

June 23, 2018



**WELCOME BACK! IT'S SUMMERTIME!**

## Message from the President: POALH meeting is Sunday

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### Upcoming Events

- 6/23 **LADIES OF LAKE HAYWARD HAPPY HOUR,** 5-7 p.m. at First Beach Pavilion
- 6/24 **ASSOCIATION MEETING,** 10 a.m. to noon, First Beach Pavilion
- 6/25 **WEED TREATMENT: NO SWIMMING,** All day, lakewide
- 6/30 **LQIC EDUCATIONAL EVENT,** 10 a.m. to noon at First Beach Pavilion

### Contact POALH:

POALH  
P.O. Box 230  
Colchester, CT 06415  
carie@lakehaywardct.com

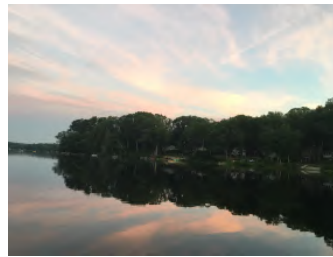
### Walk-up mailbox:

83 Wildwood Rd.

It was a chilly winter and spring, and I am ready for lounging under the warm summer sun at Lake Hayward.

The POALH board has been busy with plans to help make your time at the lake enjoyable and for things to run smoothly. We have a great new landscaping company mowing and trimming shrubbery and a new property maintenance assistant keeping the beaches clean and raked. A group of dedicated volunteers helped put in the swim lines and rafts and trimmed back weeds and raked beaches. The POALH property is looking great. You have an opportunity to add to the nice-looking environment by keeping up your own properties.

A maintained house, with a landscaped and mowed lawn adds much to the overall feel of the community. Get rid of the old junk and tree branches at the East Haddam dump. They are located on Route 149 and are open Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday each week. To date, there is no fee and the dump has a DIY feel to it with dumpsters labeled with the types of garbage they take. There is also a "free" room of usable things people are tossing out and a place for batteries, old motor oil and electronics.



**The sunset reflects off Lake Hayward. Photo by Cari Eckert.**

I have found volunteering is a great way to meet people. The events chairwoman Sue Martin and her dedicated helper, Evelyn Passan, are looking for volunteers to help with band nights and other events. Contact them at events@lakehaywardct.com.

Last year, the board made a change with its newspaper delivery, deciding to try out an online delivery with paper copies at the beaches in special kiosks.

If email and an occasional paper copy from the Beach kiosk is sufficient you are helping us to save approximately \$2,000. We recognized that some residents might not use the internet or have email on their cell phone and would find it difficult to get to the kiosks to pick up a paper. We agreed to let a group that was willing to manage newsletter delivery to

**What: POALH June meeting.**

**When: 10 a.m. to noon, Sunday, June 24.**

**Where: First Beach Pavilion.**

contact you to determine if you would prefer delivery. We are not reinstating delivery to all houses as a paper flier delivered to your house indicated.

If you want delivery, you must contact Jeff Conway at jwconway@cox.net with your name and address. Remember: if you do opt for delivery, leave a tip for the kids delivering it.

I look forward to seeing you tonight at the Ladies of Lake Hayward Happy Hour from 5-7 p.m. at the pavilion and at the Association Meeting on Sunday at 10 a.m. at the Pavilion.

Go to LakeHaywardCT.com and tap on events/calendar to see what is happening each week. You don't want to miss anything.

- Cari Eckert

## Q&A: Tax bills will go out soon, so here are 15 key questions answered

### TAX Q & A

**1 Question:** What is the new Association Tax Billing and Collection system?

**Answer:** Four years ago, the Association contracted with the same vendor the Town of East Haddam uses to prepare its tax bills. The Association's tax bills are very similar to the Town of East Haddam's tax bills except the color of the bills will be different; it will not have any information regarding personal property or motor vehicle taxes because the Association does not tax these items. The Association provides a return envelope for you to send your payments to the Association's tax collector. In addition, the Association's system will bill each property you own separately just as the Town of East Haddam does. If you own a year-round or seasonal residence and one or more vacant lots you will receive a bill for each property. We will try to combine all your bills in one mailing, but each property owner must check their bills carefully to make sure they have a bill for each property they own especially if you own more than one lot.

**2 Q:** Who is responsible for paying Association property taxes?

**A:** The property owner is responsible for paying their taxes. Banks and mortgage companies do not escrow Association taxes. Regardless of any arrangement you make with your bank or mortgage company, the property owner is always responsible to pay their Association property taxes on time to avoid interest charges.

**3 Q:** What if the property owner does not receive a property tax bill?

**A:** All tax bills are mailed to each property owner of record on or about July 1 of each year. If a Property Owner does not receive a bill by July 12, they should call or e-mail tax collector Ed Bader at 860-295-8769 or [taxcollector@lakehaywardct.com](mailto:taxcollector@lakehaywardct.com) to request a property tax bill be sent to them. Failure to receive a tax bill is not an adequate defense to avoid delinquent interest charges if the payment is late.

**Q:** When do I have to pay my bill?

**4 A:** All tax payments are due on July 1 of each year. Interest is waived if the payment is received or postmarked by Aug. 1. This means that if you mail your payment, the envelope must be postmarked on or **before Aug. 1** to avoid inter-

est charges. Only U.S. Post Office postmarked dates on return payment envelopes are valid for timely payment. Other postage meter dates do not meet this requirement for timely payment. If you drop your payment off at 83 Wildwood Road in the PO-ALH mail box, it must be received and date-stamped by the Association Treasurer on or before Aug. 1 to avoid interest charges.

**Q:** I am a new property owner. What should I do?

**5 A:** You should call the Tax Collector and confirm that he has your correct address so your property tax

bill will be mailed to your correct mailing address in time for the tax payment to be received by the end of the grace period. Failure to receive a property tax bill is not a valid defense to avoid delinquent interest charges. The property owner is responsible to get his/her tax bill and pay it on time to avoid interest charges on late payments.

**6 Q:** Our property is owned by a trust, a corporation, two or more members of a family or by two or more individuals. Each year or periodically, a different person pays the property taxes. What should the property owners do if the owner paying the taxes does not receive the property tax bill?

**A:** In these ownership situations, it is the responsibility of the owners to pay their property taxes on time irrespective of the number of owners involved. The owners need to plan for the payment of their property taxes on time including notifying the tax collector of any change of address of the owner who is paying the tax in the current year.

**7 Q:** I own several lots within the Association boundaries. How do I determine whether I have all the tax bills related to my properties?

**A:** The Association tax collector uses the Town of East Haddam Assessor's files to bill property owners for taxes on vacant lots. You will receive separate bills for each property you own. In the past, the Association's billing system put the additional lots on the bill with the property owner's residence. The new Association Tax Billing system does not allow us to do this. You

will receive separate bills for each property you own. In certain cases, the property owner has filed the necessary forms to designate their vacant lots as open space or another specific designation reducing the assessed value of the lot to a nominal value. In those cases, the Association does not bill a property owner for taxes on a lot that result in a property tax bill of less than \$3. If in doubt, call the town assessor to confirm ownership. Each lot has a separate map and lot number to identify itself. However, this minimum charge does not apply to those property owners who only own a vacant lot or lots. In these cases, the minimum tax due on property owners who do not have a year-round or seasonal residence is \$100 for each vacant lot.

**8 Q:** What if I have an issue with the assessed value of my property or lot?

**A:** Any questions regarding the assessed value of a property or lot must be handled through the process established by the Town of East Haddam Assessor.

**9 Q:** What is the interest rate on tax payments made late?

**A:** Interest is charged at the rate of 1.5 percent per month (18 percent per year) on all unpaid taxes or late payment of taxes. If you pay your taxes after Aug. 1, you will be charged interest from July 1, the date the tax was due until the tax is paid in full. There is no pro-ration of the interest charge. If, for example, you owe \$400 in property taxes and your payment is made on Aug. 10, you are charged 3 percent interest (July and August) and the \$12 interest charge is deducted first from your payment and the balance (\$388) is applied to pay the \$400 tax liability and you still owe \$12 in taxes. The \$12 in unpaid taxes continue to accrue interest at 1.5 percent per month until paid. There is a minimum interest charge of \$2 when a tax payment is late. The Association is not required to send you monthly statements of your balance. It is very important to pay your taxes on time to avoid interest charges.

**10 Q:** Does the tax collector send out monthly or quarterly statements of unpaid taxes?

**A:** The tax collector is not required to send out monthly or quarterly statements of unpaid balances

## No swimming on Monday as annual weed treatment will take place

Our lake will be treated for weeds on Monday. We ask that everyone refrain from swimming and fishing until June 26 and that you do not use lake water for irrigation, livestock watering or drinking for six days. The boat used to treat the weeds does have a small gas motor and will be on the lake Monday morning. Signs will be posted around the lake to remind everyone of this upcoming treatment.

On June 30, we will be sponsoring a presentation by Kathy Connolly, landscape designer, writer, and speaker, who loves to help people create, care for, and enjoy their home community landscapes. Connolly emphasizes earth-friendly designs, native plants and low-impact land care techniques. Her topic is titled "10 Trends and Ideas That Landscape Professionals Wished

**What: LQIC Event on Land Care.**

**When: 10 a.m., Saturday, June 30.**

**Where: First Beach Pavilion.**

Home Gardeners Knew" with an emphasis on curbing runoff into our lake. This will take place at 10 a.m. at the Pavilion.

### Property maintenance

It's that time of year when we are all back and busy with old and new projects around our properties. Please consider the health of the lake when working on your properties. Do leave rocks in place along the shore to guard against erosion. Leave naturally vege-

tated strips along the shoreline and other property lines to curb and filter runoff and to keep the geese away. Don't use herbicides and pesticides in excess and avoid it all together if possible. Please do not dump leaves, branches or any kind of organic matter in the lake. They add phosphorous and other unwanted nutrients directly into our lake. Please consider the importance of trees in our ecosystem before cutting one down. Also, sandy beaches are not good for the lake. If you have one already, reclaim the sand that has drifted into the water like your association does on our three beaches. Just adding sand every year only fills in the lake. We all have a part to play in keeping our lake healthy. Runoff starts at the top of our neighborhoods and filters down. Everything you can do to curb it is important.

## From Page 2: Tax bills will go out soon, so here is what you need to know

to property owners who are delinquent. The tax collector will send out a statement of unpaid balances in October or November. However, there is no requirement to provide periodic statements. It is the responsibility of property owners to pay their taxes on a timely basis. The process of sending demand notices for payment can be done at the tax collector's discretion, but no later than in the spring (April or May) to comply with the legal requirements to place a lien on a property for non-payment of taxes before June 30 of the current year for the delinquent taxes from the previous July 1 property tax bill. Last year, demand notices were sent out in early November. We will continue to follow this policy for the collection of delinquent taxes this year.

**11** **Q:** What if I don't have the money to pay my taxes?

**A:** You should make every effort to pay your taxes since the unpaid balance of taxes is subject to a 1.5 percent interest per month charge (18 percent per year) and the imposition of a tax lien on your property. Further collection efforts by the Association's attorney ensue with all costs of collection borne by the property owner. State law prohibits the Association from waiving or negotiating taxes, interest or fees, or from giving advice to people who are unable to pay other than to advise

them to consult with their own attorney about their rights and obligations.

**12**

**Q:** Who makes all these rules regarding tax collection?

**A:** The Association is a specially chartered tax district created by the State of Connecticut to collect taxes from Association property owners. As a tax district, the Association must comply with all of Connecticut statutes, rules and regulations regarding the levying of taxes, collection and enforcement actions regarding taxes in the same way towns do. The Association's policies and procedures are in compliance with Connecticut statutes, regulations and rules. The Association employs a law firm, Pullman and Comley, which specializes in advising towns and tax districts regarding such matters and this firm acts as the Association's collection attorney.

**13**

**Q:** Why does the Association place a lien continuance certificate on my property?

**A:** Connecticut statutes require tax collectors to place a lien continuance certificate on properties that are delinquent in the payment of taxes. There is an automatic unrecorded lien from the date of assessment, Oct. 1 on all properties as of Oct. 1, the Grand list date. This automatic unrecorded lien is called an

"inchoate" lien, which expires in 12 months. The tax collector sends a demand notice to each property owner whose taxes are unpaid following the last July 1 billing of taxes notifying the property owner that if they do not pay their taxes within 10 days, a lien continuance certificate will be placed on their property. The lien continuance certificate is good for 15 years. All costs of the placement and removal of the lien continuance certificate are borne by the property owner.

**14**

**Q:** We live part of the year outside of Connecticut and only reside in Connecticut during the warmer months. We have our mail forwarded to us by the post office, but sometimes it takes a long time to get it. What should we do if we do not get our property tax bill by July 12?

**A:** Please call the tax collector, Ed Bader, at 860-295-8769 and request a duplicate copy of the bill be sent to you.

**15**

**Q:** What if I have further questions not answered by this series of Questions and Answers?

**A:** Paying taxes is a serious responsibility. Please call or e-mail the tax collector at 860-295-8769 or e-mail [taxcollector@lakehaywardct.com](mailto:taxcollector@lakehaywardct.com) with any questions.

We are here to help you.

## New Ladies' Night Happy Hour debuts tonight at the pavilion

The Ladies' Night Happy Hour runs from 5-7 p.m. tonight at the pavilion. Bring your own beverage and an appetizer to share. We are hoping this evening is a chance for old friends to reconnect at the beginning of our season and new ones to meet. We are also hoping the evening will help those of us with similar interests, such

as tennis, gardening, playing cards etc., to plan activities together throughout the summer. Remember to only bring plastic containers to the pavilion. Hope to see you then.

This special new event is organized by the Happy Hour committee of Corinne Halliday, Linda Abel and Lynn Bagnati.

**What: Ladies' Night Happy Hour**

**When: 5-7 p.m., Saturday, June 23**

**Where: First Beach Pavilion**

## Please visit the Lake Hayward Store!



*New this year!*

**Hoodie sweatshirts**



**Baseball caps**



**White cotton Ts**

*And much more including mugs, license-plate covers, signs, decals, wine glasses and cooler bags!*

### WHERE & WHEN to find us:

**First Beach on Sunday, June 24th 9:30-noon during the POALH meeting.**

## Register to vote for Sunday's POALH June association meeting

In accordance with the charter, members of the POALH should be registered with secretary-clerk Bonnie Sudell to be able to vote at meetings and ref-

erendums. We encourage you to register so that your voice can be heard. If you have not yet registered, please complete the voting registration form in your spring

packet and return by email at [secretary@lakehaywardct.com](mailto:secretary@lakehaywardct.com) or mail to POALH, Box 230, Colchester, CT, 06415. Note that you need only register once.

## CPR class will be offered twice

Bonnie Sudell will again offer the American Heart Association's Family and Friends CPR course to Association members. The courses will run from 1-4 p.m. on Saturday, June 30, and from 9 a.m. to noon on Saturday, Aug. 4 at the First Beach Pavilion. Family and Friends is designed for those who would like to learn basic CPR and relief of choking, including families with children or elderly relatives, and those who do not need a course completion card. Course fee includes textbook and participation card. This course is three hours long and \$10 per person. Pre-registration is encouraged but not necessary. Register by emailing Sudell at [bonnies@lakehaywardct.com](mailto:bonnies@lakehaywardct.com) with your name, lake address and phone number.

## Garbage collection runs twice-weekly through Sept. 4

All-Waste Control is now collecting trash and recyclables twice a week (Monday and Friday) during the summer. The last twice a week pickup will be Tuesday, Sept. 4 after which pickup will be on Fridays only. The Town of East Haddam has implemented "single stream recycling" so it is no longer necessary to separate the various recyclables into separate containers and/or put them out on separate days.

All recyclables can be combined and placed into a single container and put out with your regular trash. We must recycle:

- Glass and metal food and beverage containers (rinsed); lids go in trash (No broken glass, mugs, windowpanes, ceramics, light bulbs, mirrors, dishes or tempered glass)
- Plastic containers No. 1 through No. 7 (rinsed); lids go in trash

- Newspaper, magazines, cereal/pasta boxes, milk and juice cartons, junk mail (No phone books, wax or plastic coated cardboard, soiled newspaper or magazines, books, plastic (Tyvek) envelopes)

- Cardboard (broken down) (No wax coated boxes, soiled boxes, pizza boxes)
- Garbage should not be left uncovered for more than one day to prevent animals from getting into them.

Please contact All-Waste Control at 860-873-9005 with any questions.

## *Beach Rules*



1. Parents or chaperones are responsible for their child’s safety and their child’s actions at all times.
2. Children cannot be left at the beach unattended.
3. Infants must be in leak-proof diapers at all times.
4. No fishing from the beach and within 25 feet of swim area.
5. Dogs are never allowed on the beach.
6. Vehicles are not allowed on any beach at any time.
7. No glass on any beach or in the pavilion.
8. All trash must be removed from the beach and beach area and disposed of properly.
9. Use of the beach and beach area is limited to Association members and their guests.
10. Cars parking in a beach parking area must display a current POALH parking permit.
11. Beaches and Association properties are closed from Midnight to 6 a.m. Police take notice.
12. No smoking on the beaches.

## *Contacts*

Cari Eckert — President/First Beach Representative	860-268-1834; carie@lakehaywardct.com
Bonnie Sudell — Secretary/Second Beach Representative/Public Safety	860-678-1392/860-836-5245; bonnies@lakehaywardct.com
Neil Murphy — Third Beach Representative	860-463-0026; neilm@lakehaywardct.com
Gary Petersen — Properties Committee/Representative At Large	860-674-0744/860-324-9029; garyp@lakehaywardct.com
Jan DePratti — Representative At Large/Water Testing	860-578-5850; jand@lakehaywardct.com
Bill Taylor — Third Beach Representative	860-537-0480; williamt@lakehaywardct.com
Adam Thompson — First Beach Representative	860-214-1030; adamt@lakehaywardct.com
Corinne Halliday — Representative At Large/LQIC chairwoman	203-209-3352; corinneh@lakehaywardct.com
Sue Martin — Pavilion reservations/Social Events	events@lakehaywardct.com
Mike Trocchi — Newsletter and Website	webmaster@lakehaywardct.com
Lee Griffin — Treasurer	860-656-6938; treasurer@lakehaywardct.com
Ed Bader — Tax Collector	860-295-8769/860-214-9288; taxcollector@lakehaywardct.com
Jason Griffing — E-mail alerts/membership directory /Second Beach Representative	jasong@lakehaywardct.com
Moira Boone—Promotional Items	mfboone@optimum.net
Pavilion reservations	treasurer@lakehaywardct.com
Resident State Trooper	860-537-7500
East Haddam Police	860-873-1226
Confidential Tip Line	860-873-5013
Connecticut Water Company	800-286-5700
All-Waste Control	860-873-9005
Correspondence and Tax Payments	president@lakehaywardct.com or taxcollector@lakehaywardct.com

## *News and Notes: Classified submission guidelines and reflective markers to be sold*

Classified ads will only run one week, but can be resubmitted each week. No advertising of professional businesses or services will be allowed. The board reserves the right to modify format, graphics or text as necessary to meet publishing guidelines.

### **Reflective Markers**

Members of the East Haddam Volunteer Fire Department will be at our June meeting Sunday to show you the reflective address markers that they are promoting to

help them find your address in case of emergency.

Priced at only \$15, they are an important tool for firefighters, police and other emergency medical responders.

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**Property Owners' Association of Lake Hayward**  
**June Meeting - Sunday, June 24, 2018**  
**Agenda**

- Opening Remarks
- Roll Call of the Board of Governors
- Reading and acceptance of August 20, 2017 Annual Meeting Minutes
- Financial Reports
  - Treasurer
  - Tax Collector
  - Budget
- Reports of the Board of Governors
  - President
  - Secretary-Clerk Update
  - Others
- Reports of Committees
  - LQIC
  - Public Safety
  - Properties
  - Social/Recreation
  - Others
- Unfinished Business
- New Business
  - Bylaws
  - New Business from the floor
- Announcements
- Adjournment

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**Newsletter Submission Guidelines**

Send your submissions to [secretary@lakehaywardct.com](mailto:secretary@lakehaywardct.com). Deadline for submissions is Sunday at 6 p.m.

Present your submission using the following formatting:

- Word document
- Garamond 10-point type

- Single space after punctuation
- ½ page = maximum of 420 words
- 1 page = maximum of 840 words

Graphics and photos in .jpg format only

**Property Owners Association Lake Hayward**  
**Annual Meeting**  
**August 20, 2017**  
**Page 1 of 4**

The meeting was called to order at 10:04 a.m. at the pavilion by President Cari Eckert. Present at the roll call of the Board of Governors were Cari Eckert, Corinne Halliday, Gail Miers, Gary Petersen, Don Smith, Bonnie Sudell, Bill Taylor and Adam Thompson. Also present was Ed Bader, Tax Collector. There were 82 registered members present.

Acceptance of June 25, 2017 Minutes: A motion was made, seconded and passed to waive the reading of the minutes. A motion was made, seconded and passed to accept the minutes.

Introductory Remarks: Cari reminded members that they must be registered with the Secretary-Clerk to vote. Those registered who checked in this morning received a colored piece of paper to hold up when voting.

Cari also went over protocols for speaking at the meeting. She asked that you raise your hand, wait for the microphone to be brought to you, state your name and address and speak for no more than five minutes on a topic.

Financial Reports:

Treasurer's Report: Ed Bader gave the report in Lee Griffin's absence. He referred members to the report in the August 19, 2017 newsletter for details. The report was also posted on the kiosks and on the web site and available on the sign-in table. Ed said that copies of our annual financial review were also available.

Tax Collector: Ed reported that, for the second year in a row, 100% of taxes billed was collected. For this fiscal year, 94% of taxes have been collected, with about \$13,000 still due.

Reports of the Board of Governors:

President's Report: Cari reported that this year had been very difficult as no one stepped forward to take on the position of recreation/events chair. She did thank the volunteers who took on individual events during the season and Don Smith, for developing a system for sponsoring events. She urged the membership to step up and volunteer for the position.

Cari talked about the Board's efforts to develop a strategic plan. This plan included items that could fall under our normal operating budget, as well as those that would be considered capital improvements. She said that the Board developed a list of things that either needed to be done or would be beneficial if done, and attempted to prioritize them. Among items discussed were improvements to Third Beach, including a walkway and fence, improvements to the Second and Third Beach parking lots, storage sheds and a jon boat. Items considered that were deemed to be too expensive included a machine to groom the beaches, a full-time maintenance person and leaf pickup for the entire lake community. Future expenses considered included dam and spillway maintenance, hiring of a limnologist to help develop a lake management plan and an EPA nine element plan, additional docks and boat storage, tennis court maintenance and basketball court improvements. Items considered a high priority as well as not part of our normal operating budget included rebuilding and maintaining our drains/outflows, muck remediation and outside property maintenance.

Cari said that she was hopeful that the current method of newsletter distribution at kiosks was acceptable to the community, but that the Board would revisit the issue over the winter. The decision to stop newsletter delivery this summer was based partly on cost and partly on an on-line survey of 211 members; 136 said that they did not want door to door delivery, and 75 wished to continue with Saturday morning delivery. As with the position of recreation/social chair, no one stepped up to coordinate newsletter delivery this year. Other factors in stopping door to door delivery included

## **POALH Annual Meeting, August 20, 2017, p.2 of 4**

threats made to the children delivering and complaints about newsletters piling up at the doors of infrequently used cottages.

Properties: Gary Petersen said that many projects had been completed at Third Beach, including two ramps and associated railings and new boat racks. A forty foot storage unit, located behind the firehouse in the ballfield was purchased to store our porta potties, our jon boat, swim lines and other items. Twenty-eight yards of sand was reclaimed at Second Beach. New handicap accessible porta potties were purchased for each beach, with an additional porta potty for First Beach. A new pad for the porta potty at Third Beach was in the works as well as fencing around the porta potty. There are plans to expand the Third Beach parking lot (including tree removal), put asphalt millings down on the Second Beach parking lot, removal of dead and dying trees at First and Second Beach and ten additional new replacement street signs. Construction of new picnic tables as well as staining of existing tables was in the works. Gary thanked Bill Taylor for his help watching over the projects at Third Beach. Bill Taylor thanked all the volunteers who helped with small projects at Third Beach during the work parties the previous weekend.

Gary responded to concerns from Tadd Wamester about the Second Beach raft floating away twice over the summer. He said that the first time someone intentionally removed the new chains and weights, and the second time the bracket broke. The raft now has new chains, brackets and weights. Gary said that the Board is also looking at getting an additional sign with our rules and regulations to be posted on Second Beach, as signage is now only in the parking lot.

LQIC: There was a comment made about an invasive plant (dodder) growing along the lagoon area of Second Beach as well as near the outflows of First Beach. Corinne Halliday thanked those who volunteered to remove the plants. She also thanked everyone on the LQIC, including those from the East Shore community. In response to concerns about beach closings due to e coli, Corinne stated that it was hard to pinpoint the cause of the high levels. Many factors, including heavy rains contributed to the levels.

Corinne postponed the permit to discharge drawing, as many members stated that they had not received paperwork after having their septic tanks pumped out. She asked members to look for the new drawing date in the newsletter.

Mary LaPorte requested that we have a speaker from the Eight Mile River Watershed.

The water testing locations and procedures were explained. Testing is done every Tuesday, with results on Wednesday. High reading areas are retested and beaches are not closed unless there are two consistently high readings. Two areas that have shown high e coli readings include the south end of First Beach and the north end of Third Beach. Bob Sudell reminded members that a high reading in one area does not mean that the entire lake has high readings but the Board closes beaches as a precaution.

Public Safety: Bonnie Sudell said that the majority of the money in the budget for the past few years, and going forward, were for patrols. Officers were effective stopping drivers for speeding and stop sign violations. She urged people to lock their car doors and not leave valuables in their cars.

Social/Recreation: Don Smith, although not the chair, detailed the events that had taken place in the last year and the events planned for the upcoming year. Adam asked for help for the carnival and beach games. Don thanked all of the volunteers and urged someone to take over the role of supervising social/rec.

Presentation of 2018-19 Budget: Ed Bader directed members to the August 12, 2017 newsletter, which detailed the proposed budget. The proposed budget was also posted on the bulletin boards, on the kiosks and on the website. Ed thanked the budget committee, made up of Kim Jonah, Dave Edgington, John Eckert, Lee Griffin and Gail Miers. He explained the process of meeting with committee chairs and others responsible for line items in developing the budget, including preliminary presentation at our Town Hall and submission to the Board for review and approval. He said that the budget assumes a mil rate of 4.6, although the Town is undergoing a revaluation and we can't estimate what that will do to the grand list.



## **POALH Annual Meeting, August 20, 2017, p.3 of 4**

He said that there had been a couple of changes in reserves. The proposed budget does not include an increase in capital reserves of \$25,000. He said that the committee recommended a contingency reserve of \$10,000 be given to the Board. He also stated that the committee recommended reducing the promotions reserve from \$5,000 to \$1,000.

Gail Edgington asked how the committee could consider raising our taxes by 30%. Cari replied that the decision made two years ago when we increased our tax collection rate to 100% to return the money to property owners lowered our mil rate. The Board felt at the time that the money should not be kept in reserves. We now have a better idea of the projects that need to be completed and their costs.

Dave Edgington asked about the grant we have received in the past from the Town. Ed said that we got it last year but we cannot count on it going forward. Dave said that he thought, due to the uncertainty of the State's budget, we should not have the Town grant in the budget. He also disagreed with the Board's decision, while reviewing the Budget Committee's proposal, to increase the Properties' budget from \$30,000 to \$40,000. He felt that the Association was too aggressive on projects. Gary explained that \$5,000 additional had been added to clear rights-of-ways. He said that \$5,000 had been added to the landscaping budget to include maintenance of rights-of ways and other changes in the scope of their work.

Diane Nelson suggested that a work party be scheduled to clear the rights-of-ways as they were a safety issue.

Bob Sudell commented that there was a greater demand for services now with many newer and younger families, and pointed to the increase in the number of boat racks as an example of the need. Leisha Spencer thanked the Budget Committee and Board for what they did.

Gary commented that although many members said that they would volunteer for tasks, when he called them for work parties, they were not available. He hoped that more work parties would take place in 2018 but that it was necessary to subcontract some of the work to get it done.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the 2018-19 budget. It passed 67 for to 8 against.

Special Project Proposal – Third Beach Dredging: Gail Miers, who worked with Bill Taylor and Corinne Halliday, reviewed the muck situation at Third Beach and its effects on the water quality and usable beach area. A preliminary estimate of \$28,000 was received to dredge the area. Gail made a motion to allocate up to \$41,000 (including a 10% contingency) to remove muck from Third Beach, subject to the Association's bidding process. The motion was seconded. Ed clarified that the Association was using the same process for this project as it had done for the Second Beach dredging project. Peter Paschke asked if other options had been explored, other than dredging, and expressed concerns about the stagnant water. Gail explained that the stagnant water promoted muck development, necessitating placement of the raft farther out each year and that removal was necessary. Diane Nelson commented that property owners needed to dispose of leaves and other organic materials responsibly and urged passage of the motion. The motion passed 65 for to 4 against.

### Unfinished Business:

Bylaw Revisions: Cari asked for a motion to waive the reading of the changes. A motion was made, seconded and passed. Cari asked for a motion to accept the bylaw changes. It was made, seconded and passed.

### New Business:

Outgoing Board Members: Cari thanked Gail Miers and Don Smith for their service on the Board.

Present Board members Adam Thompson and Jason Griffing agreed to serve another term. Janet DePratti and Neil Murphy stepped forward to fill vacancies.

Board of Governor Nominations: Cari presented the following slate of new members to the Board of Governors: Jason Griffing as Second Beach Rep with term expiring 2019; Janet DePratti as Rep at

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Large with term expiring 2020; Adam Thompson as First Beach Rep with term expiring 2019 and Neil Murphy as Third Beach Rep with term expiring 2019. Continuing in their terms were Bill Taylor as Third Beach Rep with term expiring 2018; Cari Eckert as First Beach Rep with term expiring 2018; Bonnie Sudell as Second Beach Rep with term expiring 2018; Corinne Halliday as Rep at Large with term expiring 2019 and Gary Petersen as Rep at Large with term expiring 2018. There were no nominations from the floor and the slate was accepted as presented.

Board Dinner: A motion was made, seconded and passed that the Board of Governors and their significant others go out to dinner.

Other: Linda Abel requested that First Beach be rototilled to remove grass. She also asked that beach goers leave the barriers on the water line in place. She asked that the Board consider letting people walk their dogs on the beach in the early morning to scare the geese.

Cari asked that we recognize Mike Trocchi for his hard work on the website and newsletter.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:50.

Respectfully submitted,

Bonnie F. Sudell  
Recording Secretary