

POALH Board of Governors  
Meeting Minutes  
January 16, 2016

The meeting was called to order at 9:10 a.m. by President Bob Sudell at the home of Jason Griffing and Lee Griffin, 83 Wildwood, East Haddam. Board members in attendance were Cari Eckert, Gail Miers, Jason Griffing, Gary Petersen, Don Smith, Bob Sudell, Bonnie Sudell, Adam Thompson and Bill Taylor. Also attending were Ed Bader, Tax Collector, Mike Trocchi, Communications Manager and Lee Griffin, Treasurer.

Minutes: The minutes of the November 11, 2015 Board Meeting were approved as amended.

Website Design: Mike Trocchi presented his ideas to redesign our website on the WordPress format which is widely used across media sites. A committee was formed to determine what we wanted and present to the Board: Mike, Don, Gail, Jason and Cari. Mike stressed that this format was easy to use, had improved security, offered different levels of access and would be easier to administer. It is hoped that the committee will have something for inclusion in the spring packet so that we could get community input before finalizing. Cost would be about \$200 per year.

Email newsletter: A suggestion was made that, to ensure that the email newsletter matches the printed newsletter, it be set up so you could click on a link to go to the PDF. As an aside, we were reminded to put dates in the newsletter – instead of “come on down tonight.”

Business Email Accounts:

Compliance: We were asked to think about having someone in charge of electronic compliance. It is anticipated that Ed, Lee and Bonnie would be uploading compliance documents to the site.

Training on the new system: it was agreed that evenings were best for all. There was considerable discussion as to the user friendliness of the system and all Board members agreed that they would play with their emails and by January 31<sup>st</sup>, everyone should be using the new accounts.

Gail emailed us the options for service available to us if we needed it.

As administrator, Charlie Hooper will change emails as Board members leave. Bob suggested that the Board acquire laptops or tablets for POALH use only. There was considerable discussion but no resolution.

Financial Reports

Treasurer: Lee reported that a \$9050 grant received from Town. In other income we received \$22,078 from the Town this year. The Treasurer’s Report was approved as presented.

Tax Collector: Ed reported that 98% of the current year’s taxes have been collected. There are 12-14 accounts that still owe us money. The East Haddam Tax Collector asked Ed to wait until January 2016 to send accounts to collection, instead of in

November as the Board had discussed. About \$4,000 will be going to collections. One member hasn't paid 6 of the 8 past years. Ed has had discussions with them and we should be getting more than \$3,000 from this one account. This account is not included in the \$4,000 that will be going to our collections attorney. Those property owners who were delinquent for two of the past five years and who are going to collections will also be subject to jeopardy billing (next year's taxes to be paid in advance). Of the "lot only" owners, three have not paid, including two estates. They are going to collections also. Of the two properties that went to tax lien auction, one owner paid off the lien and one didn't. There are new property owners of the cottage not redeemed by the previous owners.

Budget: Ed asked that each chair should forecast what they are going to spend for the rest of the fiscal year. If reallocations are advised, we will discuss at the March Board Meeting. The mill rate will be set after the grand list is received at the end of March.

Properties: Gary reported that, following a complaint from a Wildwood resident the light on the pole with the box at the tennis courts on Lake Shore Drive was disconnected. It was judged that it did not impact public safety.

Tom Kress was going to fix the existing beach signs but found that they were beyond repair so he is having three new signs made, vinyl wrapped wood for \$1470.

New kiosks – rules could be posted in kiosks.

No lifeguard on duty sign – already there.

Speakers at pavilion – Adam will do research, bearing in mind that the wiring is already there. He will submit a proposal to us for a sound system and speakers to integrate with existing system for the March meeting

A quote to redo the Lake Hayward sign at the beginning of the Lake was received for \$2,800. The sign would be a composite material.

A quote was received to replace the existing street signs. Carved reflective PVC one sided signs, in increments of ten would be \$120 each. Jason will investigate further. – Lawn mowing – Gary will be soliciting bids for a two year contract. There was discussion as to whether we should require a contractor's license of those bidding as it is not required by the State to have a contractor's license to mow lawns. The Board decided to not require a license. There was discussion of leaf pickup; it was agreed that it would be a separate bid and a separate contract.

3<sup>rd</sup> Beach – With Steve Nelson's help a bid proposal is being prepared for the ramp.

Social: Board members were asked to finalize events and let Don know so that the calendar will be in spring packet.

Dock on Association Property – Adam volunteered to speak to Mr. Hibbert to encourage him to turn the dock over to the Association. If he does not have success, we will have our attorney send him a letter.

LQIC: The Board felt that, although they wanted to support the efforts of the committee, they needed to have to have better communications between the LQIC and the Board. The Board needs to know when the LQIC is meeting and what is on the agenda. They

will ask for either a member of the LQIC to attend Board Meetings or have a member of the Board on the committee. Ultimately, as with any committee, the LQIC is responsible to the Board. Additionally, Aquatic Control should communicate with us. Gary volunteered to meet with Felicia to discuss communications.

Board Dinner – January 29<sup>th</sup> at 6 p.m. at Mohegan Sun.

Glimmer Glen – A new road foreman was hired by East Haddam. We need a proposal from engineers to do a study of what it will take for the Town to take over the road. Ed will work on getting an engineer.

The next meeting will be Saturday, March 19, 2016 at 9 a.m. at the home of Don Smith, 16 Jeremy River Road, Colchester.

The meeting was adjourned 12:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Bonnie F. Sudell  
Recording Secretary