

## POALH June Meeting Meeting Minutes June 28, 2020

The meeting was called to order at 10:02 am by Bonnie Sudell at The POALH Pavilion, Lake Shore Drive, East Haddam, CT. Board members in attendance: Cindy Biancamano, Jeff Conway, Janet DePratti, Hema DeSilva, Jason Griffing, Gary Petersen, Kathy Sabo, Bonnie Sudell & Bill Taylor.

Association members in attendance: Lee Griffin – Treasurer and 46 association members.

Invited Guests: Karl Acimovic, Engineer

Total in Attendance: 57 attendees – 49 registered voters, 7 unregistered voters & 1 guest. A quorum for the meeting is constituted with over 40 voting members present.

**Opening Remarks:** Bonnie Sudell asked attendees not to reposition the chairs as they have been set up to respect the social distancing guidelines. Protocols for the meeting were as follows: You must be registered to participate in the meeting and to vote. Please use the piece of paper to vote. Please raise your hand to speak on a topic. Please state your name and address and limit comments to two or three minutes. Please refrain from debate so everyone has a chance to speak. Please be polite and respectful and contribute in a positive way to be part of a solution.

**Minutes:** *A motion was made, seconded and passed to waive the reading of the August 18, 2019 association meeting minutes. A motion was made & seconded to accept the August 18, 2019 association meeting minutes. Janet DePratti would like to amend the minutes to reflect that there were 134 in attendance with 117 being registered voters. A motion was made, seconded and passed to accept the August 18, 2019 association meeting minutes as amended. The minutes will be posted on the website as amended.*

### Financial Reports

- **Treasurer:** Lee Griffin indicated that a hard copy of his financial report was on page 6 of the June 27, 2020 POALH newsletter that all members receive. He reported that he will be leaving the books open for a couple of more weeks as he is waiting for a couple of more invoices that need to be placed in the June financial statement. Please email the treasurer at [treasurer@lakehaywardct.com](mailto:treasurer@lakehaywardct.com) if you would like to review the books. Everything is up to date and a financial statement from the CPA will be available at the August association meeting.
- **Tax Collector:** In Ed Bader's absence Lee Griffin reported that 100% of the taxes for the 2019-2020 year have been collected. Bonnie Sudell indicated that the tax bills for this year would be going out in the next few weeks with a notice that payment will be deferred until October 1, 2020 as we follow the guidelines from East Haddam.
- **Budget:** Lee Griffin reported that the budget committee will be meeting in the next couple of weeks.

### Reports of the Board of Governors

- **President:** Bonnie Sudell thanked the following: Cari Eckert for putting together the Spring packet; Mike Trocchi for the newsletter and website; Jan DePratti for proofreading the newsletter; Ed Bader for wearing many hats as tax collector, budget committee, financial advisor, works with Town of East Haddam, insurance liaison, lawyer liaison, reviews contracts and much more; Lee Griffin for being the treasurer; Moira Boone for LH store and going virtual with that this year; Mike Kupis and family for taking care of the beaches; Cindy Biancamano for the bird houses at each beach in memory of Alice Miles; all the board members past and present. Bonnie reminded everyone that the board is all volunteer and all association members are welcome to attend any and all board meetings. There is a lot of association information and schedules that can be found on the website. Bonnie also reminded association members that money not spent in the current budget year are used to reduce the tax burden two years down the road. Bonnie invited all association members to attend the town hall meeting scheduled for July 18, 2020 when Karl Acimovic, the engineer in charge of the dam renovations, will be on hand to answer all questions regarding the dam. Swim lessons will be able to continue in the future provided that the swim instructor meets certain specifications set forth by our insurance company. Our past swim instructor is unavailable for next season. Rights of Way and POALH properties have been being surveyed and there is one homeowner who is disputing our survey but has indicated that he will be getting his own survey. The board is waiting for that survey at this time.  
Lynn Macri, 38 Lookout Drive asked if we could find someone else who might be able to be a swim instructor that would follow the new guidelines set forth. She would like to get a committee together following the new rules and regulations to obtain a swim instructor. The board will get the rules and regulations to her.  
Bonnie reminded association members there are no dogs allowed on the beach and the POALH does not permit fireworks on their property.

Linda Ryder, 41 Lookout Drive commented that it is a problem that people are lighting the fireworks off from their own property. She inquired if the board could fine people for lighting off the fireworks. Gary Petersen recommended that she call the police.

- **Secretary-Clerk:** Nothing to report.

### Committee Reports

- **Nominating Committee:** Mary LaPorte, One Longwood Drive commented that this year especially the lake has been a special refuge for many people. We need to work together. We need the volunteers and the board of governors. Please consider coming forward to volunteer to be a board member when you see the notices. You can contact Gail Miers, John Eckert or Mary to find out a little more about what you can do to help make this the refuge and fun place that it is.
- **Events:** Jeff Conway reported that the newsletters have started to be delivered. Some events have been cancelled such as kiddie bingo, children's crafts and some other events. The bands will still be going forward with no dancing under the pavilion. Jeff wanted you to know that anyone in the association can sponsor an event. That means you plan it, set it up and clean up after it. Please see him if you have an idea and he will bring it to the board. Other events planned include yoga and adult crafts. These events will have social distancing, and everyone is reminded to wear a mask. Volunteers are always needed. The carnival is 8 weeks away and Jeff would like to see it done a different way instead of cancelling it. There will be a committee of several people to come up with a proposal to bring to the board to keep adults and children safe so that a small carnival could be held. Evelyn Passan 327 Lakeshore Drive inquired about the fact that she did not receive the electronic newsletter this year but always received it ok in the past. She was advised to check her spam folder.
- **Properties:** Gary Petersen reported that the street signs are about  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the way complete thanking Dave Edgington, Phil Sabo and Lee Griffin for their help. This project will continue and be done by the end of summer. They do have to order more signs. The old cedar posts are down at the ballfield in case anyone would like them. Work is continuing on the right-of ways to make them passable. New sand was put on all three beaches this year. A new walkway is being put in at third beach. New LED lights were put in the parking lot. Projects coming up will be: an additional boat rack at first beach; the right-of-way stairs on Wildwood; a new Lake Hayward sign at the south end; basketball court repaved; pressure wash the pavilion. There is a metal file cabinet that anyone can have.  
Lynn Macri, 38 Lookout Drive appreciates that the rights-of-way have been cleaned but they are not being kept up and are all overgrown. Please maintain them. Gary Petersen will look into it.  
Paula DeSilva, 24 Glimmer Glenn commented that there is a right-of-way there that needs to be cleared. Gary Petersen indicated he is working his way down to that area.  
Keith Marvin 17 Ridgewood Rd inquired if there could be better signage for Ridgewood Rd and Ridgewood Rd Ext. as UPS/mail deliveries are often confused for those roads.  
Lisa Hober, 100 Wildwood would like to know if the raft at Little Beach would be going out. It is in very bad shape anyway. If it is not going out, then it needs to be taken away. Gary Petersen said he would look into it.
- **Public Safety:** Bonnie Sudell urged people to lock your car doors and do not leave valuables in your car. There are a lot of break ins that have been happening lately. If you see something say something. Call the police. The Spring Packet had information on ordering house markers to place on the edge of your property to make it easy for police, fire and ambulance to find your location. Parking Permits are registered to your house so if you sell your property please leave them behind. Lee Griffin has boat stickers for any watercraft on association property. Please put your address on the watercraft as well. Police presence is here at the lake on a random basis. Remember fireworks are illegal.
- **Lake Quality:** Jan DePratti reported that lake water and down-stream testing is ongoing to understand the health of our lake. Solitude treated the lake on June 23, 2020. The parts of the lake that were treated were pinpointed by a pre-treatment survey which can be found on the website. We did not treat the lake last year due to a delay in getting the permit from DEEP. The current permit received this year from DEEP is good for three years. Lake front owners are encouraged to leave native vegetation. There is a survey identifying plant species at Lake Hayward at [Ct.gov/caes/](http://Ct.gov/caes/). Search "Lake Hayward" there to find the survey. Water Quality is testing this year as usual to test for e-coli. Kathy Petersen is collecting the water samples. Testing started the week after Memorial Day. There have been no high counts yet.  
Mary LaPorte, One Longwood Drive commented that if you fertilize your lawn you can ask your service provider what is in the fertilizer as there are organic alternatives that are better for the lake.
- **Dam Project & Bio-detention Basin:** Bonnie Sudell tabled this discussion until the town hall meeting scheduled for July 18, 2020 when our engineer will be present to explain and answer questions.

- **Other:** Hema DeSilva asked association members to think about what they would like their five-year plan for the lake to look like as far as projects/capital improvements go. If you have any input on what you think is important or a priority please email Hema DeSilva at [HemaD@lakehaywardct.com](mailto:HemaD@lakehaywardct.com).

### Old Business

- Paula DeSilva, 24 Glimmer Glenn asked about making Glimmer Glenn part of the town of east Haddam. The road is breaking apart. There is no base for it, just sand. It is dangerous to walk on. Could it be one-way? Other roads in the association are narrower than Glimmer Glenn. It would be nice if it was part of the town and eligible for town services. It would be safer. This item seems to have fallen off the list of priorities of the association. Bob Sudell, 113 Lake Shore Drive noted that during his time as board president a couple of committees were formed to look at this issue. The town has new standards for accepting roads. They will not accept Glimmer Glenn as a town road unless it is widened. In order to widen the road then everyone on Glimmer Glenn would have to give up a piece of their property. Narrow roads elsewhere in the association were grandfathered in years ago. In order for the town to accept the road it would have to be widened at great cost to the association and easements gotten from all the homeowners on Glimmer Glenn. Linda Ryder, 41 Lookout Drive commented that Glimmer Glenn should not be penalized. She noted a lot of streets around the association are terrible. Perhaps we should get an attorney involved for some pushback. Bonnie Sudell acknowledged this is a complicated issue and that Glimmer Glenn is on the strategic plan for the future.

### New Business

- **Bylaws:** Bonnie Sudell commented that the association will be voting on the bylaw changes at the August association meeting. Kathy Sabo, 15 Lookout Drive encouraged everyone to look at the bylaws as she feels that there are some things slated to be changed that should not be changed. 1) Article VI - Taking out the part about absentee ballots. There is really no reason to take this out. It is there for people to use. They are taking something away from the association members. 2) Article VII - The power to change the budget and rate of taxation recommended to said board. Again, that is something that should remain as it is slated to be taken away from association members. Perhaps it can be reworded to satisfy people who wanted to change it so that they can do their job for the association properly. It shouldn't just be taken out. 3) Article VI - Adding the word "registered" voter as opposed to just voter when giving notice of a referendum that is mailed out. There are some people that are not registered voters for their own reasons. But if there is an important referendum that is sent out via mail then if they are not registered, they get no notice of it. Please read the bylaw proposed changes and think about them and then come to the August meeting ready to vote. Bonnie Sudell commented that Article VII Section 2 is not taking anything away from the association as it is provided for in the Charter. It is in section 10 pages 9 and 10 of our Charter which is available on the website.
- **Events:** Steve Nelson, 24 Ridgewood Road *made a motion to cancel all social events for 2020.* Bob Sudell, 113 Lake Shore Drive seconded the motion. Angela Buccheri, 98 Lake Shore Drive believes we should follow the guidelines set forth by the CDC, our state and local health department. If people do not feel comfortable coming to an event they do not have to come. We can be creative about planning events in a safe manner. Linda Ryder, 41 Lookout Drive commented that it is not about you but that you can spread it to others. The virus can spread quickly. Every time there is an opening up and loosening in states then there have been problems. Many town events have been cancelled. Jeff Conway, 119 Longwood Drive commented that we can go by people who are available to run events and by state and town guidelines. We can do safe events. Everyone should wear masks and practice social distancing. Phil Sabo, 15 Lookout Drive commented that we are a small private community. We all know we have to social distance. The state opened up for 100 people outside and 25 people inside. There is never 100 people in attendance at the bands and we have about 15 kids for kiddie bingo. We all know what we have to do. Let's have some fun this year. Lynn Macri, 38 Lookout Drive believes we should have fun and the bands are great but that we should not have any food. She is concerned that if we pay to have an event for 50 people and only 3 show up then it is a wash for us. Everything we are doing besides the food is great. Adam Thompson, 318 Lakeshore Drive Lot B believes that we are voting on something that is yes or no, but it should have lots of different implements to it. There has to be some more discussion on what we are going to do and how we are going to do it. *The motion was voted down with a majority in opposition, 8 in favor and 1 abstention.*

Adam Thompson, 318 Lakeshore Drive Lot B *made a motion to continue with social events following state and local guidelines implementing guidelines of our own continuing with events we can do in a safe manner.* Mary LaPorte, One Longwood Drive seconded the motion. Mary LaPorte, One Longwood Drive supports Adam's motion. She suggested that if anyone has any concerns about how an event will be conducted to contact Jeff Conway and the events committee to voice your concerns and give some input. Lisa Hober, 100 Wildwood Road believes that all social events are already being looked at to discuss how to hold them safely. It does not need to be decided today. The board is doing their due diligence and paying attention to it as it comes up. Jan DePratti, 66 Ridgewood Rd

believes Adam's motion is a good one. It just needs to be a little more specific. Gary Petersen, 76 Wildwood Rd believes any social event with food should not be done. Fran Fantozzi, 22 Briarcliff Rd believes events should continue but without food. Phil Sabo, 15 Lookout noted that we are having a social event right now and doing a good job social distancing and keeping safe. Fran Fantozzi, 22 Briarcliff Rd reiterated that there should not be any food and asked if we could amend the motion. Adam Thompson agreed to amend the motion to add "no food" Jason Griffing, 83 Wildwood Rd commented on the amendment to the motion stating that there are safe ways to do food with prewrapped items, etc. We cannot have a blanket statement to exclude food. Lisa Hober, 100 Wildwood believes we keep adding on and adding on to the motion, but she thinks the board has already said that as these events are developing, they have every intention of acknowledging state guidelines, doing the best and safest thing for everyone. Doing a blanket thing on food or no food is not giving the board a chance to do their job. Tony Buccheri, 98 Lakeshore Drive agrees with letting the board do their job and come up with creative ideas following state and local guidelines to keep everyone safe. Adding restriction after restriction before knowing what the state, CDC and local health department is saying is closing in on ourselves. The board has the intention of keeping everyone safe. Angela Buccheri, 98 Lakeshore Drive feels that adding on specifics to the motion now is not a good idea as we may have to make things tighter as guidelines and executive orders change or as things get better, we can allow for that. If the motion sits as originally stated, we can be adding or taking things away as necessary staying current with the most updated guidelines from the health department and the state's executive orders. A vote was called on the *motion to continue with social events following state and local guidelines implementing guidelines of our own continuing with events we can do in a safe manner without food. The motion was voted down with a majority in opposition, 12 in favor and no abstentions*

Angela Buccheri, 98 Lake Shore Drive *made a motion to continue with social events following state and local guidelines implementing guidelines of our own continuing with events we can do in a safe manner.* Jason Griffing, 83 Wildwood Rd seconded the motion. *The motion was carried with a majority in favor, 6 in opposition and 4 abstentions.*

- **Property Boundaries Issue:** John Eckert, 25 Ridgewood Rd., Ext & 277 Lakeshore Drive understands that the association is in the process of waiting for a survey to be done regarding the property boundary dispute to determine which survey is accurate. If the survey done by the association is deemed accurate, understand that it will impact all the property owners because it will have a cascading effect as you will be changing property lines. He asks that the board form a committee to discuss the matter before anything goes into effect. He would like to volunteer to be on that committee.
- **First Beach Grassy Area:** Phil Sabo, 15 Lookout Drive inquired if the grassy area in front of the wall closest to the shore by the pavilion could be beached out to help prevent the geese from wanting to come ashore.

#### **Announcements**

- **Speeding on Lake Shore Drive:** Evelyn Passan, 327 Lake Shore Drive has been working with the First Selectman from East Haddam regarding the speeding on Lake Shore Drive on the north end. The town is going to put a police officer in the area of the causeway and bring in a trailer to alert drivers of their speed. She is also pursuing putting crosswalks in that area.

*A motion was made, seconded and passed to adjourn the meeting.*  
The meeting was adjourned at 11:33 am.