

Green Hill Civic Association
August 20, 2022
Annual Meeting
Via Zoom
[about 32 Zoomers]

The meeting was called to order by President Mal O'Connor at 10:07 a.m. Officers present were Mal O'Connor, VP Bill Conlin, Treasurer Bill Anastasiades, and Secretary Maureen Koehl.

Minutes: The June 2022 minutes were approved as presented.

President Mal O'Connor announced that a bench in memory of Pat Tanora had been donated by Pat's nieces and nephews and was placed in the bocce area.

Treasurer's Report: Bill A. reviewed the 2023 budget presented and voted on at the June meeting. There are 203 paid members [out of a possible 306]. Annual dues = \$75. Total expenses = \$18,000. Increases are due to insurance increases and a one-time addition to the Social Committee. Mal and Bill will review the insurance costs. Presently, \$16,400 in the bank with a few outstanding expenses.

Question: Could the GHCA publish a list of members?

Answer: Permission from all whose names are published is needed before publication.

Membership Report: Scott Graf explained plans for updating the membership records including keeping track of property transfers and updating the tracking system of memberships.

“Yacht and Racquet Club” Report: **Yacht Report:** Bill Conlin reported that rack space had been added and ground space had been improved. Tony Amato built the new rack. Commander Conlin thanked his better half, Kathy, for the boat area concept. Bill added that the boat storers received a C+ in compliance with keeping the area neat and safe. The roll out of boat stickers was sluggish, lasting until mid-July. He reminded users of the communal kayaks to lock them after use. Otherwise, all is good and the communal concept is very successful!

Tennis Report: Kathy Conlin reported that tennis is thriving! The courts have been resurfaced – a \$15,400 quote was reduced to \$13,000. The courts were washed, repaired and resurfaced. Chris Fontaine oversaw the work. A new message board was installed. There was a suggestion to de-tension the courts after use, but thought not feasible. There are now 49 members and many new memberships due to pickle ball.

Community Liaison Report: Dan Tanona gave an update of the hoped for revival of Green Hill Pond. URI and its partners have been studying the beach erosion and the reduction of contamination in the pond. The best way to relieve the contamination is to dredge beneath the bridge at the Charlestown end to increase the pond's flow, an expensive project. The focus now is on dune restoration to improve the dune's resistance to storm damage. The focus is on the dunes west of the Green Hill Beach houses to Charlestown so the study will not include our immediate shoreline, but what we all know as the “Boat Beach”. Approximately 900 feet by 200 feet can be built up in that area by dredging near the channel with the dredged material added to

the dunes. With 149 owners on the Green Hill side of the chosen area there were too many private ownership covenants to deal with so funds for that area are not being pursued.

The storm water abatement offers a feather in the cap of the FOGHP dealing with the sources of pollution from two streams flowing into the pond bringing fecal contamination from animals and birds and runoff from Route 1. FOGHP collected runoff indicating 4000x the allowable bacteria, negating DEM stats. RIDOT has been ordered to remediate. Dan didn't know the timeline for this, but a detailed report will be emailed to members.

Social Committee: Mary Ann Emanuel thanked all her committee members and those involved with this summer's events and reported the 2nd Annual Chalk Day was a success with 60 participants.

There were 16 teams signed up for the July Bocce Tournament, another successful, fun time for all.

Porch Fest was a rousing success with 100 in attendance in the O'Connor's music-filled backyard.

Movie Night once again, did not draw a large crowd so this event will go back to the drawing board for more thought.

Annual closing picnic next Saturday – be sure to contact Maureen to let her know what you are bringing to eat and all offers of set-up and clean-up are welcome.

Tom Capirchio introduced the revamping of the GHCA website and acknowledged the many helpers. He solicited photos and information from everyone and mentioned the history area and a Green Hill Blog.

New Business: First order of business was the proposed Bylaws change that was introduced at the June Meeting.

Background: Historically the tennis players' dues paid the taxes on the entire lot but only used about 50% of the area. Now that the area has been developed for additional recreational purposes, i.e. bocce and horseshoes, and is shared by the entire community, it was proposed that the tax liability be shared by everyone in some portion. To do this, the bylaws must be amended. Proposed change: *"The GHCA will pay taxes annually for the Recreation Area [Lot 70, Plat 96-1]. The Tennis Committee will reimburse the GHCA for no more than 50% of the taxes, that amount to be determined each year by the GHCA Board."*

A proposal from the floor: "That GHCA pay the entire tax with the Tennis Committee submitting a user's fee,"

The proposed change was passed unanimously as amended.

Vision Committee: AJ Emanuel discussed the need for a long-term vision – five to seven years in the future. Peter Brash, Peter Jenny, Mal and Mary Ann are members of this committee. There were 88 responses to the recent survey sent out [40% return!]. The committee will review the data this fall and report at the June 2023 meeting. Volunteers are welcome to join the group.

When a timeline is determined, it will be sent out via email to all members of GHCA. AJ thanked all who returned the survey.

Nominating Committee: Kathy Conlin and Peter Brash, committee members, are looking for names to be possible candidates for officers and board members. Election of Officers and Board Members will be held in August, 2023.

Mal announced an invitation from Dave Moore, the new owner of the General Stanton Inn, to a preview dinner on Sunday.

John and Leah. Vetelino whose property abuts the recreation area asked that the property line be determined and would like a shrub buffer zone planted where the area has been cleared protecting his privacy. Mal will meet with the Vetelinos.

Meeting adjourned at 11:32 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Maureen Koehl, Secretary