

Property Owners Association of Lake Hayward
June 25, 2017 Meeting
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The meeting was called to order at 10:02 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, Jason Griffing, Don Smith, Bonnie Sudell, Bill Taylor and Adam Thompson. Also present were Ed Bader, Tax Collector and Lee Griffin, Treasurer. There were 70 registered members present.

Minutes: A motion was made, seconded and passed to waive the reading of the August 21, 2016 Annual Meeting Minutes. A motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes. Bonnie Sudell stated that she had made a mistake in reporting the new slate of the Board of Governors. The minutes were accepted as amended.

Financial Reports:

Treasurer: Lee Griffin referred members to the June 24, 2017 newsletter for details of his report. He reported that, through the efforts of the LQIC, the POALH had received monies from both East Shore residents and from the Town of East Haddam. Through the efforts of our Tax Collector, 100% of taxes have been collected. He remarked that we donate \$100 each year to the East Haddam Volunteer Fire Department. He had copies of the financial review from our CPA for anyone interested.

Tax Collector: Ed Bader reiterated that for the second year in a row, 100% of taxes billed have been collected. The new tax bills will go out later this week. He encouraged members to vote on the East Haddam budget July 25th. He urged members to provide us with their current addresses, while reminding all that there is no excuse for not paying taxes. There was a question regarding the Properties budget. Lee reported that Properties has an operating budget for on-going activities and a capital budget for large projects. A storage container was purchased this year to store swim lines, ladders, construction materials, the jon boat, and other items.

Budget Committee: Ed Bader reported that the committee had been meeting and the proposed budget would be ready for the August meeting. Members who wished to preview the budget were encouraged to attend the Town Meeting in July.

Reports of the Board of Governors:

President: Cari addressed comments that some members didn't think they should be paying for services that they did not take advantage of. She reminded members that improvements keep everyone's property values up and enhance the safety of the beaches and surrounding areas. Cari commented that we are looking for new Board members and that you didn't have to live in CT year-round to be on the Board. Cari skypes when she is in Florida. She is particularly looking for someone she can train as Vice President to take over as President.

Cari talked briefly about the responsibilities of each Board member, starting with Corinne Halliday, rep at large, chair of the LQIC. Gary Petersen, rep at large is chair of the Properties Committee. Gail Miers, 3rd beach rep and past president, is heading up the Glimmer Glen initiative. Jason Griffing, rep at large, is responsible for web updates and electronic communications. Don Smith, 2nd beach rep, past events chair, is still helping with events. Bonnie Sudell, 2nd beach rep, is the Secretary-Clerk, Public Safety chair and Recording Secretary. Bill Taylor, 3rd beach rep, is involved in Properties and the Glimmer Glen project. Adam Thompson, 1st beach rep, has coordinated many of the "fun" activities over the summer. Ed Bader, in addition to being our Tax Collector, is our general advisor, contracts negotiator and liaison to our legal counsel. Lee Griffin, our Treasurer, also monitors the POALH mailbox. Mike Trocchi manages the website behind the scenes.

Cari commented on the difficulty getting volunteers and the fact that those who did volunteer were retired or close to retirement. As a result, the Board is starting to look at the option of outsourcing some of the responsibilities to a property management company.

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Over the winter, the Board looked at various strategic projects, based on a 2015 survey and ideas of the Board itself. Cost, criticality, impact on the POALH, feasibility and other concerns were and continue to be looked at. Leaf removal, property maintenance, the EPA 9 point plan, dredging, Glimmer Glen and other road maintenance, outflow maintenance and aerators were among the ideas looked at. The Board hopes to bring projects to the membership for vote as research is completed. Bill Wamester asked for additional crosswalks. Cari replied that identifying and painting the crosswalks was on the list of things that the Town planned to do this summer. Peter Paschke expressed his ongoing concerns with the dangerous curves on Lake Shore Drive and asked that we consider ways to slow traffic. Kathy Sabo asked for clarification as to what roads were owned by the POALH. Glimmer Glen is the only road that belongs to the POALH. Pilgrim Way is not an official right of way, but owned by the members whose property abuts it. Sara Bares wanted to be sure that there would be signage identifying the crosswalks. Bill Taylor replied that the Town will be installing signs. Linda Abel commented on the dangerous drop off by First Beach and the dead trees that we are waiting to have removed. Gary Petersen is aware of the problem and working on it. Al Andrews expressed his concerns about fire safety. Charlie Hooper had some general questions, as he is a new property owner. They were addressed.

Secretary-Clerk: Bonnie Sudell reminded members that they must register with the Secretary-Clerk to be able to vote at meetings and referendums.

Report of Committees:

LQIC: Corinne thanked Felicia Tencza and Randy Miller for their assistance as she took over as chair of the committee. She said that in addition to monitoring the lake water quality, education was a big part of the committee. The rain garden clinic, organized by Felicia and held last week, was a success. She announced that the lake would be treated Monday. After attending the CT Federation of Lakes conference recently, Corinne had a greater appreciation of the efforts of Felicia and Randy, in that we are very far ahead of many CT lakes in maintaining water quality. Phil Sabo asked why we could not treat the water earlier in the season. The herbicide that we use is a contact herbicide and must be applied when the weeds are vigorously growing. David Spencer urged members to call DEEP if we see vessels with combustion engines who do not have their entire prop out of the water. Felicia stated that, per State regulations, the prop should actually be removed. Peter Paschke commented that we all must take responsibility. Linda Abel commented that East Shore residents must take responsibility too.

Public Safety: Bonnie Sudell thanked Captain Jeremy Schumann and Kevin Ruty, representatives of the East Haddam Volunteer Fire Department, who were at the meeting to take orders for reflective address markers. She urged members to invest the \$15 so that fire, police and emergency responders can find you. Bonnie also reminded members that the red hang tag parking permits were the only valid permits when parking on Association property. She stated that, in addition to regular patrols, the East Haddam Police have been hired for various events and for random patrols throughout the season.

Bonnie urged members to lock their car doors and hide valuables. There have been a number of break-ins this summer and they were all crimes of opportunity. Unlocked cars, valuables in sight – open invitation! She also asked members to call the Police if they saw anything or anyone suspicious.

Bonnie asked members to contact Gary Petersen if the AED started to beep, not to call 911. The battery in our AED needed to be replaced, but it is back in working order now.

Two Family and Friends CPR classes will be offered this summer – July 22nd and August 19th.

Bonnie asked those with pontoon boats and other vessels powered by electric motors to watch their speed and be aware of other watercraft and swimmers in the lake.

Bonnie reminded members that our Treasurer, Lee Griffin has green boat stickers. All boats on Association property should be marked with your address and have a boat sticker for identification

purposes. She also asked members to make a note of your boat's make, model and serial number in case it is stolen or breaks free from its location.

In response to an earlier question, Bonnie reminded members that we are in a rural area and are not hydranted so it is very important to call 911 immediately in case of fire.

Dan Andrews asked that we put Gary Petersen's contact information on the AED. It will be done.

Bill Wamester was concerned about people parking in the street on narrow roads. Bonnie replied that if it was a safety concern for emergency vehicles to get through, call the regular Police telephone number.

Fran Fantozzi asked if we were checking the boats on the boat rack for stickers. The Board would love to have a volunteer from the community do this.

Properties: Bill Taylor reported that we had purchased a storage container, to be kept at the ball field, behind the firehouse. Numerous trees are in the process of being removed, either by the Town or private contractors. Sand has been reclaimed at Second Beach and returned to the beach area. The Third Beach ramps are nearing completion, and the pad for the Third Beach handicap porta-pottie has been poured. Fencing for the porta-pottie will be ordered soon. There are no plans at this time to replace the turtle crossing sign on Lake Shore Drive that has been stolen. We are considering painting a crossing sign in the road.

Bill asked that members not touch the chains, brackets or anything else associated with the rafts. Contact properties with any issues. If you see someone tampering with the rafts, take responsibility and call.

Asphalt shavings will be put down on the Second Beach parking lot and the handicap access will be improved.

In the future, the 8x15 garden area at Third Beach will be planted. Also the Third Beach parking lot will be graded and enlarged, with new stone added.

The part-time maintenance worker, hired this spring, did not work out.

Bill thanked everyone who did any volunteer work around the beaches and other areas.

Phil Sabo commented on how much of your property, from the street, belonged to the Town.

Peter Paschke asked for clarification on what trees were being removed and why. Bill replied that all of the trees that were being removed were either already dead, or dying.

Sheila Laverty was concerned about the location of the new handicap porta-pottie on Third Beach.

The existing porta-pottie is in a dangerous location and not handicapped accessible.

Tadd Wamester asked that we look into additional signs at each beach that are visible from the beach. The signs in place now are visible from the road only.

Social/Recreation: Cari reminded members that we are still looking for someone to chair this committee. Don Smith has done an excellent job and has all the mechanisms in place for the next chair. Don remarked that the calendar was full and that we should refer to the website for updates. Many members have stepped up to sponsor individual events. Adam spoke briefly about the events he was planning. Heather spoke about the triathlon and the carnival. Linda Abel talked about her new event – a doggie costume contest.

Bonnie Sudell was reminded that she didn't mention our new street signs in her Public Safety report. We started with the signs that were missing or damaged to the point of no repair, and plan to replace ten or so a year. Jason held up one of the new signs, which look like the old ones but are reflective and of composite material. David Spencer suggested that we auction off the old signs as they are replaced. The Board thought that this was a great idea and will save the old signs.

Newsletter: Jason said that some members commented that, since they were receiving the newsletter on-line, they didn't want a printed copy. Every year it is harder to find someone to coordinate and harder to find kids to distribute the paper. There were also complaints about newsletters piling up on properties that were not being used regularly. It cost us \$3,700 last year to print the newsletter. A survey completed by 210 members over the winter resulted in 136 saying they wanted email only and 74 stating that they wanted the newsletter delivered. The Board was very

divided on the issue, with the vote to stop delivery 5 for and 4 against. As a result, for this year anyway, the newsletter is now sent electronically to those whose email address we have and is posted on the website, with a nominal number of copies available at the kiosks at each beach. There was lively discussion on both sides of the matter, from Dick Percival, Rich Harmon, Susan Martin, Roland DePratti and Corinne Halliday. The Board said that they would reassess after the season and welcomed member feedback on this very emotional issue. Don Andrews commented that we should look at the impact of not delivering and see how participation is at various events. Fran Fantozzi asked that the calendar be included in the next newsletter.

New Business:

Bylaws: Gail presented the bylaw change, essentially a procedural change in light of our new email and document storage system. There was no discussion so the bylaw will be voted on at the August Annual Meeting.

Water Company: Dick Bertella asked if any work was being done at the lake this year. He was concerned about Lookout Drive and Briarcliff. Cari stated that CT Water has no plans to work at the lake this year. Betty Metcalf stated that there was a problem last week with brown water on Lake Shore Drive. Cari asked that concerns be sent to her via email.

The East Haddam Volunteer firefighters addressed Al Andrews' concerns about fire prevention. They said that tanker shuttles from Salem and Colchester would supplement the response from East Haddam, using the dry hydrants on the lake. The hydrant on Wildwood/Longwood is for water company use only.

Nancy Andrews asked that we put something together for those who rent their property, so that renters know the rules. She also wanted the Board to revisit the use of the refrigerator for those who rent the pavilion.

As the infestation of gypsy moths was so severe this year, and will possibly be so again next year, Ann Beauregard asked that we consider something in the spring packet next year relative to the gypsy moth caterpillars.

Sheila Lavery expressed her concerns again with the location of the new Third Beach porta-pottie. Cari reminded members that Moira Boone was selling promotional products in the back of the pavilion.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:55 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Bonnie F. Sudell
Recording Secretary