

Property Owners Association of Lake Hayward Meeting  
June 26, 2016

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. at the First Beach Pavilion by President Bob Sudell. There were 76 members present.

Bob reminded members that the meeting would be conducted in accordance with our Bylaws and Roberts Rules. As we have been phasing in voter registration over the past year, those who were registered were given a yellow card when they signed in, and should hold it up when voting. He asked that everyone be respectful when they spoke at the meeting and treat others as they wished to be treated.

Roll call of the Board of Governors:

Present at the roll call of the Board of Governors were Cari Eckert, Gail Miers, Jason Griffing, Gary Petersen, Don Smith, Bob Sudell, Bonnie Sudell, Bill Taylor and Adam Thompson. Also present were Ed Bader, Tax Collector and Lee Griffin, Treasurer.

Acceptance of August Annual Meeting Minutes:

A motion was made, seconded and passed to accept the August 16, 2015 POALH Annual Meeting Minutes.

Introductory Remarks:

Board members stood and let members know what areas they represented and what their responsibilities were.

Bob encouraged members to help discourage the geese on the beaches and to pick up goose poop as needed. Gary added that we have three new beach rakers this year and that picking up goose poop was part of their responsibility.

Bob remarked that there would be Board vacancies this office and asked interested members to contact any Board member to understand what was involved.

Bob also thanked everyone who volunteered throughout the year and asked specifically for volunteers for Lake Hayward Days beach games and carnival.

Gail Edgington and Shannon McKane are looking for someone to be in charge of promotional items for next year. Bob asked that interested members contact Gail.

Communications:

None received

Financial Reports:

Tax Collector:

Ed Bader stated that the mill rate would stay at .0035 for 2016-17. Tax bills, due July 1, 2016 would go out this week. Bills not paid by August 1, 2016 would incur an interest charge of 1-1/2% per month, from the original due date of July 1.

Ed stated that, of 500 accounts, we only had two delinquent accounts. Those two properties would go to tax lien sale if taxes were not paid by July 19.

Collected delinquent taxes were used to lower the mill rate to .0035 for fiscal year 2015-16 and to keep the mill rate at .0035 for fiscal year 2016-17.

### Treasurer:

Lee Griffin referred members to the June 25, 2016 newsletter for details on the year to date budget. He had copies of our latest financial review for interested members. Randy Miller commented that part of the income shown was from a grant and part from the Town of East Haddam.

There was a question regarding the budgeted amount for insurance. Bob Sudell replied that, after the pavilion fire, we recognized that we were not adequately insured, and that Bouvier Insurance worked with the Board to secure appropriate coverages. A follow up question asked if we were considering self insuring. Bob replied that at this time we were not.

### Budget:

Ed Bader stated that the latest newsletter provided details of the current year's budget. The 2016-17 budget utilized the last of the delinquent tax payments, and the 2017-18 budget would be ready to present at the August meeting. Committee chairs and those responsible for budget line items will present at the August meeting, before the Budget Committee makes its recommendation to the membership. Copies of the proposed budget will be available online and in the newsletter, as well as posted at the beaches, prior to the August meeting. It was also suggested that the newsletter be available at the pavilion for those who are not receiving the paper version.

As an aside, Bob said that the Board was looking into newsletter distribution, as it was becoming difficult to find carriers and Janet Soboleski was looking for someone to take over coordination of delivery.

### Committees:

#### LQIC:

Felicia Tencza reminded members that LQIC was again sponsoring the Permit to Discharge drawing, open to east and west side Lake Hayward residents, to be held at the Annual Meeting, August 21. The winner will receive \$200. Details are in the newsletter.

With respect to weed treatment, due to State staffing issues, the permit has not yet been approved. Weed treatment will be scheduled as soon as possible after approval. The permit requested this year is for three years, so weed treatment, as needed, will be earlier in the season next year.

Randy Miller showed the map of the 1,500 acre watershed and explained that everything that happened in the watershed impacted Lake Hayward in some way. The Colchester Land Trust has an opportunity to purchase a 115 acre parcel in the northwest portion of the watershed and is currently raising money to do so. The Colchester Land Trust is offering Lake Hayward members the opportunity to walk the parcel on July 31<sup>st</sup>. Details will be in the newsletter.

Additional area events include the East Haddam Lakes Association meeting September 14, 2016 at 7 p.m. at the East Haddam Grange Hall, the first Connecticut Federation of Lakes Southeast CT Lakes Forum September 17, 2016 at 9 a.m. at Connecticut College and a family oriented program at Devil's Hopyard October 15, 2016 at 1 p.m. presented by the Eightmile River Wild & Scenic Coordinating Committee.

Randy said that the watershed management plan was in the works and they hoped to have a draft by this time next year. Much work and many hours of research was being done by the LQIC volunteers.

Randy wanted to clarify the headline regarding stormwater runoff in this week's newsletter. He stated that it is a serious concern for Lake Hayward residents.

Linda Ryder-Munet directed members to the table with handouts.

There was a question regarding responsibility for catch basin and outfall cleaning. The Town is responsible for catch basins but we are responsible for the outfalls.

Peter Paschke remarked that we should all be aware of the impact on the lake of what we are putting on our lawns.

Peter also asked if the POALH would consider making a contribution to the Colchester Land Trust. The possibility had not been discussed at the Board yet but would be put on the upcoming agenda.

Randy added that the Colchester Land Trust would make a presentation at the July 30 Town Hall meeting and that those interested should try to attend.

#### Social/Rec:

Don Smith began by thanking all the volunteers for their time and effort, without which there would be no events. He referred members to the website for the most up to date information and said that the new website would be launched in the next couple of weeks, giving greater detail and making it easier for members to find things. He said that if a member wanted to sponsor an event that was not on the calendar to call or email him. The chairs of Beach Games and Carnival are looking for volunteers to help run the activities.

Cari Eckert spoke of the upcoming educational event on July 9 focusing on our wildlife friends. She said that this event was suitable for both children and adults and encouraged everyone to take advantage of this opportunity to learn more about the wildlife with whom we share the lake.

Don highlighted some of the upcoming events including CPR, food trucks, numerous bands including String of Pearls (a 17 piece big band orchestra), Christmas in July, pot luck dinners on each beach, setback and cribbage tournaments, fishing tournaments for both adults and children, the golf tournament, movies on the beach, the boat parade, campout on Second Beach, a triathlon and a tag/craft sale.

Arts & Crafts will be on Wednesday nights, not Tuesdays.

#### Public Safety:

Bonnie Sudell thanked Lt. Kevin Rutty and Lt. Jeremy Schumann from the East Haddam Volunteer Fire Department for coming to the meeting with samples of their reflective address markers. She urged members to take advantage of their presence to order a marker for their property and reminded members that if they needed the police, fire department or EMS, they can't help you if they can't find you.

Bonnie reminded members that the 2015 spring packet contained four red parking permits, valid until 2019, and registered to the property. She asked members to hang one on their rearview mirror when parked on Association property, and to leave them behind if they sold. She also stated that she had contracted with the East Haddam Police for random patrols throughout the season.

Peter Paschke spoke of the dangerous curves at the north end of Lake Shore Drive and urged the Board to make safety in that area a priority, either by posting "Dangerous Curve" signs or 15 mph signs, or something else to make walking on Lake Shore Drive less dangerous.

Another member suggested that we post a sign with an arrow, recommending an alternate walking route, up Ridgewood Road.

Rich Harmon suggested that we all take responsibility for driving less than 25 mph on Lake Shore Drive, and set a good example.

#### Secretary-Clerk:

Bonnie Sudell reported that as of that morning 183 members were registered with the Secretary-Clerk. Starting in 2016, in order to vote on Association matters, members would have to be registered, and obtain a colored piece of paper when checking in. Only votes of those with the colored paper would be counted.

There was a question regarding proxies. Bob Sudell replied that neither the Bylaws nor the Charter provide for proxies.

#### Properties:

Gary Petersen detailed the numerous projects underway, primarily at Third Beach, during the last few months including new fencing at the south end, a storage shed, and a ramp to replace the stairs at the north end. A ramp will also replace the stairs at the south end of Third Beach. He asked that people have patience during the construction process and thanked Bill Taylor for helping coordinate the projects.

New sand has been spread at all the beaches and the volleyball court, and some grass has been removed. New informational kiosks are at all the beaches, and the large beach signs have been replaced. Tom Kress coordinated the new beach signs which look just like the old ones.

Fencing was put up this spring to discourage the geese, thanks to Don Smith, Lee Griffin and Jason Griffith. Gary said that it would take several years to see results and that fencing would be put up again in early 2017.

Plans are underway to gradually replace the existing street signs, keeping the same design and color, but reflective, routed out and with the street name on both sides.

The two turtle crossing signs that were put up last year were stolen. They will be replaced.

Rocks have been placed by the dam to discourage vehicles from parking there as well as by the north entrance to First Beach to discourage four wheelers.

Gary expressed frustration with the turnout for work parties and remarked that most volunteers were in their 50's and 60's. He urged younger members to help.

A member asked about the pile of sand at Third Beach. Gary replied that it was part of the ramp project and would be spread out.

A member expressed concern about the right of way on Wildwood being used by a member adjacent to it. Gary said that he had talked with the homeowner earlier this year and would talk with them again.

#### Pilgrim Way:

Cari Eckert talked about Pilgrim Way, which is between Lake Shore Drive and Ridgewood Road. We have long considered this a right of way but parts of it are actually owned by the abutting property owners. Drainage has been an issue on Pilgrim Way and the problems have increased for some since the installation of curbing on Ridgewood Road. The Association is not encouraging curbing as a solution. The Town has proposed removing the curbing, which is opposed by owners whose drainage issues have decreased with the installation of the curbing. The Town has also proposed dumping the water directly into the lake, which is also opposed. At the recent CFL meeting, solutions including rain gardens were presented. At this time it appears that the solutions will have to be provided by individual homeowners, as they own the property.

Ownership of Pilgrim Way is a concern as it is the only access to their property for many on Lake Shore Drive. A suggestion was made for the Association to buy the property. Cari stated that there were many considerations and that the committee was continuing to explore what could be done.

Glimmer Glen:

Gail Miers stated that the goal of her committee (Bill Taylor, Jason Griffing and herself) was to have the Town take over Glimmer Glen, the only road in the Association not a Town road. (A member stated that Glimmer Glen had not been developed when the Town accepted all the other roads in the Association) The Town will not accept Glimmer Glen now as it does not meet the current criteria. The committee met twice with the Town, but as First Selectman Mark Walter has resigned, they are waiting for a full board before continuing. Remediation of the road will be a capital project and the committee hopes to bring its recommendation to the membership in August of 2017. Gail hopes to have a mini town hall meeting to address concerns of Glimmer Glen residents.

Budget Committee regarding 2017-18 Budget:

Ed stated that the proposed budget would be available for review 7-10 days prior to the Annual Meeting. A member asked how to get things in the budget. Ed replied that they should go to the committee chair responsible for that part of the budget.

Unfinished Business:

Rich Harmon asked the Board to explain the removal of the two sheds by the Third Beach parking lot. Bob Sudell said that one of the charges of the Board is to maintain and manage its properties. A survey of the Third Beach parking lot showed that two sheds, thought to be on the adjacent property owner's property, were actually on Association property. The family was approached but was not receptive to moving them. The Board took legal action to reclaim POALH property.

New Business:

Bylaw Revisions:

The Board asked for comment on the Bylaw revisions, sent in the 2016 spring packet. There was none. The revisions will be voted upon at the August Annual Meeting.

There was no new business from the floor.

Announcements:

Bob advised members that there were new email addresses for Board members and other contacts, and referred members to the last page of the newsletter for the current email addresses.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:20 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Bonnie Sudell  
Recording Secretary