

**2013 July Business Meeting**  
**Saturday, July 13**  
**Goshen Firehouse**

9:06 am meeting called to order by President Dee DePhillips.

Moment of silence for deceased members Randy Horsman and Maureen Wirth.

Acceptance of August 2012 meeting minutes

- Motion to accept was made by Dan Tarbell.
- The motion was seconded by RuthAnne Collins.

**President's Message from Dee DePhillips**

- Maureen Fitzgerald's recommendation to plant grasses at the south end of the clam pond.
- Thanks to Tim Murphy and Tony Niedojadlo to spearheading the fence installation.
- The 2012 Lights Out party was organized by Kathy Cavasino and held at the Goshen Firehouse where Barbara Keck was honored for her many years of service. Thanks to both ladies.
- Barbara Keck has been appointed as our Association Sunshine Lady.
- The Second Annual Yard Sale was held in June and helped Association members to clean out their houses and exchange belongings.
- The Association cocktail party was held at the Jeff & Cindy Hotsky's and was lovely - a very special thank you to them for hosting.
- Please check the PB website ([pleasurebeachct.org](http://pleasurebeachct.org)) regularly for updates. Gary Slater puts a lot of work into the site to ensure it is kept up to date.
- We need volunteers for all beach activities; sign-up sheets are circulating around the room, please sign up to help.
- The Sunday Scoops party was spearheaded by Tony Niedojadlo. Tony purchased the ice cream from Michael's Dairy with help from volunteers served it under a tent on the beach. We received great feedback about this activity so will plan to do it again.

**Vice President's Message from Dan Tarbell**

- Tom Sullivan has stayed on as our Beach Manager.
- Returning staff this year include:
  - Lifeguards: Jen Thomas, Chris Alfera, and Abby Gatheral (all in their third year), and Nate Waters (first year).
  - Security: Tim Lineburgh (third year) Davonta Valentine (second year).
  - We have two new Border Patrol staff: Lily O'Hare and Alexandra Moger, both have received good reviews so far.
- Thank you to Tim Murphy and the team of volunteers for all of their hard work on the offseason repairs and fencing maintenance.
- The Association hosted a hot dog roast on both Memorial and Independence Days, thank you to all who manned the grills: Bill Brett, Jerry Lokken and Paul Trehern.
- The town's environmental planner, Maureen Fitzgerald, came down to assess the beach a few times after the storm and her recommendation for the preservation of our beach was posted on the website as part of the President's message. It explains the reasoning behind why the fence was put up at the South end of the beach to promote the re-growth of the dunes.
- The fencing was originally installed backwards and has since been remedied including the purchasing of stronger posts. The posts were replaced after hurricane Irene, however due to strong winds they snapped.
- The private beach sign at the south end of the beach is being repaired. It will be put back in place very soon. There is currently a log dividing the private and public beaches as a temporary fix.
- The additional swim buoy permit has arrived in and the missing buoy has been ordered and will be placed towards the south end of the beach when it's delivered.
- The raft drifts a bit more this year due to the shifting of sand after the storm. If you feel it needs to be stabilized more, please talk to one of the board members.
- The beach was groomed in mid-June and grooming will be done again after the beach picnic.
- The security guards are having a tough time policing the number of cars per household in the parking lot so please try to coordinate within your family and with your guests a bit more to ensure there is enough parking.

Tom Sullivan suggested we might need to enforce the use of the PB euro stickers on all cars. We'd rather not do this and we won't have to, if we are better about self-policing.

#### **Treasurer's Report from Dave Cavasino**

- Attached to the meeting agenda is the Profit & Loss sheet, it's very similar to last years.
- A second attachment is our budget for the fiscal year. Note that it is up slightly from 2012 due to some raises in payroll costs. However, our property taxes dropped \$2500.
- Pam Gourlie posed the question what type of expenses would constitute the miscellaneous line item?
- Joan Prentice noted that there are actually two line items labeled as miscellaneous.
- Dave Cavasino will look into these miscellaneous expenses further by asking Tom Sullivan for detail, but some items they include are: gas for the mower, BJ's membership dues, the Sunshine fund, Association credit card fees, Board of Directors (BOD) meeting snacks (\$17).
- The third attachment is our year to date. As it's fairly early into our fiscal spending, it is a better idea to look at the updated version of this document that will be delivered at the August Annual meeting.
- The fourth attachment is our cash position at the end of 2012, as of last Tuesday. Most of the Association's fiscal spending will take place over the next six weeks.

#### **Financial Secretary Report from Karen Murphy**

- Welcome to our four new members, no new members were in attendance at the meeting, but if we come across them at the beach please say hello.
- Currently have 164 assessments, by August we should have more.
- Sue Benzyk asked if we knew why it seems that we have 11 fewer members? Those assessment payments should come in later this Summer.

#### **By-Laws Committee presented by Dave Cavasino**

- Proposed changes delivered and will be voted on at the Annual Meeting in August.

#### **Article I**

- Dave Cavasino noted that we are proposing that the Past President will not serve on the BOD: they have already given enough of their time so we should let them go already. Committees have been eliminated. A 5-year limit has been set on serving in a single position.
- Pam Gourlie asked about revolving or staggering terms, noting that it would not be ideal to have all officers' position open at the same time.
- Joan Prentice had the same question.

#### **Article II**

- Dave Cavasino noted that we will come back to this at the end as it's the most controversial.

#### **Article III**

- Dave Cavasino noted that we are proposing to up the minimum quorum number from 15 to 30.
- Gary Slater asked if that number constitutes voting members or just members?
- Dee DePhillips noted that when something has been amended to be voted on, we get a stronger showing at meetings.
- Malcolm Gourlie said that if there were only 29 members here today, he would stipulate that 30 is too high of a number for a quorum.
- Dave Cavasino said we wouldn't want to hold up any progress at meetings by not having enough members present.
- Mary Tarbell asked if we could do a count of voting members present at the meeting: there were 30 voting members present out of a potential of 210 members.
- Bill Holbrook noted that we must provide 30-days notice on any big issues.
- Pam Gourlie said we send out notices via email and mail.
- Dave Cavasino said that we as a BOD could always take up the issue.
- Tom Evans, who serves on the By-Law committee, asked if we should make it voting members? Most all concurred.
- Barbara Keck did a cross check and noted that there were actually 31 voting members present.

- Dee DePhillips thanked Barbara for her contribution.
- Joan Prentice noted that delinquent members are addressed in Section 5 (of Article III).
- Dave Cavasino said that Article II defines members.
- Barbara Keck asked where it was defined?
- Pam Gourlie said that membership fees should be due before the beach opens.
- Norma Comins asked what the definition of "good standing" is.
- Dave Cavasino said someone who has paid their assessment and dues.
- Mary Tarbell, who serves on the By-Law committee, asked if a glossary of terms would be helpful? Most all present concurred.

#### Article IV

- Dave Cavasino again noted that committees have been proposed to be eliminated.
- Dave Ferraguto asked if we have committees why would we change the By-Laws to say that we don't?
- Barbara Keck said that the committees are made up of volunteers.
- Dave Ferraguto noted that he disagreed with the work that was done after Hurricane Sandy.
- Pam Gourlie said to take, for example, the "fire committee," which dates back 100 or so years before there was a local firehouse to handle those duties. The "maintenance committee" duties are now handled by someone we pay to take care of them.
- Dan Tarbell reaffirmed that ad hoc committees are assigned by the President when people ask to get involved. For instance when Kathy Cavasino wanted to install the posts and ropes at the entrance to the beach, she volunteered to head up a beautification committee. Charlie Benzyk is heading up the Pleasure Beach Open golf tournament. The Cavasinos hosted the 2012 Lights Out party.
- Dee DePhillips said that we now have volunteer sign-up sheets since the committees are essentially eliminated. Any member can get involved this way.
- Joan Prentice said that the "fire committee" may have been instituted when we had the children's races.
- Sue Benzyk, who serves on the By-Law committee, noted that in our current By-Laws the chairperson of each committee technically also would serve as a Board member and carry just as much weight as an elected officer.
- Dave Cavasino noted that the duties of officers has not changed, but that duties of committees has been eliminated.

#### Article V

- Dave Cavasino advised several Articles were consolidated into the new proposed Revenue & Expenses.
- Joan Prentice noted that any expense that exceeds the treasury should be an upper limit.
- Dave Cavasino advised that the current purchase limit is \$200 and the proposed new limit is \$2500. He said that the BOD has a history of bringing any large ticket decisions to the membership and used the former \$40,000 proposed fence installation as an example. He also noted that if there was a disaster, such as an oil spill, and a quick decision had to be made by the BOD as a delay would cost the Association exponentially more in the long run, it would be handled by the BOD. He asked what a reasonable upper limit would be.
- Pam Gourlie had a strong objection to making such a decision without consulting with Association members and suggested perhaps including language like the treasury minus the bond. She also asked that the By-Laws committee address that change.
- Mary Tarbell noted that all disasters are either natural or manmade and can only be defined as such. The By-Laws committee can define the monetary piece, but they can't define an event.
- Bill Holbrook said that consideration should be included as to whether failure to make said expenditure would be more costly than not.
- Sue Benzyk advised that she was one of the By-Law committee members who wanted an upper limit as it safeguards against anything that remotely may happen.
- Dan Tarbell noted that there have been several By-Law committees since 1999. The goal of the committee in place is to clean up the document we currently have by doing revisions in incremental stages, to get better document than we have now to better fit the way we operate to be easier, better and healthier.
- Earle Tarbell suggested that in Section 4 we change it to "no board" instead of "no officer."
- Dave Ferraguto referred to Section 3 of the current By-Laws regarding there being a vote by the Association.
- Tom Evans said it would or be a big deal to change it from "no officer" to "no board."
- Joan Prentice said the same should be done to Section for any unbudgeted purchase.
- Dave Cavasino noted that the BOD would vote on it first as we approve all expenses and cannot spend more than what is budgeted.

- Dave Ferraguto asked why in Section 3 of Article V it says "majority of The Directors" versus saying "majority of members?"
- Dave Cavasino answered to protect from any single Board member going out and spending over \$2500 without a vote first.
- Joan Prentice asked if our Treasurer is bonded?
- Dave Cavasino advised that he is not.
- Joan Prentice asked when he will be bonded?
- Dave Cavasino advised that he is looking into the costs to do so.
- Bill Holbrook asked which Article 3 versus 4 we are on?

#### Article VIII

- Dave Cavasino advised that the section that allowed 30 members to object was removed and voting by proxy was added.
- Joan Prentice asked how would one vote by proxy?
- Dave Cavasino advised by paper ballot delivered prior to Annual Meeting in August.

#### Article II

- Dave Cavasino noted that essentially no changes have been proposed to the Membership section. This section has been left to a future By-Laws committee. Note that because all committees were eliminated, the "membership committee" will no longer be in Section 2.
- Joan Prentice asked about hold members and gold badge holders?
- Dave Cavasino advised that they are not defined in the By-Laws.
- Frank Ribas noted regarding the current By-Laws in Article I, Section 3 that write-ins would not be allowed considering proxy voting has been proposed.
- Joan Prentice asked if we would be taking nominations from the floor?
- Pam Gourlie, as Chair of the Nominating Committee, said nominations from the floor are not allowed.
- Barbara Keck said that write-ins should not be allowed as she would not like what happened to her a few years back happen to someone else.
- Dave Cavasino noted "assessed households" in Section 4.
- Dee DePhillips advised that a glossary will help define that.
- Joan Prentice asked if a gold member or hold member can vote? And said that should be spelled out in the By-Laws.
- Addie Hogan asked what the difference was between assessed and associate members?
- Bill Holbrook said that assessed members are badge holders.
- Dan Tarbell said the next step is that we will mail out the proposed New By-Laws to voting members, and a vote would be held at the Annual Meeting. The By-Laws are posted on the website and will also be posted down at the beach and mailed to members who do not use email.
- Bill Holbrook asked if the vote would be up or down for the whole package?
- Dave Cavasino said that was correct.
- Sue Benzyk said that the committee will send an email in the next week. The committee wants members' input and are open to members' thoughts.
- Norma Comins asked if we were voting today?
- Dave Cavasino advised no, that this was just informational.
- Mary Tarbell noted that there has been a lot of negativity and personal attacks and while the committee is open to feedback, it needs to be a kept as a professional give and take.
- RuthAnne Collins asked about delinquency?
- Pam Gourlie said that hold fees are not part of the By-Laws.

#### **Nominating Committee presented by Chair Pamela Gourlie**

- Everyone should have received a half- page sheet upon arrival to the meeting today.
- The set of guidelines on how the committee functions follow:
  - Every position is open each year.
  - Names are put forward to the Chairs of the committee.
  - Nominations are closed 14 days prior to the Annual Meeting.
  - Nominees' profiles are put up on the website and sent via email or snail mail.
  - Ballots are handed out at the beginning of the Annual Meeting to voting members and they sign into a voter registration sheet.

- Ballots are filled out and put into the ballot box.
- There are no nominations from the floor.
- Officer elections are determined by a simple majority.
- Officers serve for one-year from the day after Labor Day through Labor Day.
- Officers' duties are posted on the website.
- Gary Slater noted that the deadline for nominees should be changed on the sheet from August 10 to be 14-days prior to the Annual Meeting.
- Barbara Keck advised that she is in possession of the ballot box from last year.
- Malcolm Gourlie said all info will be on the website.
- Joan Prentice asked that it also get sent out via email.

### **New Business**

- Norma Comins likes the new posts and rope at the entrance and asked if there was going to be additional installed? She also asked about finding a safe and more comfortable way for octogenarians to get from one side of the beach to another...especially on the clam pond side.
- Pam Gourlie noted that the beginning of Valley Street to the clam pond is quite eroded and we need to have the entire pathway there looked over.
- Dee DePhillips asked if she'd like to Chair that committee and Pam agreed.
- Pam had years past spoken with Maureen Fitzgerald about the problem and how to address it.
- Norma Comins asked also about the path from Valley to New Shore Road.
- Dee DePhillips advised that that is a private path.
- Five members volunteered to be on the path committee with Pam Gourlie as Chair, including Frank Ribas, Ed Hogan, Ray DeMonte, Dave Ferraguto, and Barbara Keck.
- Pam Gourlie called a meeting with the committee for 9 am on Sunday, July 14. They would meet near the shed along the path.
- Dee DePhillips thanked Tom Evans for his work obtaining the appropriate swim area permit for the Association. The permits finally arrived this week after being approved months ago. The four buoys we have will be spread out, additional buoys purchased and a float rope line installed to delineate the area.
- Dan Tarbell read a summary of a note sent by Tammy LaBelle regarding beach clean-up. She has requested that it be moved up to earlier in the year, specifically on the clam pond side. She also asked if opening day was too late into Summer. Dan noted that Tammy LaBelle and Tom Sullivan often clean debris off the beach in advance of beach clean-up that takes place the weekend before opening day.
- Malcolm Gourlie advised that there are liability issues in opening the beach earlier especially if it is not properly staffed with adequate lifeguards and security guards to police the safety of the beach. We probably do not have the personnel to do that.
- Dan Tarbell said that we could certainly order the porta-potty in time for Memorial Day.
- RuthAnne Collins said that there is tradition with the beach clean-up date and that she and her husband do clean-up when they walk the beach year-round.
- Malcolm Gourlie concurred that yes the date was tradition, but perhaps that was when we had more seasonal members and we may now have more members who are here year-round.
- Dan Tarbell said we could certainly consider moving the beach clean-up date up.
- Dave Ferraguto questioned the south beach side fence installation and said that many waterfront neighbors are not happy with how it looks. He said the fence should have been constructed so that the beautification on both the north and south sides of the beach went together. He noted that the waterfront neighbors have to look at the south side on a daily basis and were not consulted about how it would look. They functionally want dunes and grass, but prefer a tan, not red snow fencing.
- Dan Tarbell said that the BOD had to act quickly and followed verbatim the recommendation from Maureen Fitzgerald.
- Dave Ferraguto said that the red fence installed was not pleasing to the eye.
- Pam Gourlie noted that the fence is not permanent and that the DEP has strict guidelines such as no dredging. She recalled that years ago many waterfront members on the north side of the beach had to look at piles of dirty sand, old Christmas trees and debris piled high to build up the dunes and grow grass, and that it's not about beauty, the fence is serving a purpose.
- Dave Ferraguto said there should be a compromise and that he wrote the BOD about finding tan fencing at Ring's End.
- Karen Murphy noted that the fence was bought right after the hurricane and the BOD had to check with five or six places to find any snow fencing that was available.
- Dan Tarbell said that there was an extremely limited supply and red was the only color option.

- Tom Evans made a motion that we allow Dave Ferraguto replace the red fencing with tan at his own cost, if he so wishes.
- No one seconded the motion.
- Dee DePhillips said that we followed the DEP's guidelines and that re-replacing the fencing now would cause undue damage.
- Sue Benzyk asked if we could zig zag the fence?
- Dan reiterated that we heeded the DEP's guidelines for installation.
- Sara King advised that red fencing is prevalent at many beaches throughout New England and that it is a badge of pride. Having it means that we are preserving our beach for future generations and that we value our property.
- Mary Tarbell noted that if people are going to complain about not being consulted about the fence installation, she'll make a motion that the large telephone poles that were installed without neighbors consent be removed as they block views of the water.
- Sue Benzyk asked about the beach sign down at the public South side.
- Dan Tarbell advised that this was addressed earlier in the meeting and that the sign is currently being fixed by Dominic Dipollina.
- Please don't leave trash behind on the beach, please put it in the garbage cans, or if it's a large item, like a broken chair, take it with you. So far, this summer, there have been five broken chairs left on the beach.

### **Upcoming Events**

- The Beach Picnic is scheduled for Saturday, July 20th.
- The Pleasure Beach Open golf outing is scheduled for Saturday, July 27th at the Great Neck (formerly New London) Country Club. Charles Benzyk is organizing it with some help from Karen Murphy and Dan Tarbell. Interested parties should have received a flier upon check-in. There will be some food both after and some at the beginning. The cost is \$100 for non-members and \$45 for members. The timing is 12:30 pm registration, 1 pm putting contest that will be run with help from Tom Evans, and 2 pm shotgun start.
- Paul Trehern and Barbara Keck will once again be spearheading the sandcastle-building contest on Sunday, July 28th. There are great photos on the website of last years creations by both children and adults alike.
- Fireman's Fair is Friday and Saturday, August 2nd & 3rd.
- Stacey Fabian will run the kid's races for the second year on Saturday, August 3rd.
- Marge Shenasky and Bill Grady are again hosting the Golden Oldies Dance at the firehouse on Saturday, August 3rd.

The Business Meeting adjourned at 11:03 am.

Minutes by Recording Secretary Sara Shenasky.