

Priscilla Beach Association

**Closing Meeting
Saturday September 3, 2011**

Present: Association Officers and head count of 25+ members

Officers: Acting President: Julianne Doyle-Pistorino
Vice President: Open
Treasurer: Paul Champagne
Assistant Treasurer: John Reardon
Secretary: Virginia Curcio

Additional Board Members: Rick Valzania, George Ward, Patty Schneider, Kevin Coyne

Prior to opening the meeting Acting President Julianne Doyle-Pistorino indicated that the meeting needed to move along in order for members to be present on the beach for the races.

The Meeting was called to order by President Julianne Doyle-Pistorino at 8:34 AM, and immediately followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll call of officers indicated that all officers were present

Introductory Remarks: President Julianne offered a welcome to all present, acknowledged that a quorum of members was present and asked that all officers introduce themselves to the members.

Items of Business

1. **Secretary's report:** the secretary offered a condensed verbal reading of the minutes from the September 2011 Opening Meeting and indicated that there were copies of the minutes available on the table at the door. Additional copies could be obtained by contacting the secretary at her home address.

Following the reading, a motion was made to accept the minutes as read. The motion was seconded and the minutes were accepted.

2. **Treasurer's report:** a brief summary of the financial activities indicated that the Association took in fewer dues that last year. As of today, there were 235 paid members. The treasurer commented that this was the lowest paid membership since 2007.

The treasurer also noted that on the whole, expenses were down slightly, and that overall the Association's financial position was "a little worse than last year." Copies of the financial statement were available at the door.

\$23,500 in income was reported which translates into 238-239 members; dues were received at the door today. Review of pad dues by street location indicated that some streets are down by paid houses. John Alden is only 36 out of 65, the most disappointing. John Alden and Rocky Hill Road show the highest unpaid percentages.

Following the reading, a motion was made to accept the report. The motion was seconded and the report was accepted.

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3. President's Report:

- a. **July 3rd celebrations** passed safely this year. The president gave thanks to all members who came to help with the beach clean up post-celebration. The president noted that this year there were a lot of nails found on the beach, probably from pallets at the bonfires. The president offered a general reminder to all members that pallets are not accepted for bonfires and suggested that all members police the beach prior to next year's celebrations and remind individuals not to use pallets for the bonfires.
- b. **Exercise classes** at the clubhouse were a great success, including the sessions on the beach. Participants reported having "lots of fun" and were able to "eat great beach food due to workout(s)." The President encouraged everyone to consider keeping this activity on the summer schedule next year. The president also noted that the instructor donates the Yoga mats for classes.
- c. **Ice Cream Social** in August served 60 bowls of ice cream, and had excellent spread of attendance across the generations.
- d. **Children's Activities:**
 - i. **Kids' dances** were great success this year. However, it was noted that the final dance last night had low attendance numbers. Thanks to the Kids Dances, the Association was able to dispose of the left-over ice cream from the Ice Cream Social in August.
 - ii. **Sand Castle Contest:** Thanks were offered to Ann and Krista (???) for their work on running the Sand Castle Contest. 38 children participated this year.
- e. **July Dance** featuring the band Better From A Distance was a great success. Comments included: "It was a blast" and "Oh my God." The even raised \$250 for Breast cancer awareness donated to the Susan G. Komen Foundation and \$250 for the Association. Patti Schneider did excellent job overseeing the snacks/food available throughout the evening. As an aside it was noted that Jack Calhoun had rented the clubhouse for tomorrow night (September 4th) for another evening of dancing to the band. Everyone is welcome to attend. Festivities start at 6:30 PM start. The cost of \$10 per person will go entirely to Breast cancer awareness.
- f. **Closing day races** will immediately follow today's meeting. Thanks were offered to Kathy, Kathy and Maura (???) for coordinating the event.

The President offered her thanks to all for their support and efforts throughout her term and reminded the members that the Association needs more individuals to contribute their efforts towards maintaining the association. The President urged home owners to encourage participation from their adult children; that the association needs their energy for the association to thrive.

A motion was made to accept the report. The motion was seconded and the report was accepted. This was followed by a general round of applause in appreciation of the President's work on behalf of the association.

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4. Report of Membership:

- a. **Dues Committee:** The committee consisted of Sally Calhoun, Bob Malone, and Jeff Arcuri. The committee developed a letter that was mailed to each unpaid household. The letter contained information that outlined the benefits of membership in the association, discussed how dues are used to pay taxes, insurance, and fund activities. The letter also stressed that paying taxes allowed the association to maintain the private status of the beach which in turn contributed to the value of each member's house. It was noted in the letter that dues were minimal and as such there was not an excess in funds available to the association. Finally the letter indicated that dues paying members were subsidizing non-paying members. The treasurer reported that there were 4 positive responses following a mailing of 105-110 letters, and one negative response.

The committee indicated that the next step will be putting up guards at the entrances to the beach on random days: most likely a security person. The guards will be sporadic and dates will not be published. The purpose will be to remind beach users that the beach is private and available to dues paying members.

The committee continues to consider the possibility of publishing a list of members: paying and non-paying and indicated they will be issuing a winter letter in a private mailing.

Discussion from the floor ensued over several point with the focus on the issue of publishing names. Concerns were raised about maintaining a friendly neighborhood and that friction might develop between paying and non-paying members. It was stated from the floor that as long as the information was correct and a statement of fact it could be published with legal implications. It was also noted that individuals who have houses for sale think they are exempt from payment, and that there is a growing number of individuals with multiple properties that only pay one membership when in actuality they are responsible for each household. Suggestions for solutions included door to door solicitation, return of Street Captain, and additional mailing to taxpayers.

After much discussion a motion was received from the floor to proceed with the Dues Committee's recommendation: a winter communication letter, a published list of paying and non-paying members with paid members identified. The motion was seconded and a vote was taken by show of hands. There were four opposed to the motion. The motion was passed by an affirming majority.

5. Unfinished Business: The President reported on Unfinished Business

- a. **Signage:** To provide consistent signage at the both beach entrances and since the current signage is in need of replacement a firm from Bridgewater is bidding on the project. The goal is to erect uniform signs at both ends of beach. The President indicated that it will be up to the incoming officers and board members to make the final decision. The firm is currently getting pricing on different materials.
- b. **Beach Closure:** a truck and strong members are needed to remove the wood extenders off the beach. The extenders are currently sitting at stairs and at the bottom of boardwalk. Bob Malone and crew volunteered to perform these tasks.

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c. 2012 Annual Meetings; the dates for next year's meetings (2012) were confirmed

- i. Opening Meeting: Saturday June 30
- ii. Closing Meeting: Saturday Sept 1st

It was noted that the closing meeting had lower attendance than the opening meeting since a number of members are not around at this time of the year, and were the date to be pushed backed into August, more members might attend. Paul Champagne indicated that the dates are set in the by-laws. A change in the by-laws is required to change the meeting dates. After a brief discussion it was decided that for now, the meeting dates would remain as noted in the by-laws.

d. Clubhouse Roof: Current quotes range for \$10,500 to \$14,000. The costs include a complete job: removing old shingles, application of new shingles, clean up. The estimates do not include any repairs to damage noted once the shingles are removed. Although authorized in budget in Spring 2011, the treasurer reported that paying for a new clubhouse roof will impact the balance sheet. This item was table for the incoming officers to resolve.

e. Calendars: Mary Jane Calhoun reported on the preparation and sale of this year's calendars with half the proceeds going to the association. It was noted that there was an error in this year's calendar; one picture that did not represent a PBA activity was inadvertently placed in the calendar.

f. Buoys: John Calhoun reported on the buoys, and that someone tried to break into the shed. John noted that some funds will be required to repair the damage to the shed. The buoys were in before Hurricane Irene arrived and thankfully will be usable for next year's summer season.

There was general acknowledgement from the floor with rousing rounds of applause throughout the meeting for the following:

- Julianne Doyle-Pistorino for efforts as Acting President and the social calendar for the this year
- Members of the dues committee for their efforts in generating dues-paying members, particularly since they identified themselves by name and contact information on the letter.
- Board members for their efforts
- Kids Committee members for organizing children's activities

6. New Business:

a. Nominating Committee: the committee consisted of Chris Laurie and Ann ??? (NAMES????). The committee acknowledged that they were very persistent and vocal in their work and had difficulty finding willing individuals. The Slate of Officers presented consisted of:

- i. President: John Reardon
- ii. Vice President: Jeff Arcuri
- iii. Assistant Treasurer: John Reardon (will maintain both positions)
- iv. Treasurer: Paul Champagne
- v. Secretary: Ginny Curcio
- vi. Board of Directors: Patti Schneider, Kevin Coyne, Tim Bennett, Bob Malone

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No individuals were interested in opposing the proposed Slate of Officers. There was a motion from the floor to accept the Slate. The motion was seconded and there was unanimous acceptance from the members on the new officers.

A new member from Farmhurst Road was acknowledged.

The meeting adjourned at 9:15 AM as volunteers headed to the beach to set up for the races and afternoon activities.

Respectfully submitted,

Virginia Curcio

Virginia Curcio

Secretary

eSignature 09/11/11