



# Ridge Civic



*Caring Citizens in a Quiet Country Community*

Ridge Civic Association • P.O. Box 354 Ridge, NY 11961 • [ridgecivic@gmail.com](mailto:ridgecivic@gmail.com) • [ridgecivic.org](http://ridgecivic.org) • [facebook.com/ridgecivic](https://facebook.com/ridgecivic)

## Officers

**Scott Wood**  
President

**Ninette Kayton**  
Vice President

**Cynthia Eaton Tvelia**  
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**John Capurso**  
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David Donofrio  
George Fernandez  
Susan Kaufold  
Holly Wood  
Scott Wood

## Trustees

Ninette Kayton  
Victoria Molloy  
Cynthia Eaton Tvelia

## General Membership Meeting January 17, 2024, 7:30 pm Ridge Firehouse

### Call to Order and Pledge

- Meeting called to order at 7:32 pm by **President Scott Wood**

### Reading of the Minutes

- Minutes are accessible on our website: [ridgecivic.org](http://ridgecivic.org).

### Financial Report

- **Treasurer John Capurso** reports the amounts in the Ridge Civic accounts—general checking, community park, schoolhouse, scholarship, beautification, and savings.

### Correspondence

- We received a thank you letter from Ridge PTA for our toy drive in November and December.
- Town of Brookhaven events are on their [Facebook page](#) and [website](#); many events are available for adults and children, especially in [Parks & Recreation Department](#).
- Councilman Mike Loguercio notes that they are looking into what they can do to urge more paving along Route 25, even though that's a state road. If you see a clogged storm drain, contact Mike who will get in touch with the highway department (keep in mind, though, that they only own two machines which only work if the drain isn't frozen. Also, please note that September 21, 2024, will be the Longwood Fair.

### Unfinished Business

- Our fall membership drive was a terrific success! We are grateful to Caryle Francis and Keibo Bryant, owners of Unique Tastes, for helping us. The winner of the "What's UNIQUE about living in Ridge?" contest is Tom Hinck of Medford Road; he received a \$150 gift certificate to Unique Tastes.

Our membership **increased by 60%** between September and December as a result of the fall membership drive. We are happy to welcome new neighbors into our group.

- Our toy drive for Ridge Elementary School was also very successful. Thanks go to Ridge Fire Department and Blessings in a Backpack Longwood Chapter for their generous donations. There were so many donations that each Ridge Elementary student in need could get not just one but two toys.
- Gray's Hardware fall food drive resulted in multiple trunk loads of food donations being distributed to local families in need. Thanks go to Holly Wood and Scott Wood.
- December was busy:
  - We were at Longwood Estate for their annual holiday event from 11 am to 2 pm on December 2
  - We were at Unique Tastes for the drawing of our membership drive winner on in the afternoon on December 2
  - We were at Ridge Community Park to meet Santa and light the tree on December 3.
  - Throughout the rest of December, we also posted a series of photos and videos of holiday decorations throughout the community, which seemed to be popular with Ridge residents.

### **New Business**

- A holiday wreath to honor veterans was placed at Veterans Memorial Park; wreath was made by Susan Kaufold. Motion to approve purchase made by Ninette Kayton, seconded by Holly Wood. Motion passes unanimously.
- We are open to suggestions for guest speakers at our spring 2024 meetings. Here is a review of guest speakers throughout calendar year 2023:
  - Jan 18 — Ed Romaine, Brookhaven Town Supervisor
  - Feb 15 — Amy Engel and Kahille Dorsinvil, BNL Environmental and Community Engagement
  - Mar 15 — Jeanne Knudsen, Longwood High School New York State Seal of Civic Readiness Program
  - Apr 19 — Trisha Ewald, Blessings in a Backpack, Longwood Chapter
  - May 17 — Byron Young, President of Eastern LI Audubon Society
  - Sep 20 — STAR Foundation Animal Rescue, Middle Island
  - Oct 18 — Suffolk County Police Dept COPE Officer Heidi Cummings
  - Nov 15 — Barbara Russell, Brookhaven Town Historian

### **Guest Speaker**

- Rich Ohlsen of Neighbors Being Human, St. Andrew's Episcopal Church in Yaphank. Group works to assist local people in need (particularly those living in county parks), serving approximately 100 families between Smith Point and Middle Island. About 25 people a day visit their food pantry.

Visit the website [neighborsbeinghuman.com](https://neighborsbeinghuman.com) or contact Rich to volunteer.

### **Member Concerns**

- None at this time

### **Committee Reports**

- Community Park — Scott Wood reports that an electrical box and some lighting needs repair.
- Membership — Holly Wood reports that we are grateful for a strong fall membership drive; people continue to sign up at Gray's Hardware.
- Downtown Beautification — Scott Wood reports that we have placed holiday greens in all of planters for the season.
- School House — Scott Wood reports that the interior painting continues.
- Clean Up — No report at this time
- Scholarship Committee — None at this time
- Events — Ninette Kayton reports that our next annual events will be in March and April.
- Brookhaven National Lab — Scott Wood reports that the next meeting will be on March 14.

### **Adjournment**

- Meeting adjourned at 8:28 pm.