

# PHILIPSE MANOR

Keeping you up to date on neighborhood goings on.

## Words From Your PMIA President

Founded in 1926, the Philipse Manor Improvement Association is two years shy of our 100-year anniversary. It's amazing to me that our community has retained this central organization and sense of purpose, this effort to connect and support one another, maintaining our unique way of life over a century, while simultaneously keeping up with the times. The PMIA values tradition while striving to improve.

At our PMIA Membership Meeting on January 21<sup>st</sup> at the HVWC, I referred to an older, Chinese calendar celebrating the Lunar New Year 2024 as the Year of the Dragon. Online dragon attributes are listed as luck, fortune, prosperity, as well as POWER, CHANGE, and SPIRITUALITY. I asked members to "be the change," share power, and to breathe fire into good deeds. Because what is more spiritually fulfilling than volunteering and giving of ourselves?

Our 330+ Philipse Manor households contribute to the community in countless ways. What would we accomplish if we all volunteered our individual powers to advance a central advantage? Our community can be even better when we all pull together.



The PMIA encourages participation and provides opportunities for members to engage in all committee activities from writing articles for newsletters and social media posts, organizing and staffing events, greeting new neighbors, and patrolling our train station parking. We all can share ideas, talents, and energy. We can even make a difference by recruiting friends and neighbors.

The PMIA has a mission to be great neighbors with our Village Administration and Board of Trustees. The Village is launching initiatives that affect Philipse Manor. Several committees and focus groups are being organized by the Village. We need volunteers from PMIA households who can represent us and contribute to the best outcomes for our Village and our Manor. Summon that inner dragon... Drop us an email at [philipsemanor@gmail.com](mailto:philipsemanor@gmail.com) and we'll let you know where we can use your help.

All the members of your PMIA Board of Directors have volunteered their time and energy over the past year and we want to tell you what we're up to, so I hope you'll keep reading. Thanks for being a member of the PMIA!

**Ray Endreny**  
**PMIA, President**

## Village Mayor Keeps Us in the Know

At our annual PMIA meeting Sleepy Hollow Mayor Martin Rutyna, accompanied by most of his Village Board, spoke to a packed house at the Hudson Valley Writers Center about plans for 2024 that might affect us in Philipse Manor. “We want to give people outside places to go and come together as a community,” said the Mayor. “And we also want to make improvements that will beautify our neighborhoods.”

A few highlights from the Mayor:

- The Village has instituted a mobile parking app to make it simpler to park and pay on our streets. Meters have been removed but new kiosks will accept quarters or bills. Ten hourly parking spots will be added on Riverside Drive across from the Philipse Manor train station. Parkers may utilize these spots in the Manor and pay via the Park Mobile App for convenient day trips via Metro North.
- The Village has begun its 150th anniversary celebration with new events each month to engage all parts of our community.
- Updates by the Headless Horseman statue on Route 9 across from the south end of Philipse Manor and Philipsburg Manor site are underway through a NY state grant. While it looks messy now, completion with new crosswalks, plantings, and more, is expected by spring/summer.
- The Village received a \$4.5 million New York Forward Downtown Revitalization Grant last year and completed planning with community involvements. Projects recommended to New York State for funding include a re-use of the former Strand Theatre into an arts, community and cultural center; the creation of a permanent pocket park at Cortlandt Street and Beekman Avenue and updates to the Morse School plaza. The Village expects to hear back from New York State by June 2024 regarding which projects have been chosen for funding.
- The Village has received approximately \$3.2 million in incremental grants so far this year. The largest is a State of New York grant to our Local Development Corp with only 25% match, which is planned for the East Parcel to create fields, parks and a promenade along this property just south of Devries Park. The project is underway and will focus on parking, lighting, racquet courts and a skate park.



Residents are encouraged to sign up for the Village's monthly newsletter to keep abreast of plans and new programs. <https://sleepyhollowny.portal.finalsiteconnect.com/>

## Our Class of 2024

The PMIA is run by an 11-member board with each director elected by the membership for a two-year term as per our organization's charter. This January, six seats were up for election – three Directors and three Officers. All of the incumbents sought and won re-election unopposed. While it is wonderful to see experienced Board members continue in their roles, we always welcome new energy and enthusiasm from other residents. Reach out to us at [philipsemanor@gmail.com](mailto:philipsemanor@gmail.com) if you might be interested in volunteering or joining our monthly meetings.

Our current Board members:

**Ray Endreny** PRESIDENT. Ray joined the Board in 2016 and became president in 2018. He moved to the Manor with his wife, Pamela, in August 1999 and they have two sons. In addition to his work with PMIA, he serves on the board of The Kids' Club of Tarrytown and Sleepy Hollow, a non-profit group. Ray enjoys paddle tennis at Devries courts, golf at local courses, boating from the Philipse Manor Beach Club, and live music at Jazz Forum and the Tarrytown Music Hall. You may otherwise spot Ray eagerly leading PMIA Ragamuffin and July 4th parades with the help of Village fire and police crews.

**Eliot Martone** VICE PRESIDENT. Our longest serving Director, Eliot joined the Board in 1989 and is a past president among other roles. He has served on the Village's Planning Board and other committees and reminds us of the history and traditions of our neighborhood and village. Eliot is well-known for manning the grill at our July 4th celebration.

**Andrew Beshara** TREASURER. Andrew joined the Board in 2023, after moving to the Manor in 2022. He is leveraging his experience in financial services to help keep our finances in order.

**Jaap Ritzen** SECRETARY. Jaap joined the Board in 2020 and has taken on many roles since. He began leading the Maintenance Committee but has transitioned to be our Recording Secretary. A native of Holland, he loves traveling with his family, sports (his two daughters are very active in soccer), swimming events, and snow skiing.

**Anant Wadhwa** COMMUNICATIONS CHAIR. Anant joined the Board in 2021 and is currently the Communications Chair juggling the content and production of our monthly eblasts, quarterly newsletter, special emails and website. He loves traveling and playing tennis. Born in England, Anant remains a loyal fan of the English cricket team.

**Mackenzie Dawson** MEMBERSHIP CHAIR. Mackenzie joined the Board in 2018. She is the Membership Chair and has helped increase our membership rolls with her diligent management. She is also responsible for distributing our coveted parking stickers and coordinates with SHMA and the PMBC.

**Lauren Sullivan** EVENTS CHAIR. Lauren moved to the Manor three years ago, but growing up in Yorktown she notes she was familiar with our neighborhood. She joined the Board in 2022 and immediately took on the very busy role of organizing PMIA events. Lauren inaugurated the Kids Read-a-Thon (now in its second year) and has plans for monthly events from a spring tag sale to volunteer days and a pickleball competition.

**Jennifer Meyers** MAINTENANCE CHAIR. Jennifer moved into the Manor in 2011. She joined the Board in 2023 and took on the role of directing PMIA maintenance projects from overseeing the train station parking lot, updated signage and street light problems. Professionally, she leads major brand marketing campaigns but, in this role, she puts her exceptional homeowner and management skills to very good use.

**Saavan Gatfield** moved from London to the U.S. in 2013 and to the Manor in 2014. He was elected to the Board in 2023 and serves on both the Membership and Events committees and helps wherever an extra hand is needed. Saavan works in the financial services sector.

**Laura Bedrossian** moved to the Manor nearly four years ago. She joined the Board in 2022 and is a member of the Communications team and Maintenance committee. A seasoned PR and communications specialist, she began PMIA's monthly eblasts, is a whiz with graphic design and has upgraded our social media presence.

**Barbara Nackman** has lived in the Manor for more than four decades. A retired news reporter, she is the third member of the Communications team and has taken on the role of content creator for the quarterly newsletter and our Facebook page. She is a longtime supporter of the Hudson Valley Writers Center and served one term on the community's Board of Education.

## Upcoming Events

- **March 23:** Sleepy Hollow Half Marathon begins at 9:30am. Sponsored by Rivertown Runners. Register at: <https://register.chronotrack.com/r/77676>
- **April 1:** Water payments due to the Village. For questions, contact the water department or call 914-366-5103.
- **April 6:** Live music at TaSH Farmers Market from 10:30am to 12:30pm indoors at the John Paulding School.
- **April 7:** 2nd Annual Pickleball Round Robin Fundraiser hosted by Hudson Pickle at the SH High School. All levels welcome. Sign up at 917-941-6531 or [www.hudsonpickle.com](http://www.hudsonpickle.com). \$55/player
- **April 7:** PMIA Volunteer Day at Peabody Reserve from 1:00pm to 4:00pm. Create a new outdoor classroom for us to enjoy! Activities include picking up sticks, debris, and weeds, so please dress appropriately (gloves encouraged!). Students will receive 1.5x credit. Email [PMIAEvents@gmail.com](mailto:PMIAEvents@gmail.com) by April 1 to sign up.
- **May 18:** PMIA Neighborhood Tag Sale, 10:00am to 4:00pm. The ultimate reuse and re-love event! Email [PMIAEvents@gmail.com](mailto:PMIAEvents@gmail.com) with your address to sign up as a participating household. A map showing all houses with items for sale will be distributed by May 15.



# PMIA