



PWEA MEETING MINUTES

January 13, 2021

Call to Order

A meeting of the Board of the Port Washington Estates Association was held on January 13, 2021, held via Zoom Conferencing due to the Coronavirus pandemic and directives to “social distance.”

Attendees included Gavin Pike, Howard March, Jeff Oring, Angela Ferrante, Irene Raccanelli, Richard Genova, Meir Gil, and Amelia Amon (reporting).

Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the October 14th, 2020 meeting were approved to be posted on the PWEA website.

Update on Southern Bulkhead

Howard March reported that due to a stretch of mild, dry weather, Brandt Marine has made good progress on the bulkhead replacement. He also mentioned that working with the VP and project supervisor, Bo Brandt, is easy and productive, indicating a better experience than with previous contractors.

Howard & Gavin plan to check in on progress on Friday (1/15/21). They’ll discuss some auxiliary issues such as the potential to add 1-2 heavy-duty planks along the ramp to hold sand, acting as a sluice gate. There is also the need to replace a pylon that was loosened and displaced during recent storms, along with several loose &/or rotted structural supports on the walkway. Bo Brandt suggested that they could make those repairs in June when they’ll be able to bring in equipment from a nearby project in Glen Cove.

They are not quite at the midpoint of the job, but Howard anticipates they’ll probably require the next payment soon, possibly next week.

Sale of home with long-standing unpaid dues

The board continued a discussion about a PWEA homeowner who sold his house in June 2019, but hadn’t paid annual dues for the previous 7 years. Consequently, PWEA put a lien on the property. The currently owed amount with interest and filing fees came to over \$4,000. Understandably, the new owner wants to settle as soon as possible using the \$6,000 placed in escrow to resolve the matter, but requires the consent of the previous owner. Our Treasurer Jeff Oring has pointed out that had the member paid annually for 7 years at \$335 plus one \$125 assessment, the total would be \$2470, a far more equitable and less troublesome way to have handled the reasonable dues we all pay to maintain a valuable asset.



Initiative for New Playground Equipment

Josh Spitalnik, who was unable to attend the meeting, has written up a letter to gather proposals to upgrade and redesign our playground equipment, by developing a “Playground Committee”.

Accordingly, the PWEA board is planning to send out a survey to determine what is important to our community to help shape our choices moving forward. Josh will be the contact person in charge of that effort.

Insurance

Our last bid to insure our docks and beach house came from Lloyds of London at over \$20k a year. This amount seems high, although the main float alone cost \$60,000 nearly a decade ago. It was suggested that starting a “sinking” emergency fund to cover potential damages would be a more prudent option. There was a unanimous Yes vote to put \$10k per year into an interest bearing account for a contingency fund.

Meir Gil requested a non-discrimination clause be put on website. Jeff believes that the clause is there, but not in a place of prominence.

Amelia Amon is in the process of updating the rules. She will add Meir’s suggestions, such as “children under the age of 14 must be accompanied by an adult member when on our gangways and docks, and must wear a U.S. coast guard approved life jacket, appropriate for their age.”

We are adding a statement on the renewal notice (in bold) that when members renew and pay dues, we’ve read and are agreeing to the rules and policies of PWEA.

Dues Payment and Renewal Notices

2020 having been a difficult year, there are still delinquent dues. The few members in arrears will see those amounts added to this year’s bill, along with any missing amount of the assessment. PWEA will waive the \$25 late fee for last year, but impose fees if delayed for next year.

Anyone with a kayak or sunfish rack position who hasn’t paid their annual rental fees over successive years will lose spots. Again, we will forgive late fees for rack spaces for last year. Annually, Kayak spots are \$50, Sunfish rack are \$125 Please list position number on returned invoice and be sure to keep your boat in your assigned spot.

Currently all PWEA invoices go out on paper. Jeff and Gavin will look into the potential to have them emailed. Because we don’t have all current emails, a paper mailing will still be necessary. Angela Ferrante suggested we explore options for an electronic payment process. This could be made possible through QuickBooks, PayPal, Venmo, or other payment methods that don’t require a percentage fee. The board is open to suggestions on how to best address this issue.

Meeting was adjourned by 7pm