# SCARSDALE FORUM GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Scarsdale Public Library, The Scott Room

October 15, 2015

Business Portion of the Meeting: Howard Nadel

* President’s Report
* June 4, 2015 Minutes approved
* Treasurer’s Report
* Audit Committee Report

Presentation of the Scarsdale Forum Public Service Award: Howard Nadel

Forum President Nadel recognized Linda Leavitt’s thirty-one years of service to the Scarsdale community as editor-in-chief of the Scarsdale Inquirer and presented her with the Scarsdale Forum Public Service Award (an inscribed James Pearce crystal clock).

State of the Village: Mayor Jonathan I. Mark

In his remarks, Mayor Mark acknowledged the excellent staff running the day to day operations of the village including but not limited to Village Manager Steve Pappalardo and Deputy Village Manager Robert Cole. Both fire and police departments were also mentioned as providing professional service to the community. Future expenses that may strain the village budget this year and its ability to provide services and other needed repairs include the rising cost of the NYS retirement systems contributions and the expected need to upgrade the municipal sewage system and the region’s aging water system. Improvements at Hyatt Field Park are near completion and the rebuilding of the staircase connecting to the platform of the Scarsdale Metro North station is underway. The pilot program introducing LED lighting on the village streets has been launched and Mayor Mark asked for public input on the village website. A Committee of the Whole public meeting on the current revaluation process will take place at Village Hall on November 17 at 6:30 PM. He encouraged residents to volunteer to serve on the village boards and councils and asked the Forum for help in recruiting same.

Panel discussion on Development in the Village of Scarsdale: Seth Ross, Moderator

Panel members included village planner Elizabeth Marrinan; Steven Rakoff, president of Precision Development Inc.; Lewis Arlt, Houlihan Lawrence Inc.; Joanne Wallenstein, editor of Scarsdale 10583; and Ron Schulhof, sustainability advocate and member of the village’s Conservation Advisory Council. It was a lively discussion in which all the panelists were asked to present their experience and perspective on this issue. The number of homes that have been demolished over the past four years (10% each year over four years) and its impact on the village canopy as well as the character of the various Scarsdale neighborhoods were identified as matters of concern by some of the panelists and audience members who participated in the question and answer period

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following the panel presentation. Other panelists stressed Scarsdale’s aging housing stock and the current demands of the market place for newer and larger homes.

A motion to extend the meeting past 10:00 PM was made, seconded and unanimously approved. Meeting was adjourned at 10:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

B. Kathleen Munguia for Secretary Susan Douglass who was unable to attend meeting