



## **PWEA MEETING MINUTES**

**September 30, 2020**

### **Call to Order**

A meeting of the Board of the Port Washington Estates Association was held on September 30, 2020, which meeting was held via Zoom Conferencing due to the Coronavirus pandemic and directives to “social distance.”

Attendees included Gavin Pike, Joshua Spitalnik, Howard March, Jeff Oring, Richard Genova, Irene Raccanelli, Angela Ferrante, and Meir Gil.

### **Approval of Annual General Meeting Minutes**

The minutes from the Annual General Meeting held on September 24, 2020 were read and approved.

Special thanks were given to Angela Ferrante due to her role and help in setting up the Zoom meeting and Zoom polls.

### **Election of Officers**

The following officers were nominated and approved:

Gavin Pike – President  
Howard March – Vice President  
Jeff Oring – Treasurer  
Amelia Amon - Secretary

### **Playground**

Following suggestions from the Annual General Meeting, and from prior AGMs in years past, since we are done with the capital projects of doing the Northern and soon to complete the Southern Bulkhead, we can now address the playground.

It was agreed to start a committee to address it. The committee will be headed by Josh Spitalnik, and will solicit outreach from the neighborhood to see those who are willing to be part of the committee. The first to be approached will be Natalie and Andrew Pennachia, and Elizabeth Simons who stated they would be interested in helping. The Pennachias even sent an email after the AGM expressing their interest.

Josh Spitalnik will be drafting an email to the community to see who may have interest in helping.

### **Website**



A discussion was held regarding reviewing and updating the website. Items discussed included updating the bylaws with the amendment passed last year, adding the non-discrimination language, adding the minutes from the AGM, and finding a place for current meeting minutes which shall be placed online.

In part due to the conversations with of the community at the AGM, and in part based upon prior discussions held by the Board, moving forward the Board's meeting minutes will all be placed online.

### **Insurance**

A discussion was held regarding the recent quote we received from our insurance agent regarding insuring the beach. It was agreed that we need to get additional information relating to the age and upgrades to the pier, and a replacement price (to be supplied by Brandt Contracting), to potentially get a better price. It was further discussed that based upon the uptick in large storms, and if we can lower the price a little more, we likely will obtain the additional insurance.

Additional issues were discussed, like several people's request for a fire pit, and we agreed to hold a meeting with our insurance broker present to discuss the impact on our insurance relating to a fire pit, and other various insurance issues.

### **Bulkhead**

We received the NYSDEC permit on September 29<sup>th</sup>, and we will be submitting the application to the Town of North Hempstead as quickly as possible, together with the plans and contractor's insurance. We have discussed an expedited approval from our Councilwoman Mariann Dalimonte. We also have been in touch with the Contractor about the scheduling of the work.

### **Winter Cleanup**

The winter cleanup will likely be in the 1<sup>st</sup> week of November, with an email to the community going out around the end of October to ask for assistance. At the winter cleanup, we winterize the plumbing, cleanup the beach, and help organize and tie down chairs, trash barrels, bring out the ice eaters and bring in the docks. We also will be painting the new planks on the pier walkway that were put in by Tom Mansfield.

### **Beach Walkway**

At the AGM, it was discussed that certain people were requesting a beach walkway. Since it is the end of the season, it was agreed that we would look into it, get more pricing and suggestions, and review the potential liability from the shifting sand that would be underneath and do a cost-benefit analysis before next season.

### **Community Survey**

Following discussions at the AGM from the community that there may not be sufficient communications between the Board and the community at large. In an effort to increase transparency and to address those things that truly are a concern to the community, it was



discussed that we should gather more data from the community at large – in the form of a survey – to get a better idea from all of PWEA what the majority of the neighborhood is looking for in terms of improvement to Port Washington Estates. This way it is not the very vocal minority who get the attention, but rather the community as a whole who can be heard from.

Josh Spitalnik has agreed to spearhead the project and will be drafting a letter to the community soliciting ideas, then taking those ideas and generating a survey to gauge what the interest level is for these ideas. At that point, it is the goal to use those highly wanted ideas to start looking into and addressing the needs and wants of the community.

### **Miscellaneous**

Additional discussions were held about the Board conducting a review of the bylaws to make suggestions to strengthen and amend the bylaws, and remove those things that may be antiquated or out of date. Angela Ferrante, Richard Genova, and Josh Spitalnik will be on the committee reviewing this. Also, a discussion was held regarding terms and conditions on PWEA invoices and other documents. This same committee will be reviewing, with the addition of Jeff Oring.

The closure of the bathroom was questioned at the AGM and although the CDC cleaning guidelines have been simplified, the board felt it unlikely we would be able find a cleaning service to undertake the daily cleaning and disinfecting required, on a cost effective basis.