



Remember Flight 3407, Inc., and Being Good Neighbors

TOWN OF CLARENCE SUPERVISOR'S COLUMN FOR JULY 2009

“Remember Flight 3407, Inc., and Being Good Neighbors”

It has been quite a busy year for Clarence. Three recent items involving the Town are Remember Flight 3407, Inc., Lean Six Sigma, and resident quality of life.

A not-for-profit corporation entitled Remember Flight 3407, Inc. has been established through the gracious pro bono help of Phillips Lytle LLP. Remember Flight 3407, Inc. exists to: (1) receive and administer funds concerning a memorial, (2) provide scholarships to the children of loved ones of Flight 3407, and (3) provide grants to family and dependents of the loved ones from Flight 3407 for relief from airplane crash related financial hardship. The not-for-profit's board of directors is: Michael Powers (president), Karen Wielinski (vice president), John Leamer (treasurer), Michele Beiter (secretary), John Kausner, Linda Weiss, and me. While in the process of obtaining 501(c)(3) status, accounts have been established at the Bank of Akron.

The Town continues with its Lean Six Sigma training. Over the last six months, twenty individuals, including elected officials, department heads, and blue and white collar employees, have undergone lean six sigma and change management training provided through the University at Buffalo's "The Center for Industrial Effectiveness" (TCIE).

Two green belt trainees have emerged — Parks' General Crew Chief Jim Burkard and Director of Community Development James Callahan. Both are working on projects related to their department. For Parks, it is estimated that over \$86,000 a year is "lost" regarding the usage of Town facilities (e.g., Clubhouse, Legion Hall, and pavilions), and more work can be done to make it more cost effective. The Planning project involves looking at the review process where the average large project costs the Town approximately \$6,000 to review, and review "waste" on ten sample projects was over \$50,000. Helping the green belts out is the Business Advisory Group consisting of residents led by James Frost and includes David Hartzell, James Kinney, Robert Sackett, Carolyn Warszawski, and Bill Willick.

Finally, the summer in Clarence brings up many quality of life issues. We know we have a limited amount of warm weather in WNY when people can have their doors and windows open. During the warmer months, many people walk their neighborhoods, have outside parties, and generally soak up as much outdoor activity as they can. For the benefit of all, if you walk your animals, please pick up their waste. If you own an establishment that features music, please remember that outdoor noise must not be louder than normal residential background noise after 11:00 p.m. without a special permit. If you have outdoor lighting, please do not point it directly at your neighbor, and, if you have a commercial enterprise, you must use a light shield for outside lighting to project the lighting downward. While we cannot legislate people to be good neighbors, the least we can do is remember that we all live in the same Town, and, hopefully, we can all remember to bring forward our caring faces as we enjoy our green spaces and historic places.