

CHERRY GROVE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION MEETING NOTES
September 17, 2017

Recorded by Toni Cesta

Meeting called to order by Diane Romano at 10:01 am

Present: John Adams, Toni Cesta, Jean Jerome, Mary Ellen Manning, David Medina, Richard Reilly, Diane Romano, Jack Ruolo, Joyce Yaeger

Absent: Frank Borsas

Issue	Action
Review of minutes of meeting of July 16, 2017	Minutes accepted as written
Announcements	Diane reported that the bulkhead issue with Judy Stein still continues. Diane reported that all the 'naming plaques' will be installed with the exception of those that will be going on the benches on the not yet built observation deck.
1. Budget/ Treasurer's Report	Jean reviewed the Operating Budget through 8/16/17. Operating Fund has a balance of \$464,972.00 The Benefactor's Fund (Save our Community House) has a balance of - \$142,854 The Landscape and Gardens balance is \$6,796 The \$221,000 from the sale of the Doctor's House remains in an interest bearing account. See handout for complete details.

2. CGCAI Committee Reports	<p>Community House: Toni reported that the following upgrades and repairs to the community house have been completed: New gate on west side of building Permanent lights on roof deck Lights to flag pole Outdoor stairs to dressing rooms</p> <p>Toni will be writing a grant to try to obtain additional money for the observation deck.</p> <p>Membership: Diane announced that there are currently 166 members.</p> <p>Fundraising: Diane announced that there will be a fundraiser annually going forward.</p> <p>Honors: Joyce reported that the ad sales and profits, as well as the event, were up this year. A special thanks to Richard Reilly for the fantastic ad sales.</p>
2. CGCAI Committee Reports	

**Property Owner's
Association Report:**

Gerri Losquadro gave an update on the dock. We are still waiting for permits but the design has been sent to the DEC and the Army Corp. of Engineers. The issues with Main Walk are under the auspices of the Dept. of Highways and have nothing to do with the dock. She reported that the new dock will be built around the old dock and will be three feet wider. The dock masters will be housed at the north end of the dock. A new schedule will be developed to alternate freight, ferry and garbage. The wood will be Epi, which is rated as strong as concrete. There will be a spine with shorter boards which will make repairs easier. Boat permits will be \$250/year and there will be 9 spots.

Richard reported that there was no beach attendant this year and thanked Tommy Esposito for taking care of the garbage for us. He reported that Cherry Grove is the only Fire Island community that has garbage bins on the beach. His group will be doing a site survey to see where the garbage pails might be moved so that Tony's Barge can pick them up.

Tommy Esposito reported that he was happy to pitch in and help this year and recommended that the pails be moved up from the beach, like other Fire Island communities. He also said that he would work with Cherry Grove, no matter the decision.

A community member asked as to whether the decision had been made to move the garbage cans and Diane replied that it had not been made and that there would be more discussion before a final decision.

Other Community Associations

APCG: Dennis thanked the community for a great season. The archives Committee continues to digitize old VCR tapes under the direction of the new chair Troy Files. Parker reported that there will be another film festival next year. For more information see: cherrygrovearchivescollection.com

Dunes Fund: Don Hester reported that Cherry Grove will not be receiving any money from the federal government to restore the dunes. Donations were less than spending this year and reminded everyone that donations are tax deductible.

Memorial Fund: Richard Schack reported that the fund has a balance of \$254,444. This season \$8500 were awarded in grants. \$6,000 for the Community House sound system and \$2500 to Archives.

Garden Club: Mitch reported that the bake sale raised \$1,500 this year. The garden tour was also successful. From 2-4 pm next Sunday there will be a bird presentation from the Great South Bay Association.

Chamber of Commerce: Lynn reported that having meetings has been difficult during the season but a meeting is scheduled with Sayville Ferry in October regarding ferry schedules and freight prices. A main concern is reduced ferries in September despite warmer weather. The Fire Island Star has on-line news about Fire Island and tends to be factual.

Damminix: The meeting was held with vector control and they are interested in working on the mosquito problem. They will work toward identifying alternative solutions. Neil Foley from Brookhaven will be working with us on this. Anna reported that there may be a new product for ticks identified in the next 2-3 years. She thanked the walk captains for their help with the Damminix project.

Walk Captains: Lorraine reported that various walks still need walk captains and to see her if you are interested. The Post Office made needed repairs and is now \$1600 in debt. Donations will be gladly accepted.

Fire Department: Arthur reported that the Fire Commissioners and Verizon continue to work on the cell tower on top of the Fire House. The cupola is finished as well as other major construction. Now waiting for Verizon permits to complete the project. Tentative completion date is Spring, 2018.

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New Business	<p>Diane reported that Marty Haley from Brookhaven updated her on the petition regarding the Tides property. The building has been referred to the Law Dept. for review. She encouraged the group to write letters to the Suffolk County Health Dept.</p> <p>Regarding the Sayville Ferry petition. Judy Stein responded with a letter that anyone can read on-line. She was not happy about the petition.</p> <p>Diane reported that the oceanfront lawsuit is in progress but that the attorney for the group has advised that the people involved not discuss the lawsuit.</p> <p>Diane reported that Northwell Health will be providing flu shots on October 7 from 2-5 pm. There were many positive comments about them this year.</p> <p>Richard Schack reported that the nominating committee for the Board of CGCAI consisted of Richard, Joanne Tavis, Thom Hansen. The slate was reported as follows: Dave Medina and John Adams as directors for another term Tina Salandra as treasurer to replace Jean Jerome Angela Smith as director to fill the position vacated by Lynn Lewis</p> <p>All positions were voted in.</p> <p>The POA Board appointments were as follows: Gerri, Richard, Alison, Doreen and Steve Williams who have all agreed to serve another year.</p> <p>Other business: Buy stamps at the Post Office!</p>
Meeting adjourned at 11:42 am	Next General Membership Meeting: TBA

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Other Business

Post Office: Betty, the post mistress, reported that last year a total of \$9156 in stamps alone were sold in the Cherry Grove Post Office. She thanked Lorraine, Allison and Annette for covering her while she was out sick and that post office boxes are available. Betty then reported that an official complaint has been filed against her to have her fired. The complaint was lodged to the Sayville Post Office. People should speak to the Officer in Charge there to advocate for Betty. Ceejay and Peg offered to go speak to the Office on behalf of the Community as well. A petition can also be started to keep Betty in the Grove if anyone wants to do that.

Diane reported that Bob Lerch has noted an huge infestation of rats in the old Tides building.

Diane reported that a flag pole is being erected on the roof of the Community House and that it was donated by Dennis McConkey.

Guest Kisha Sumner from the Long Island Men's Health Survey announced that she is a research assistant and will be available to meet people regarding a CDC project surveying high risk populations.

Mike Pinto mentioned that people are dumping debris at the end of East Walk so that people can't get into the bay to kayak.