



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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(845) 364-3448

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Planning Federation Presents Distinguished Service Award

POMONA – The Rockland Municipal Planning Federation recently honored Charles Frankel of New Hempstead with the Federation’s Distinguished Service Award.

In 1985, Mr. Frankel became a member of the first Planning Board in the Village of New Hempstead, which was incorporated in 1983. In 1992, he was appointed Chairman of the Planning Board and has been reappointed each year, for a total of 28 years. About 12 years ago, Chuck began serving on the Board of the Rockland Municipal Planning Federation progressing from the Board to Vice President and just completed his second two-year term as President. During Chuck's presidency, the Federation has expanded its courses to include “Green” issues, and most recently, “Emergency Services and the Planning Initiative” - a successful training collaboration with the Rockland County Fire Chief’s Association.

From 1996 to 2001 Mr. Frankel served as the Director of Finance for the Town of Ramapo under Supervisor Herb Reisman. In 2001 he began a career in Commercial Real Estate specializing in Land Use Planning and entitlements and he is passionate about “Green and Sustainable” real estate. His newest focus is the Healthcare and Life Science industry where he now leads the National Industry Practice Group for KW Commercial, a division of Keller Williams Realty, where he founded the Commercial practice with other brokers in 2008. Chuck also serves as the Managing Director for KW’s Metro New York Tri-State Region, has been a member of the National Leadership Council since 2008, and has been a Board member of the Hudson Valley Chapter of the New York State Commercial Association of Realtors for about 8 years. He is also a graduate of the Pace University Land Use Law Center Leadership Alliance Program.

Mr. Frankel attributes his passion for community service to his parents and grandparents. His paternal Great-Grandfather, Charles Frankel, for whom he was named, was a “pillar” of the community in Rochester, NY, where he was raised. Following graduation from The Wharton School of Business at the University of Pennsylvania and active military duty during Vietnam, Chuck returned to Rochester and began a career in Public Accounting and soon after was transferred to New York City. After earning a CPA, he began a 25-year career in Corporate Accounting including his positions as Vice President at Seagram's wine operations and CFO/COO at an Information Industry research company during the infancy of the Internet and other communication technologies following the breakup of AT&T into “baby bells”.

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Chuck is married to Paulette for 39 years and they have a son and a daughter.

The Distinguished Service Award is given to an individual who has demonstrated an outstanding performance in the field of land use (planning or zoning), enhanced the field of planning and/or land use or encouraged others involved in the planning process to improve their skills and knowledge and promote effective planning techniques. In addition, the award recipient should be a person who has demonstrated an exceptionally high degree of resourcefulness, integrity, competence and leadership.

In previous years the Federation awarded the Distinguished Service Award to Richard Ackerson, William Chase, Barry Conroy, Jr. (posthumously), Salvatore Corallo, James Cymore, Jan Degenshein, Dr. Mary Ann Gavioli, Robert Geneslaw, Michael Gurski, Jeffrey Henry, John Keough, Melvin Klingher, Arlene Miller, John Rocco, Tillie Schwartz, Adrian William Serra (posthumously), August Stritmater, Sr., Shirley Thormann, Danforth Toan, Donald Vernon, Rudolph Yacyshyn and Steven Silverberg.

The Rockland Municipal Planning Federation is comprised of Town and Village Board, Planning Board and Zoning Board of Appeals members, plus members of the Rockland County Planning Board and the Rockland County Department of Planning. The staff, attorneys, consultants and building inspectors for the boards and land use professionals such as planners, surveyors, architects, and engineers are also members. Any individual interested in the purposes of the Federation may become an Associate Member.

The Federation serves a number of purposes, including creating and maintaining a forum to discuss common land use planning and regulation, zoning and related issues. The Federation also offers education and training in planning and zoning methods and land use issues, as well as certification for municipal planning and zoning board members.

At the Federation's 25th Annual Dinner Meeting, held on April 30 at the New York Country Club in New Hempstead, members also elected officers and listened to a dinner presentation. Brian Conybeare, Special Advisor to the Governor, gave a special presentation about the "New NY Bridge" project that will replace the Tappan Zee.

Officers were elected at the 2013 Planning Federation Dinner Meeting and sworn in by Donna Silberman, Deputy County Clerk. Those elected include: George Hoehmann, President; Patricia Caldwell, First Vice-President; Salvatore Corallo, Treasurer; Christopher Carey and Timothy Scott, Board of Directors; and Joseph Caruso, Associate Board of Directors.

Officers continuing their terms include: Brett Yagel, Second Vice-President; Suzanne Barclay, Secretary; Ira Emanuel and Marie Lorenzini, Board of Directors; and Jan Degenshein, Associate Board of Directors.

For further information on the Rockland Municipal Planning Federation, please call Arlene Miller at 845-364-3448, or send an e-mail to millera@co.rockland.ny.us.

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