



**VILLAGE OF NORTH SYRACUSE  
Public Safety Committee**

*Dedicated to increasing the safety of the residents, in the Village of North Syracuse*

June 3, 2013 – 4:00 p.m.  
North Syracuse Community Center

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 pm by Chairman, Fred Fergerson. Minutes of the March 4th 2013 meeting were approved as distributed.

**ATTENDANCE**

Fred Fergerson, Chairman/Trustee  
Michael Crowell, NSPD  
Gary Wilmer, DPW  
Teresa Roth, Parks & Recreation  
Pam DiCarlo, Codes  
Chris Strong, NSFD  
Chuck Henry, Deputy Mayor  
Charlotte LaPorte, Citizen  
Jack Gaiser, Citizen  
Ray Sharp, Citizen  
Dave Robinson, Citizen

1. David Robinson, of 163 Slindes Wood Circle, stated his concern about speeding conditions on South Bay Road at the crossroads of Grove Street, Van Mara Drive, Watson Road and Maxwell Ave. He asked for greater police enforcement to address: passing on the right shoulder, excessive speeds, traffic using Van Mara and Grove in violation of posted signs. He also asked that the 35 mph sign north of the 481 overpass, southbound, be turned so traffic can see it. Emphasis should be placed on rush hour times.
2. **Police**  
Chief Crowell said he would write orders to address Mr. Robinson's complaints. He thought a traffic study could be done; as was similarly done on Watson and Highland a couple of years ago. Fergerson reported that studies exist for most state and county roads accessible on the Internet. The Chief reported that domestic violence calls are still keeping his department busy. They recently handled a stabbing, and a domestic kidnapping. He plans to inform the public about NYS cross-walk laws on the Village Beat website.
3. **Fire Department**  
Asst. Chief Chris Strong reported the department's beginning of a new fiscal year. He answered a question about how grass fires are usually reported to and by the police and then to the Fire Department. Ray Sharp presented 911 memorial caps to the department from several cities around the country including NYC, LA, Las Vegas, Boston, and others including a colorful Hazmat hat. The seasonal Bunk-In students are gone. New Bunk-In students are to receive 40 hours of fire training when approved.
4. **Parks & Recreation**  
Teresa announced that the summer parks program would begin July 1<sup>st</sup>. She asked Chief Strong if his department and Chief Crowell if his department would have representation on "Safety Day." FD would

be in the AM and PD in the PM. The pool staff is receiving training this coming Monday in CPR and first-aid (the pool opens June 14<sup>th</sup>). This will be the first year that the pool will have a handicap lift available. Speed bumps are now slowing traffic in Loneragan Park. We still are having problems with dogs off leash at Heritage Park. The disk golf course opens June 8<sup>th</sup>. June 9<sup>th</sup> there will be a "Pet Pawty" at the park for pets and their owners. Chief Strong asked if the Parks Department was going to use the Fire Department for bad weather days. Teresa explained that the Baptist Church has offered their facilities this year and, therefore, the Fire Department building will not be used.

5. Codes

Pam reported that Safeguard Properties of Valley View, OH is now helping to monitor vacant and abandoned properties. Safeguard can mitigate codes violations (ie. trash removal, mowing lawns, and even painting) found on the properties. They charge the owners of record, or controlling banks, for their services, so there is no cost to the village. There was much committee discussion on unmaintained properties and how they could be improved. Asking volunteer organizations such as Boy Scouts and community service groups to help with upkeep opens the Village to liability. 102 South Main Street does not have a Certificate of Occupancy, at this time, but plans on having tenants possibly this month. We have received complaints about un-mowed lawns. Once tagged, 15 days must pass before the Village can mow and add the fee to the taxes.

6. DPW

Gary commented on Mr. Robinson's complaint about the miss-aimed speed sign. It is out of the village so he'll notify the county DPW. He announced that the age of banners over Rt. 11 at Church Street has ended. High winds took down the Family Festival banner and could have caused injury. He was unsure of when the State DOT would remove the cross walk at Ferguson Ave to the old Post Office.

7. Trustee's Report

Fred yielded his time to Chuck Henry. He asked the committee to consider installing a cross walk across Centerville Place for residents of Malta House and Manor. Concerns expressed were: ponding of water, lack of curb cuts, and the requirement of board action. The Board will ask Scott Chatfield's advice on how to proceed. Chuck also asked Chief Crowell to undertake cross-walk awareness/enforcement at the existing ones. The Emergency Operations Plan Committee hopes to be done by the end of the year. Next meeting will be June 17<sup>th</sup> at 2:30 pm at the Village Hall.

Ferguson thanked all for attending and reminded them of the Village Elections June 18<sup>th</sup>.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:56 pm.

Next meeting: Monday, September 9th, 2013– 4:00 pm – at the Community Center.

**Alfred E. "Fred" Ferguson  
Safety Chairman / Trustee**

cc: Mayor Atkinson  
Trustee Butterfield  
Trustee Henry  
Trustee Ferguson  
Trustee Linnertz  
Dianne Kufel, Clerk/Treasurer  
Pam DiCarlo, Codes  
Michael Crowell, Police Dept.  
Gary Wilmer, DPW  
Teresa Roth, Parks & Recreation  
Chief Brennan, Fire Dept.  
Deputy Chief Tim Ellis, Fire Dept.  
Charlotte LaPorte  
Jack Gaiser  
Ray Sharp