

**Green Hill Civic Association
August 24, 2024
Annual Meeting
Via Zoom**

Present: President Mal O'Connor, Vice President Bill Conlin, Treasurer Steve Shalnaitis, and Secretary Maureen Koehl; Board members Peter Brash, Leah Puzo, Dan Tanona; Vision Team – AJ and Mary Ann Emanuel, Maureen Morse, Maria DiMauro.
36 attendees via Zoom.

10:00 AM Meeting called to order

Minutes from the June meeting were unanimously approved as submitted.

Membership Report: **Steve** reported that there were 222 paid members as of August 24 [dues - \$125] for a total of \$27,750.

Mal gave a quick overview of the summer's happenings. The association beach has been clear of rocks and cobbles for the last few weeks so the Low Tide Club is back in business. A sign was made warning of dangerous conditions, and swimming is at your own risk.

Kathy Conlin reported that there are empty kayak racks. Thirty racks have been assigned, but 25 stickers have not yet been picked up. One-third of the racks remain empty. She said there will be a new system next year. Kayaks must be removed by Thanksgiving.

Bill Conlin reported that the tennis court gate was found open and that the courts and gate may have been breached with minor vandalism. Perhaps the fence was climbed for access. A camera may have to be installed. The pickleball box may have been broken into.

Mary Ann Emanuel gave a review of the summer's social activities, and a big thanks to all who organized and participated. There were 110 attendees at the opening dinner in June; 200+ at the July 4th Parade and more cars than ever before; 150 took part in the Food Truck event at the Green Hill Town Park; Porchfest attracted 100 listeners; and there were close to 70 people at the End of Summer Picnic. Bocce and Horseshoe tournaments were popular, too.

Nominating Committee: **Kathy Conlin** and **Peter Brash**

No voting on a slate of officers and board members this year, but the committee is looking for willing volunteers for officers and board members for next year.

Proposed By-Laws changes:

Feedback from members about the proposed changes was that the proposed changes were not clearly defined enough, and that overall there was no desire on the part of many members to expand the number of households included within GHCA geographic

boundaries by expanding those boundaries.. What language to use for "surrounding areas"?

After much discussion it was decided there were too many questions to bring the proposal to a vote so **the motion was tabled**.

Vision 2030 Update:

AJ Emanuel and team members reported the progress made over the summer.

Maureen Morse [Beach Team] shared the information the team had collected and that working with URI re ideas to deal with erosion was one attempt at a possible solution for beaches East and West of the Beals property and reventment. She said that her team would stay abreast of all efforts to control erosion, that the team Vision 2030 team would reach out to work with The Hill Association , and that the beach team welcomes more members.

Dan Tanona [Pond Team] said that there are two basic processes for controlling the condition of Green Hill Pond – (1) to control the flow of water into the pond which adds to the bacteria count and (2) to increase the flow from the Charlestown Breachway to Green Hill Pond to fight this high bacteria and nitrogen levels. The pond has not had a good enough bacteria count in almost three decades to allow eating the fish/shellfish in the pond.

Water samples from the link channel, according to URI sample reports, did not make proposed amelioration (dredging) projects feasible, and the FOGHP 'pulled the plug' on their financial support. Dan feels it may still be reasonable to pursue the improvement of water flow between the ponds and the ocean, and he and his team will pursue this further.

In 2025 the town will begin the installation of storm drains with infiltration devices to address storm-water run off... one at Twin Peninsula Road, one at Matunuck Schoolhouse Road and Green Hill Beach Road, and another drain on Green Hill Beach Road where it meets Carpenter Drive.

Maria DiMauro said that depth and aquatic surveys are almost done re: the installation of a dock aat the kayak launch area. It might take about a year to receive the necessary permitting approvals, which is the next step. We have until 2027 to get the dock approved and completed

Water and electricity to the Recreation area is proposed. Town approvals would be needed and restorative landscaping would be necessary.

AJ [Health & Safety] reported that seven signs are being designed for the recreation area and the pond launching area and will be done by the end of the year. The H&S

committee is working with the town concerning the trimming of the roadside vegetation, especially at the intersections.

AJ thanked all committees and GHCA members for their donations and their help in moving 2030 forward.

Green Hill Beach apparel: Tom Capirchio mentioned that new beach logo apparel will be available through the Latitude Co. in Jamestown. See their website for information and how to order. Items include both adult and children's wear. Think baseball caps and any type of clothing you can imagine. The present logo will be added to whatever you select.

The meeting adjourned at noon.

Respectfully submitted,
Maureen Koehl, Secretary