizations, elected officials and developers to provide educational presentations to our members:
 - Village Historical Society presented on Historical Preservation March 2025
 - Greg Kalnitsky of Forchelli, Deegan and Terrana and architect Monty Lieber on the development of 209 Sunrsie Highway (formerly creative child) May 2025
 - The New York League of Conservation Voters Fund July 2025
 - Propel NY Energy February 2026
 - Steve Levanthal co-chair of the New York State Bar Association on Ethics committee and former President of the Nassau County Bar Association on ethics, the Open Meetings Laws and FOIL requests for New York State March 2026

REMARKS FROM TREASURER EMILY KEARNS:

- At year end, dues have been collected from 61 members for a total of \$1,469.00.
- There was one marketing expense for the year for a posterboard sign to be used for meetings and events, leaving us with a balance of \$1,387.53.
- Treasurer Kearns projects that we will collect dues from 70 members this upcoming fiscal year.
- Annual expenses include our P.O. Box that is necessary for our bank account and 501C4 status as well as the fee to run our website.
- Projected expenses could include flyers for marketing purposes, charity donations as well as a happy hour for members.
- We will be exploring collecting donations from businesses.

REMARKS FROM PRESIDENT KEARNS ON BEHALF OF VICE PRESIDENT CATIE CARTER

REMARKS FROM SECRETARY WEXLAR

- The website has 3,000 site visits since going live.
- The online payment option will be available starting in May.
- Member of the month series.
- Halloween house decoration contest.
- Award for a rising high school senior.

REMARKS FROM MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR RICH COLLETT

ANNUAL UPDATE FROM THE BUDGET COMMITTEE

ANNUAL UPDATE ON PUBLIC SAFETY

ANNUAL UPDATE FROM THE ZONING COMMITTEE

ANNUAL UPDATE FROM THE INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE

ANNUAL UPDATE FROM HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMITTEE:

- Please reach out to Village Historian Matt Cliszis if you would like to volunteer to help collect and compile data for the homes located in the Riverside Park Historic district of town to help get them listed on the National Registrar.

UPDATES ON THE 24 S. PARK AVENUE PROJECT:

- The 24 S. Park Avenue development was denied by the Village Zoning Board
- The developer has since filed an Article 78 lawsuit against the Village and the Village has filed an opposition to the Article 78. The developer is able to file a reply that's due by May 15, 2026.
- To review any documents pertaining to the case you can go on the New York e-courts website and can search as a guest for the index # 626702/2025

UPDATES ON THE LA-Z-BOY PROPERTY:

- The owners of the Hampton Inn have put in an application to build a 3-story Hilton hotel on the property.
- They are requesting height and parking variances.
- They will have parking located under the hotel and will offer continental breakfast only.
- No independent parking study was performed by the developer who is relying on a parking study from 2022 that was done for an applicant who planned to build a medical building on the site but withdrew. Variances are granted to the land not the specific project so if a parking variance was already granted to that property, it applies to any project that is developed on it after.
- The applicant is a long-established hotel owner in the Village. The intention for the property is to accommodate pilots and flight attendants who fly into JFK and are shuttled to and from the airport.
- The group is not opposed nor for the project but there are some concerns. The biggest concern is traffic with the location of the parking lot egress and entries. Lighting within the garage as well as along the sidewalk areas that surround the hotel for safety purposes. Another concern is the exterior façade, will it align with the aesthetics of the existing buildings in the Village.
- The case is currently adjourned to the May 10, 2026 zoning board meeting.

UPCOMING EVENTS IN ROCKVILLE CENTRE:

- The next Board of Trustees meeting is to be held on Monday May 4, 2026, at 7:00PM at Village Hall.
- The next Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA) meeting is to be held on Wednesday May 6, 2026, at 7:00PM at Village Hall.

- Associated Supermarket will be hosting a food drive on Sunday April 19, 2026 from 10:00AM-2:00PM.
- There will be a Veteran's benefit seminar on Monday May 11, 2026 at 11:00AM at the Syosset-Woodbury Park Community Center.
- A shredding event will be held on Saturday April 25, 2026 at the Rockville Centre Public Library.

UPCOMING CIVICS ASSOCIATION MEETINGS:

- Tuesday May 12, 2026 at 7:00PM. The location for this meeting is at the Backyard Players Club 215 N. Long Beach Road, Rockville Centre.

MOTION TO ADJOURN: Motion made by President Kearns, seconded by Secretary McEntee, and carried.

Please email any questions and concerns to RVC.Civic@gmail.com