

POALH Board of Governors
Meeting Minutes
September 5, 2018

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by Janet DePratti at the home of Bonnie Sudell, 113 Lake Shore Drive, East Haddam. Board members in attendance were Jeffrey Conway, Janet DePratti, Jason Griffing, Corinne Halliday, Gary Petersen and Bonnie Sudell. Ed Bader, Tax Collector, Lee Griffin, Treasurer, John Eckert, Budget Committee, Dave Edgington, Budget Committee, Kim Jonah, Budget Committee, Felicia Tencza and Tish Magao also attended.

Janet DePratti agreed to run the meeting.

A motion was made to suspend the normal order of business to act on the approved membership motion regarding the 2019-20 POALH Budget. The motion was seconded, and after discussion, passed.

Budget Discussion: Dave Edgington suggested that the Social Budget be reduced by \$4,000, and that the stipends for the property manager (\$8,000) and financial advisor (\$987) be eliminated. There was discussion that the Properties Chair is a volunteer position requiring coordination of work projects requested by the membership, bidding out of projects, providing ongoing maintenance, all the while dealing with the lack of volunteers. The intent of the property manager position was to manage the needed projects.

Lee Griffin stated that he did not want an increase in the Assistant Secretary's stipend. The merits of the financial advisor stipend were discussed. This person would review questions and concerns before contacting our attorney, act as liaison with our attorney and perform insurance contract negotiations among other tasks. It was suggested that this be a new line item rather than adding it to the Tax Collector duties, as it might be performed by someone else in the future.

John Eckert suggested that we keep as much of the original budget intact as possible. He suggested that we reduce the Capital Reserves increase by \$8,000, reduce capital improvements by \$3,000 and reduce the Social budget.

Felicia stated that we had overbilled members July 1st. She said that the mill rate should have been reduced because the new grand list was approximately 5% higher than the previous grand list. She said that it was a breach of fiduciary duty and questioned if the Board had the authority to bill for a greater dollar amount that approved.

Corinne suggested that we do not touch the stipend increases of the existing stipends, but that we decrease the Social budget. Jeff Conway suggested that Courtney Harmon was interested in coordinating family and kids' events and that Evelyn Passan was interested in coordinating adult events such as bands and that the two of them could work out their budget.

There was also a suggestion to cut all expenses by 6%.

A motion was made and seconded to eliminate the property manager position (\$8,000), reduce the Social budget by \$2,000 and reduce the Capital Improvements budget by

\$1,370. After discussion the Board voted unanimously to approve these changes to the 2019-20 Budget.

Dave Edgington asked that he have permission to buy a french fry maker, as there was considerable interest. The Board requested that he come back with a price.

Minutes: The minutes of the August 15, 2018 Board of Governor's meeting were approved.

Financial Reports:

Treasurer: Lee reported that he was still waiting for receipts from Lake Hayward Days before he could give us a complete report. He had recently paid our insurance (\$20,985) and had invoices for the fencing around the Second Beach porta pottie, Police patrols and American Pride. He will send the Board a formal report when available.

Tax Collector: Ed reported that as of August 31st 95% of taxes had been collected. Statements have been sent out to delinquent taxpayers.

Election of President, Vice President and Secretary-Clerk: Bonnie Sudell was elected Secretary-Clerk. Gary made a motion which was seconded and passed to table discussion on the election of President and Vice President and to hold a Special Meeting with all nine Board members in attendance to elect the above positions.

Felicia suggested that the Board should have a Town Hall meeting in advance of the August Annual Meeting to discuss the budget.

Committee Reports:

A motion was made, seconded and passed to table Committee Reports except for Properties. Jan asked that she be able to give a report on Technology. It was agreed. Properties: Gary has a price to repair the damage to the stone wall at First Beach and a few other little areas for \$1,855.

He has received five inquiries regarding the two docks that we are going to sell. The Board must approve the sale of the docks. A motion was made, seconded and passed to sell the docks for a minimum price of \$2,500 each. They will be offered to Association members and Lake Hayward residents first. Jeffrey offered to put them on Facebook if Gary had no luck.

Technology: Jan deleted the previous Board of Governors group and created a new one. She is working on coordinating the documentation there and securing it on One Drive.

She is looking for suggestions on where the water testing documentation should be. She emphasized that all Board members should be using the lakehaywardct email for Board communications.

New Business:

The drivers of a red van parked on the street by First Beach have been warned not to park there. There have also been multiple warnings to other vehicles improperly parked.

Lee suggested getting a laptop for the Treasurer. The Board asked him to come back with a price.

Felicia stated that Cari said at the Annual Meeting that she would bring to our attorney the issue of overtaxing July 1st. She reiterated that we did not adjust the bills to reflect the new grand list, that we did not have the authority to bill as we did and that it was illegal to overcharge the membership. She said that reducing the budget two years down the road was a problem as some might not be here. Ed remarked that this was the first Board Meeting since the Annual Meeting. A motion was made, seconded and passed to approach our attorney.

Jeff stated that Sandra Zawistowski would like a red beach tree planted in her memory.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Bonnie F. Sudell
Recording Secretary