

# Housing Opportunities



## **Pam Robinson – Patch, Moderator**

Pam Robinson is an associate regional editor for Patch. She formerly worked for Newsday and the Los Angeles Times. She is the co-founder and first president of the American Copy Editors Society, a national journalism organization. She is a Huntington resident.



## **Anthony Atkinson – Long Island Board of Realtors**

Anthony Atkinson is a licensed Realtor in New York since 1996. He is currently the broker/owner of Weichert Realtors Quality Homes in Baldwin, and was installed as Nassau vice president of Long Island Board of Realtors/Multiple Listing Service of Long Island (LIBOR/MLSIL) in December 2012.

Atkinson currently serves as the MLSIL Vice President for Nassau. He previously served as the MLSIL treasurer and the chair for the Budget and Finance Committee in 2011, the vice president for Nassau in 2010 and the 2009 secretary.

In addition, he has served on the Advertising, Marketing and Promotion Committee, Nominating and the Strategic Planning Committees. Atkinson also serves as the co-chair for LIBOR's Professional Standards Committee and a member of the LIBOR Budget and Finance Committee. He has also been the co-chair of the Fair Housing and Cultural Diversity Committee and treasurer of the Nassau South Shore Chapter.

On the state level, Anthony has served as a NYSAR Director and a member of the Article 12A Working Group, Professional Standards, MLS and the Fair Housing and Cultural Diversity Committees. In addition, Anthony holds the CRS, CRB, SRES, SFR, GRI and ABR professional designations.



## **Ralph Fasano – Concern for Independent Living**

Since 1993, Ralph Fasano has been the executive director of Concern for Independent Living, a provider of housing for homeless individuals and families, persons recovering from psychiatric disabilities, veterans, persons with substance abuse issues and low income persons in need of affordable housing. Concern operates housing for more than 850 individuals and families and is developing an additional 300 units of housing.

He is the past president of the Association for Community Living, a statewide association representing 130 housing agencies. He served as chair of the Nassau-Suffolk Coalition for the Homeless and has more than 27 years of experience developing and operating residences for formerly homeless individuals and families. Fasano also served on the board of directors of the Health and Welfare Council of Long Island, Bay Ridge Prep, the Long Island Residential Association, Suffolk County Task Force on Homelessness, and chair of its Mental Illness and Substance Abuse Committee as well as the Brookhaven Service Advisory

Council. He currently serves on the Suffolk County DSS Commissioners Advisory Council, Supportive Housing Network's Steering Committee, Long Island BHO Advisory Committee and New York States Behavioral Health Services Advisory Council.



**Peter G. Florey – The D&F Development Group**

Born and raised in New Jersey, Peter Florey holds a bachelor's degree from Connecticut College in Urban Studies and a master's in City Planning from the University of Pennsylvania.

After completing graduate school in 1982, Peter worked for the City of New York's Division of Real Property and Department of Housing Preservation and Development, helping to develop the Integrated Property Information System, a real estate tracking program that is still in use by numerous city agencies. He joined The Dime Savings Bank as vice president of Community Development in 1986, where he underwrote many affordable housing transactions including 50 of the first Tax Credit and NYC Housing Partnership projects.

In 1988, he joined Benjamin Development Co. Inc. and rose to the level of executive vice president in charge of Management and Development. He spearheaded numerous affordable housing projects in the metropolitan area, including a 3,000-seat cathedral and a 300-unit affordable senior project. He was the lead project manager for the 128-acre Arverne by the Sea project in Queens which, at 2,300 residential units and 300,000 square feet of commercial space, is the largest new urban waterfront community in America.

Forming the D&F Development Group with partner Leonard D'Amico in 2004, they have completed a 15 affordable residential projects with five more underway. The D&F Group currently owns and manages more than 2,000 residential units. He is a founding board member of the New York State Association for Affordable Housing (NYSFAFH). In addition, Florey serves on the Board of Directors of Vision Long Island, the Queen Bronx Builders Association and the Rufus King Manor Museum in Queens.

He has been honored by the Interfaith Nutritional Network, Sharing and Caring, mayor of the Village of Hempstead, Educational Association Corporation and the Queens Courier/Queens Business.



**Sol Marie Jones – Long Island Community Foundation**

Sol Marie Jones has been with Long Island Community Foundation (LICF) since spring of 2009. As program officer, she manages the Foundation's competitive grantmaking programs in education, environment, and youth violence prevention. She also spearheads LICF's Community Development programs, including our affordable rental housing initiative on Long Island.

Jones has more than 23 years of experience in nonprofit management, community building, program development and evaluation.

Prior to LICF, she worked at Sustainable Long Island directing the organization's community revitalization and brownfield redevelopment programs. She also served as director of the Fight for Families Coalition,

an alliance of health and human service, community-based agencies working to enhance service delivery systems in Nassau County. She also spent 17 years working in New York City: 12 years overseeing academic enrichment and college preparation programs at Sponsors for Educational Opportunity and five years as a community liaison in Governor Mario Cuomo's Office of Hispanic Affairs.

A graduate of the University of Rochester, Jones also has professional certifications from the Columbia Business School's Non-Profit Management Program in 1996 and the American Express Non-Profit Executives Leadership Academy in 1999. She is a member of the Energeia Partnership's class of 2011, a leadership academy dedicated to identifying and addressing complex and multi-dimensional issues challenging the Long Island region.



**Richard Koubek – Huntington Township Housing Coalition**

Richard Koubek is president of the Huntington Township Housing Coalition, an advocacy group focused on the expansion of affordable housing in Huntington.

Koubek is the community outreach coordinator for Long Island Jobs with Justice. As a public-policy advocate, he has focused on issues related to the working poor. He facilitates the Jobs with Justice AMOS Project interfaith campaign that brings together unions, religious congregations and community-service organizations to support workers' rights and economic justice.

Koubek is chair of the Welfare to Work Commission of the Suffolk County Legislature which advises the legislature on policy issues related to people on public assistance as well as working-poor people. In 2012, following four public hearings organized by the Commission, he authored the Commission's report to the Legislature, "Struggling in Suburbia: Meeting the Challenges of Poverty in Suffolk County." Previously he authored Commission reports on the lack of affordable housing and the problem of unregulated sober homes in Suffolk.

Prior to his being hired by LI Jobs with Justice, Koubek was administrator of the Public Policy Education Network at Catholic Charities from 1996-2008, where he coordinated numerous faith-based advocacy efforts around economic justice issues on Long Island, including founding the Mobilized Interfaith Campaign Against Hunger (MICAH) campaign. Prior to Catholic Charities, he taught American History and Government at John F. Kennedy High School in Plainview-Old Bethpage where he served as president and vice president of the Plainview Congress of Teachers, 1986-1996.

Koubek holds a PhD in American Government from the Graduate Center of the City University of New York.