

Notice is hereby provided to the Black Point Beach Association members and electors that, on August 28, 2021, a vote of the Black Point Beach Association eligible voting members shall occur in order to approve or reject proposed amendments to the Black Point Beach Association Charter. The vote will take place at 9:00 a.m. at the Black Point Clubhouse located at 6 Sunset Avenue, Niantic, CT.

The proposed amendments to the Charter are as follows:

1. A clarification as to whom can be a member and therefore eligible to hold office in the Association. Currently, only homes owned by an individual or a group of individuals can be members and be eligible to hold office at Black Point. **Our recommendation allows for residential properties that are held by individuals, trusts, corporations, partnerships and life use arrangements ALL be considered members and therefore are eligible to hold office and to participate in Association Boards and Committees. Specifically:**

- When the ownership of any property in the Association is in the name of one or more individuals, each co-owner is considered to be a member of the Association. **This is the same as the current Charter.**
- When the ownership of any property is in the name of a corporation, trust, partnership, or limited liability company, that entity will designate a “member representative” for that property. That member representative is considered the member for that entity and is able to hold office in the Association.
- Each member or member representative and his or her legal spouse shall be eligible for any office in said Association ; and
- Holders of a life use of any property are considered to be Members and able to hold office in the Association.

2. A recommendation that each property is entitled to **one** vote, regardless of a property’s form of ownership. This is consistent with other local Beach Associations and has been approved by the Connecticut General Assembly. This will ensure fairness in voting. Currently, a property that is held in multiple names can cast as many votes as there are names on the deed. This can create an unintended unfair advantage for properties that have multiple owners. Recently, a nearby beach association held a vote on a capital improvement project and properties that had multiple owners (in some cases six or seven owners) each cast a vote for that property, dramatically skewing the results. That Association now has changed its Charter to the one property, one vote rule.

The revisions that we are recommending have been approved by the Connecticut General Assembly for other beach associations.

A complete copy of the Black Point Charter and the proposed amendments are available on the Black Point Beach Club website as well as in the Town Clerk's office for the Town of East Lyme. Anybody wishing to have a copy of the same mailed to them, please contact Brooke Stevens via email at secretary@blackpointbeachclub.com and a copy shall be provided.