

**Black Point Beach Club Association
Annual Meeting
Saturday, May 27, 2017
9:00 a.m.
6 Sunset Avenue, Niantic, Connecticut 06357**

Present: Robin Murdock-Meggors, Chair; Kevin Callahan, Vice Chair; Bob Shea, Will Fountain, Steve Beauchene, Cheryl Colangelo, Mary Cahill, Ex-Officio

Also Present: Tom Sheehan, Association Manager; Carolyn Boyle, Treasurer; Ruth Ames, Tax Collector; Maureen Lowney, Secretary

Absent: Jim Pillion

- Ms. Murdock-Meggors, Chair of the BPBCA Board of Governors, called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Ms. Murdock-Meggors led the members in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- Ms. Murdock-Meggors introduced the Board and staff members.
- Ms. Murdock-Meggors introduced the New East Lyme Police Chief Michael Finkelstein who began as the town's police chief as of May 1, 2017.
- Ms. Murdock-Meggors opened the floor for nominations to the Board of Governors for two full three-year terms.

Mr. Ray Lillis, 39 Whitecap Road, nominated Mr. Kevin Callahan
Mr. Dave Weiss, 98 East Shore Drive, nominated Mr. Bill McDowell

Ms. Murdock-Meggors declared [2] newly elected Board members:

1. Kevin Callahan, Second Term May 2017- May 2020
2. Bill McDowell, First Term May 2017- May 2020

- **Budget Discussions; Vote**

Ms. Boyle noted that members received a copy of the proposed budget in the call to meeting. Ms. Boyle review the budget and noted an increase of \$5,000.00 under Operations - Clubhouse in case of roof problems. She also noted Playground increased from \$2,500.00 to \$10,000.00 for mulch, cleanup and playscape. Other Expenses and Personnel Services were staying the same. Total Income is up from \$258,300.00 to \$275,787.00 and Contractual Services expenses are up from \$36,600.00 to \$42,700.00.

She opened the floor to questions.

Hearing no questions, Ms. Murdock-Meggers put the budget to a vote. The budget has a proposed mill rate of 1.6 an increase from 1.49 from last year's budget

- **Association Manager's Report - Tom Sheehan**
Mr. Sheehan welcomed everyone back and presented his report (attached). Mr. Sheehan noted a few important dates. July 4th, Annual Parade and Picnic, with parade line up at clubhouse arriving no later than 10:30Am. parade starts at 11:am from the clubhouse grounds.
Saturday July 16th Bonfire on Main Beach, from 7:00Pm - 10:00Pm
- **4th of July Picnic Ms. Sandy Sheehan**
Ms. Sandy Sheehan stated that we are in need of Volunteers and if any one would like to volunteer please contact Tom or Sandy Sheehan.
- **Millstone Committee - Steve Beauchene**
Mr. Beauchene presented a report on Millstone (Report attached)
Mr. Beauchene reported that there is Senate bill 106 that will be voted on within the next month. This bill would allow Dominion to sell power directly to the power companies. Currently they must sell through brokers or third-party entities.
- **Cahill Scholarship - Wendy Bourget**
Ms. Bourget speaking for the Cahill Black Point Education Fund thanked the members for contributing to the Scholarship and announced the 2 Scholarship winners. Caroline Mertel the granddaughter of Jim and Margaret Pillion and Kristen Dowling the granddaughter of Paul and Nancy Bollo.
- **Chair's Report - Robin Murdock-Meggers**
Ms. Murdock-Meggers mentioned that we are looking for volunteers to serve on the Zoning Commission and the Zoning Board of Appeals along with volunteers for the picnic and asked if there were any engineers that would like to volunteer on a committee for the piers. She also mentioned that the Board is working on a system to ID kayaks.
Ms. Murdock-Meggers noted that there were flyers on the table for the Black Point Market with their new phone number.

Ballots have been counted.

Vote: 116 - 2. Budget passed

- **Members Comments**

Mr. Bill Greenwood, 56 Whitecap Rd, thanked the members of Black Point for coming together to celebrate Jack the mailman's retirement and noted that

the members had contributed \$1,300.00 in cash to Jack at the retirement party.

Mr. Rick Diachenko, 25 Sunrise Ave, mentioned glass on the beach and the conflict between boaters and sunbathers at the boat launch area.

Mr. Sheehan stated that people have been smashing glass on the pink wall and there is also broken glass at South Beach. He said the Beach grooming machines are not able to pickup the glass. Mr. Sheehan said someone is picking up the glass. He said if you see someone breaking glass please say something. Mr. Sheehan said they do their best to enforce the rules and tell people not to sit on the beach at the boat launch.

Ms. Sharon Sklar, 20 Sunrise Ave, asked about an 8ft section of fence that has been sitting on Main beach.

Mr. Sheehan said it will be removed.

Ms. Kim Craven, 46 East Shore Dr, asked if the beach grooming could be extended past labor day, into Sept. and Oct. She mentioned that we are losing some of the beach at Sea Breeze and asked if there are any plans to add riprap to the pier. Ms. Craven also asked if the Board was going to setup committees.

Mr. Sheehan responded to Ms. Craven that the beach grooming will continue on the weekends till the end of Sept. and that the sand will be harvested in Nov. Mr. Sheehan said there are no plans at the moment for the Sea Breeze beach. He also said that committees probably will be setup after this meeting.

Ms. Peg Auth, 11 Osprey Rd, asked about cleaning out the rocks at South Beach. Mr. Sheehan said the machine takes out the rocks but have to be careful you can't take out all the rocks.

Ms. Barbara Moreau, 27 Bellaire Rd, commented on the cars speeding up and down the road.

Mr. Sheehan stated that the security will start on June 17 and that should help.

Ms. Wendy Bourget, 1 Osprey Rd, asked if the town does a regular taxpayer patrol at the beach.

Mr. Sheehan said yes there is a special Beach Patrol for all the beaches.

Ms. Beverly Melo, 6 Cottage Lane commented about cars flying through the stop sign and asked how to make the police aware of it.

Mr. Sheehan said to call the police.

Mr. Dave Weiss, 98 East Shore Dr. stated that since coolers are not allowed at the beach the 3 guards should rotate at the beaches and enforce that rule.

Mr. Weiss commented about houses that are advertising on Air B & B and commented that one house had 15 cars and very loud music.
Ms. Murdock-Meggers said you need to work with zoning.

Ms. Barbara Vilecco asked if the guards are authorized to say anything to kids playing in the water at the boat launch.
Mr. Sheehan said yes the guards talk to the adults and they will be putting up cones.

Ms. Craven asked what the duties of the guards are.
Mr. Sheehan stated they do not sweep piers, they enforce the rules posted at the beach, keep kayaks out of swim areas and what is brought to their attention. He said the guards rotate through the beaches, but if South beach only has 3 people on the beach the guards won't cover that beach.

Ms. Wendy Bourget, 1 Osprey Rd, asked if guards approach people breaking rules and members ignore them is there any recourse.
Mr. Sheehan said you have to use judgement if you want to call the police.

Mr. Tom Kelly, 21 Billow Rd, asked if we were going to implement stickers for kayaks.
Ms. Murdock-Meggers stated that yes we were going to implement stickers.
Ms. Colangelo responded that the stickers had 2 purposes one as a registration so we know who the kayaks belong to in case of a storm and also to keep non-members from using the racks.

Ms. Cahill commented that Black Point Beach is the only beach that offers scholarships and to date 34 children have been the recipients of the scholarship and please donate.

Mr. Callahan mentioned that we have a winter e-mail address contact list for residents who are not here during the winter.

The meeting adjourned at 10:19Am

Respectfully submitted,

Maureen Lowney, Secretary

Manager's Monthly Report

May 25th, 2017

Initial Cleaning of Beaches was done on 5/13/2017. Weekend grooming will commence on 5/27/2017, with daily grooming beginning 6/23/2017, through Labor Day.

New Sea Breeze/Sea View sidewalk poured on 5/12/2017. Repaired and finished railing scheduled for week of 5/22/2017.

New Sea Breeze stair railing installed on 5/19/2017.

Sea Breeze Beach reseeded due to Nor'easter

Geese lines and swim buoys placed in position on 5/10/2017. Additional lines from both the Nehantic and Osprey piers to the first swim buoy directly east of each pier are currently being built.

Contacted Dave Putnam, Director East Lyme Parks and Recreation, for information on Playscapes. Dave was very helpful and provided me with information regarding the vendor the town exclusively uses. I am waiting for a reply from the vendor. Dave cautioned me to be prepared for "sticker shock" with potential pricing.

Contacted Joe Braga, Director of Public works, concerning the following: Quotation of \$127 for geese line repair resulting from damage last fall by an East Lyme town truck at the top of Billow Road. Joe agreed that the town would reimburse the Association for \$127; Also, discussed crosswalk for the intersection of East Shore Drive and Osprey Road. As a result of this request, the town will do a traffic and speed study before making a determination to paint a crosswalk. I advised Victor Benni, town engineer, that the traffic on East Shore Dr. is considerably heavier during the summer season. I am currently awaiting the town's final decision concerning this matter. Also, at my request the town provided me with 100 copies of "Single Stream Recycling" handout, which will be available for the members at the Annual meeting. I encourage everyone to take a copy

home read the handout. For example, if you put recycle items in a plastic bag, these items won't get recycled. Plastic, which is referred to as film, clogs the gears of the sorting machine. Therefore, empty the plastic bag into the recycle container.

I wrote to Michael Finkelstein, newly appointed Chief of the East Lyme Police Department, to congratulate him on his appointment and to extend an invitation to attend and speak at our Annual Association meeting on May 27th, 2017. Chief Finkelstein graciously accepted.

Playground area restoration will hopefully start the first week of June.

Boat beach seawall is scheduled to be completed by June 9th, 2017. Placement of Kayak racks for the Boat Beach will follow shortly thereafter.

Kayak racks for the backwater and Osprey locations will be placed the week of June 5th, 2017.

All of the above, is of course subject to weather permitting.

Tennis Courts: We need one new net for the hard courts. The delay in preparing the Clay Courts for play, can be attributed directly to a cold and very wet month of May. We are working with the contractor to secure an opening date.

Important Dates: East Lyme Police weekend coverage will begin June 17th, 2017, and continue through Labor Day weekend.

July 4th, 2017 Parade and Picnic: As usual, the parade will start from the clubhouse grounds at 11:00AM. Participants are requested to begin arriving at the clubhouse by no later than 10:30AM. The picnic will begin immediately following the completion of the parade. Rain Date will be July 5th, 2017.

Saturday, July 15th, 2017 will be the Annual Bonfire on Main Beach, starting at 7:00PM and ending at 10:00PM. Music will once again be provided by the Spinmasters.

In closing, I am very pleased that Bob Gilson will be returning as our Maintenance Man, Suzanne Smith will continue to be the editor of the Black Pointer, and Garrett will also be returning as Director of the Black Point Recreation Club.

Anthony Mastria and Vann Moffett will be returning to their positions for the Beach Patrol. The third position for Beach Patrol has been posted on the web site since February, and to date, no applicants have applied. If anyone knows of an individual who meets the qualifications for this position, and is interested, please have them contact me.

**Tom Sheehan,
Association Manager**

ANNUAL BPBC MEETING BOG

About 4-5 years ago, the BOG empowered a committee to explore matters at the Millstone power plant that may have an effect on our community. Members of the committee were Gene Massey, Greg McMahon, and Tom Kelly from our BOG. When Tom left the board last year, I was asked to fill his position on the committee. During the past year, we have had meetings with local officials, Dominion representatives, and sat in on state hearings regarding several matters.

The first issue I would like to discuss would be SB106 that will be voted upon within the next month. This bill would allow Dominion to sell power directly to the power companies. Currently they must sell through brokers or third-party entities. The theory is that if they can eliminate the middle man in the transactions, our costs, which are the highest in the 48 contiguous states, would come down. There has been a media blitz offering all sorts of opinions as to what will happen both in support and opposition to this bill. The committee has compiled a few articles available here today, but there is a wealth of opinion on line. The facts of the matter are that Dominion has not opened their books to the state to show that they are in financial difficulty. As far as prices decreasing, I can remember back in the early 70's when the power company at that time stated that our bills would be so low as to be unmeterable, yet somehow I have continued to get monthly bill from them. The licensing for the power company currently is set to run out in 2035 and 2045. In today's dollars, the cost of decommissioning each reactor would be well over \$600 million dollars or close to \$1.3 billion dollars. This may be the company's concern as the funds will need to come from somewhere. I would encourage everyone to familiarize yourselves with this issue and contact your state senator regarding your support or opposition. Our main concerns are that favoring Millstone will not negatively impact renewable and sustainable energy sources.

Our committee also met with EL First Selectman, Mark Nickerson, last summer to voice some of our concerns. One item that was discussed was a "dark skies" initiative that would ask the power company to place light diverters on the lighting around the plant to soften the visible effects of the plant. We will be meeting again with him to see how the company has responded.

There is also an issue with the thermal plume of warmer water that comes from the plant after cooling the reactors. There has a study into the waters around Suffolk County NY and how the plant has effected that area. The study has been done, yet no report has been released. For your information, the plant pulls in over 1.2 million gallons of sea water every minute of the day with a total daily flow of nearly 2.5 billion gallons a day. The company has asked the DEEP twice to be able to operate at elevated bay water temperatures and the DEEP has approved these requests. Initially, the power company could operate until the bay water reached 70 degrees, then that was raised to 75 degrees, currently the maximum temperature is 80 degrees.

Keep in mind that our seashore community has seen huge environmental issues in order to furnish our state with over half the electricity it uses and about 40% of the electricity powers the rest of New England. That is all I have and if you would like to do a little reading, please feel free to pick up these articles and explore other articles on-line. Thank you.