

## Donna Conkling

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**From:** Mayor  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 5, 2021 8:59 PM  
**To:** Darlene Lefrancois  
**Cc:** Trustee Arest; Trustee Crandall; Trustee Lewis; Trustee Ross; Jane Veron; Trustee Waldman; Clerk's Department; Steve Pappalardo; Trustee Whitestone  
**Subject:** Re: Agenda item for next Board Meeting

Hi Darlene,

Thank you for your email and your thoughtful contribution to the discussion about gas-powered leaf blowers.

Wishing you a healthy and happy new year.

Best regards,

Marc

Sent from my iPad

On Jan 5, 2021, at 8:54 PM, Darlene Lefrancois <dlefranc@montefiore.org> wrote:

**CAUTION:** External sender.

Dear Mayor Samwick and Trustees,

Many thanks for your response to my below communication and encouraging CAC investigation and their December 2020 formal report which includes recommendations regarding leaf blower village policies.

I am in support of "option 1" as they outline, and some additional regulations surrounding the use of gas-powered blowers. Please see attached letter for consideration at the next BOT work meeting scheduled for January 12, 2021.

Please confirm receipt.

Best,

Darlene LeFrancois Haber M.D.

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**From:** Mayor <mayor@scarsdale.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 10, 2020 10:48 AM  
**To:** Darlene Lefrancois <DLEFRANC@montefiore.org>  
**Cc:** Trustee Arest <jarest@scarsdale.com>; Trustee Crandall <lcrandall@scarsdale.com>; Trustee Lewis <jlewis@scarsdale.com>; Trustee Ross <sross@scarsdale.com>; Jane Veron <jveron@scarsdale.com>; Trustee Waldman <rwaldman@scarsdale.com>; Clerk's Department <clerk@scarsdale.com>; Steve

Pappalardo <spappalardo@scarsdale.com>; Trustee Whitestone <rwhitestone@scarsdale.com>

**Subject:** Re: Agenda item for next Board Meeting

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Thank you for your email, Darlene.

As you know, there was an extensive community dialogue about leaf mulching a few years ago and, as a result of that effort, the Village has implemented a mulch-in-place annual advocacy effort to inform the community about the benefits of mulching in place.

At the time of the dialogue, there was also discussion about restricting gas-powered blowers. While there is support for replacing gas powered blowers, the technology was not adequate to permit commercial lawn maintenance companies to use electric blowers at that time. We would be interested in evaluating electric blowers anew, if the technology has progressed sufficiently.

Perhaps the best course of action is for the CAC to evaluate the electric blower technology and functionality based on commercial use and provide the Village Board with the data with which we can begin a community dialogue.

Thank you for all of your work supporting Village sustainability efforts.

Best regards,

Marc

On Nov 10, 2020, at 10:12 AM, Darlene Lefrancois  
<DLEFRANC@montefiore.org<mailto:DLEFRANC@montefiore.org>> wrote:

CAUTION: External sender.

Dear Mayor, BOT, and Village Clerk

I would appreciate your consideration of the issues addressed in the attached letter to you at the next BOT meeting.

Please also see a photograph taken Sunday November 8 at the corner of Richelieu and Nelson Roads: tandem gas-powered leaf blowers piling leaves into the street with a lawn mower left idling its engine in the foreground on a small neighborhood property. I will spare you the audio and decibel meter readings but suffice it to say the noise level was deafening (and I mean this literally).

Yesterday as I drafted this letter an air quality health advisory from the DEC was in effect for our area due to pollution levels from ozone and particulate matter that exceed the standard: <https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.dec.ny.gov%2Fpress%2F121724.html&data=04%7C01%7CDLEFRANC%40montefiore.org%7C38ce3fed35dd41022b4608d8859018f0%7C9c01f0fd65e040c089a82dfd51e62025%7C0%7C0%7C637406201235798215%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6IklhaWwiLCJXVCi6Mn0%3D%7C1000&data=8WTedd%2BegQIIoikn26TgeB9cpRO6e21c30tCL7tPZdM%3D&reserved=0>. Despite this, nothing stops our current practice for leaf collection -

multiple blowers and vacuuming in the street on top of the deafening noise, with fumes and millions of particles suspended in the air we all need to breathe.

Please confirm receipt of this email and letter and your intention for discussion,  
Darlene LeFrancois Haber M.D.

<Letter leaves 11.9.20 final.docx><Sun 11.08.20 tandem gas blowers & idling mower.jpg>

<20200105 Letter of Darlene LeFrancois Haber .docx>