



## December Meeting Calendar

1st	Conservation Advisory Council Meeting
6th & 20th	Board of Trustees Meeting
8th	Zoning Board of Appeals Meeting
13th	Board of Trustees Work Session
14th	Recreation Advisory Committee
14th & 28th	Planning Board Meeting
15th	Bicycle & Pedestrian Committee Meeting
28th	Fire Council Meeting

Please check the Village website or call 914-271-4848 for the most updated information, including meeting location.



## Get to Know Croton's New Senior Director



Welcome Joanna Straub, Croton-on-Hudson's new Director of Senior Recreation. Straub assumed the role on October 1st following a career in the nonprofit sector, including serving as the director of the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) of Westchester.



Over the past two months she has enjoyed welcoming Croton's seniors back to the Municipal Building and planning a wide range of programs and trips. Straub is currently facilitating exercise and art classes, as well as trips to several local historic locations in collaboration with the Old Croton Aqueduct. If interested, check out the winter recreation brochure on the Village website to learn more.

**"I want to hear from Croton's Seniors. I want to know what you are interested in, and how I can provide that."**  
**Joanna Straub**

Straub holds a Bachelor of Arts from the University of California, San Diego, and a Master of Public Administration degree from New York University. She has lived in Croton for 18 years, where she and her husband are raising their two children. In her free time, she is an avid gardener and genealogist.

If you have any questions or suggestions on programs for adults 60 and over, feel free to contact Straub at 914-271-5804 or email her at [jstraub@crotononhudson-ny.gov](mailto:jstraub@crotononhudson-ny.gov).

Have you joined the Village on Social Media yet?



[villageofcroton](https://www.instagram.com/villageofcroton)



[@CrotonGov](https://www.facebook.com/CrotonGov)



[@VillageCroton](https://twitter.com/VillageCroton)

Sign up for Village emails by going to [crotononhudson-ny.gov](https://crotononhudson-ny.gov).

*Stay connected!*



## South Riverside Area Zoning Study Update



Over the last several months, the Village has been working with its planning consultant, AKRF, to study the existing zoning regulations along South Riverside Avenue and Croton Point Avenue for possible changes. A number of items were studied and analyzed by the consultant and were presented at the November 22nd Village Board work session.

AKRF is recommending that the zoning text for the Harmon-South Riverside Gateway District be changed to allow for a third story outside the roof line, while maintaining a maximum building height of 35 feet. The consultant is also recommending the addition of a few parcels which were originally left out of the gateway district when it was initially created.

Along Croton Point Avenue, new transit-oriented development (TOD) language is proposed to be added to the underlying zoning (light industrial) to promote development in and around the Village-owned parcel known as Lot A. Among the uses, which are set to be proposed, would be multiple-dwelling units or a mixed-occupancy building. In the future the Village Board will be deciding on the maximum height for such a building; whether that be three-, four- or five-stories. As part of that decision-making process, detailed viewshed analyses will be conducted from both publicly accessible areas, as well as residences in the vicinity.

The Village Board is slated to return to this discussion at their January work session. In the meantime, the public is invited to view the materials already presented on the Village website: <https://www.crotononhudson-ny.gov/ongoing-projects-initiatives-proposed-infrastructure-improvements/pages/south-riverside-avenue-area>.



## December's Village Budget Process



December marks the beginning of the Village's budget process for the 2022-2023 fiscal year, which becomes effective in June.

This process is commenced by department heads establishing their capital needs, such as equipment purchases and large projects to be considered. Through this, operating budgets for their respective departments are formulated. Typically this involves reviewing trends and patterns in revenues and expenses over the last three years, therefore evaluating the need for increases or decreases in the budget.

The 2021-2022 budget was, in many ways, crafted to be more conservative in response to the Covid-19 pandemic. This included much smaller recreation and train station parking revenues compared to what is typical for the Village. However, there are early indications that more individuals are engaging with these services than what was originally forecast last year, which will factor into the decision making going into the next fiscal year.

Because department heads engage with the Village's daily operations, and with village services as a whole so frequently, their input is vital in creating accurate budget estimates. This process will prepare the Village for the next step of the budget process, where the Village Manager and Village Treasurer will meet with each department head to discuss and tweak each department's budget proposal.



The Village and Croton-Harmon School District have partnered to create a new native plant pollinator garden at the high school.

(L-R) Sarah Croese and Emma Opel, Croton Harmon High School seniors help to cultivate the garden.

### Dog Park Permits Now Available

Permits for the dog park located at Black Rock Park are now available for 2022. Permits are free and available to Village Residents with a valid Recreation Photo ID Card and a valid Village of Croton-on-Hudson dog license.

The application may be found on the Village website under "Online Forms." For more information on the dog park and the application process, please call the office at 271-4781.

### Police Toy Drive

Join the Croton Caring Committee and Croton Police Department on Sunday, December 12th from 12 PM to 4 PM at the Municipal Building for their annual holiday toy drive. Please only bring unwrapped new toys. Toys for any age range are welcome. Enjoy a baked treat and a photo with Santa. Social distancing rules will be enforced. All toys will be donated to local children via the Croton Caring Committee's Adopt a Family program.



Pictured here: Ian Murtaugh's final Board of Trustees meeting. This marks Murtaugh's third non-consecutive term serving as Village Trustee, having first been elected in 2009.

(L-R) Mayor Pugh, Trustee Murtaugh, Trustee Gallelli, Manager Healy, Trustee Simon

Village Offices will be closed on Friday, December 24th, and Monday, December 27th in observance of Christmas.



## Village Snow Regulations

As a reminder, there are a number of regulations residents should be aware of in regard to snow removal.

In order to facilitate keeping our streets clear of snow and ice, no parking is allowed on any Village street when there is 2 or more inches of snow.

For residents that have no viable off-street parking, Village municipal lots are available for parking. Seasonal hardship parking permits are also available for those who qualify. Hardship permit holders shall move their vehicles no later than 12 hours after the snow stops.

For more information on the above, please call the Village office at 271-4781.



## Sidewalk Snow Removal

All residents are reminded that the Village Code requires the clearing of snow and ice from the full width of the sidewalk 12 hours after the cessation of snowfall.

The Village will again be declaring an official end time to each storm. Such time shall be posted on the Village website and social media.

All residents and property owners are urged to take responsibility for their own sidewalk. Doing so will result in a safer environment for our pedestrians and especially those school children who are required to walk to school.

Sidewalks not cleared after the prescribed 12 hours will be cleared by the Village's contractor. Property owners will be billed for this service. Any bills which remain unpaid shall be levied to the property owner's Village tax bill.

Any questions regarding the above should be directed to the Village Manager's office at 271-4848.



## Alarm Permits Renewal

Current annual alarm system permits expire on December 31st. The annual \$50 renewal invoice will be mailed to permit holders in January.

Residents with private alarm systems are required to register their system with the Village. Alarm permit applications are available at the Village office or by going online to the Village website. The initial registration fee for an alarm system is \$150.

For detailed information, residents can view Chapter 70 of the Village Code, Alarm Systems, available on the Village website.

## Election Results

Below are the unofficial results from the Village Election on November 2nd. The candidates for Village Mayor and Village Trustee ran unopposed:

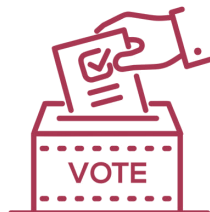
### **Village Mayor:**

Brian Pugh: 1,550 votes

### **Village Trustee:**

Alejandro Rosales: 1,627 votes

Sherry Horowitz: 1,557 votes



## Tax Assessment Exemptions

Village residents can apply for property tax exemptions if they are income-qualified seniors, disabled, volunteer firefighters or armed services veterans.

Applications for property tax exemptions must be made at the Village Engineering Office in the Municipal Building no later than Friday, December 31st.

Veteran exemptions vary according to the time period served, disabilities, etc. Property tax assessment reductions are now available to veterans who served during the Cold War periods.

Questions may be directed to Thomas Waitkins, Village Assessor, at 271-4783.





1 Van Wyck Street  
Croton-on-Hudson, NY 10520

**Published for the Residents of  
the Village of Croton-on-Hudson**

Brian Pugh, Mayor

Ann Gallelli, Trustee

Ian Murtaugh, Trustee

Sherry Horowitz, Trustee

Len Simon, Trustee

Bryan T. Healy, Village Manager

Thomas C. Morzello, Newsletter Editor

## December 2021 Newsletter



### Holiday Happenings in the Village



#### **LETTERS FOR SANTA**

The blue drop box at the Municipal Building and a special mailbox at Save-Mor are available to send letters to Santa. Letters must be put in the mailbox by December 17th to be guaranteed an answer. No postage is required but a return name and address must be included. Program available to Village & School District residents only.

#### **BUILD A SNOWMAN CONTEST**

Use your imagination and create a snow character, animal or winter scene.

Take a photo with your snow creation anytime between the first snowfall of Winter 2021 and March 4th, 2022.

- Please include name(s), address and phone number with your submission
- There are two judging categories: 1) "Typical Snowman" and 2) "Snow Sculpture".
- Prizes are to be awarded in both categories.
- The submission deadline is Friday, March 4th, 2022 at 12 PM
- Email your photo to [vnolan@crotononhudson-ny.gov](mailto:vnolan@crotononhudson-ny.gov)



For more information visit the Village website, or call recreation at 271-3006.



Senasqua Park has gained a new mural painted by Croton resident Dillon O'Keefe, shown on the left cutting the ribbon at the mural's dedication ceremony. The mural is painted on the back of the Senasqua Bathhouse, and is positioned afront a river vista.

(L-R) Trustee Simon, Trustee Gallelli, Dillon O'Keefe and Trustee Horowitz