

Tobacco Action Coalition reviewed projects in Glen Cove

By DANIELLE AGOGLIA

dagogia@liherald.com

At the last InterAgency Council meeting until the fall on June 14, Carol Meschkow, the Nassau Manager of the Tobacco Action Coalition of Long Island gave a presentation on how the organization has been involved in the Glen Cove community over the past decade.

Meschkow said the TAC reaches out to libraries, youth organizations, hospitals, churches and school districts to advance their mission of Tobacco-Free Outdoors, Smoke-Free Housing and Point of Sale.

In July of 2011, the TAC worked with Glen Cove SAFE and the city to establish Tobacco Free Outdoor Policies to protect residents from second-hand smoke, cigarette litter and help change social norms. Smoking restrictions were placed at the

Dennis Bryan Murray Park playground, Stanco Park playground and Danis Pocket Park. Then in 2014, all outdoor smoking in Glen Cove parks, beaches and recreational areas became prohibited, except for the Golf Club. In 2015, The Glen Cove Boys and Girls club announced that the entire property, including the walkways and parking lots, would be a smoke-free zone, and the Glen Cove Housing Authority established a smoke-free ban for the Butler Houses Senior Complex along with an entryway ban and tobacco-free zones for recreational amenities.

The TAC and the city have also worked on prohibiting tobacco ads within 1000 feet of the city schools and regulating the rise of e-cigarettes, hookah and vaping.

For more information on the TAC of LI, visit <http://www.breathefreely.org/>.