



## **PWEA MEETING MINUTES**

**April 15, 2021**

### **Call to Order**

A meeting of the Board of the Port Washington Estates Association was held on April 15, 2021, via Zoom Conferencing due to the Coronavirus pandemic and directives to “social distance.”

Attendees included Gavin Pike, Howard March, Jeff Oring, Angela Ferrante, Richard Genova, Meir Gil, Josh Spitalnik, & Amelia Amon (reporting).

### **Approval of Minutes**

The minutes from the March 11<sup>th</sup>, 2021 meeting were approved to be posted on the PWEA website.

### **Treasurer’s Report**

Jeff Oring reported that PWEA has \$14,366.26 in checking, \$91,880.73 in savings, totaling \$106,246.99

There was a discussion about reminding people who haven’t paid, possibly using emails by MailChimp. Dues are not late yet; can be paid without penalty until May 1<sup>st</sup>. The board will send out reminders after the beach opens. Jeff is setting up request form pages for kayak spots and party reservations on the PWEA website.

### **Southern Bulkhead Expenses**

On the bulkhead renovation, PWEA had originally allowed for a 10K contingency. Brandt did additional work that was billed at \$10,025.00. Of that total, \$6525 was for sand and fill, which we can allocate to the 10% contingency. The other work was \$2500 for capping the northern bulkhead and \$1000 for a piling. This will go as 2021 beach expenditures. Gavin spent an additional \$14,457.04 on sand and fill. PWEA’s total expenditure for sand is \$20,982,04 when we include what Brandt did. It was pointed out that sand for the Northern bulkhead was \$17,353.15 in 2018/2019. When factoring in inflation from 2018 and that filling in the sand ramp required more sand; this figure makes sense. Fine beach sand is expensive. Another 20 cubic feet might be useful. We will see after the next storm.

Richard suggested buying military mats to hold down sand when a storm is predicted. Structure for a sluice gate was installed at the opening to the sand ramp. With that provision and the elimination of the middle ramp, less sand should be lost than in previous years. Also the bulkhead is 3” higher now that it is capped.



## **Beach Improvement Plan**

Gavin advised that Richard had suggested we adopt a holistic plan as opposed to individual projects such as playground / fire pit, dog run etc. To that end we voted to hire a landscape architect to draw up a plan, to put to the entire membership and vote on at the next AGM.

A discussion ensued on what to do with dog poop. Howard stated that dog waste should be taken home. The board voted to try to channel behavior by using a separate dog waste station, accompanied by a sign or email that says please ensure that your neighbors' children don't crawl through dog poop.

There was a unanimous vote to repair the Palapas. Seven people want to be on playground committee. Josh thinks it should be planned for next season. Jeff responded that it largely depends on the cost, as it must be commercial-grade equipment. Angela forwarded the idea of planning this year for infrastructure next year. It was agreed we should have some experience with the new configuration before making more changes. Howard prefers not to have clutter. Landscape architects will be interviewed to make a comprehensive plan, potentially to include tidying up the grass area, exploring the practicality of a raised fire pit, and replacing current playground equipment with better, more contemporary equipment. This planning process postpones the need for large money outlays this season.

On the question of fire pits, Richard suggested we write-up anyone who brings down a portable fire pit. Such offenders will be banned from the beach. On signing for dues, members accept the regulation of no fires. In conjunction with the rules and while we consider the potential for a safe, clean, and maintainable public fire pit, no fires will be allowed in order to preserve the new sand.

Once the board selects a landscape architect, we can present a plan at the AGM to survey what people want. There are no guarantees that wish list items will be acted on, as it will be necessary to reject anything impractical, expensive, or dangerous. In the meantime, we will live with the new expansive beach for a while.

## **Update on Beach Opening**

The beach is ready to be opened. Tom will tape off dangerous areas. There is no bathroom until a plumber reconnects the water. Angela will write a welcoming email for the opening, with reminders on rules and responsibilities. Howard will open the gate on Sat, April 18. Only members with tags can park on the beach. As of now, closing time is up to Howard.

A vote was taken on purchasing a new sunfish dolly with wide wheels, expected to cost \$1500-2000. Research will be done on a surface to provide more structure than the sand ramp, with a projected budget of \$1000.



It is recommended that members and their children not walk on bulkhead capping. A 50' walkway mat from the beach house/parking area to the walkway will be considered as part of the overall beach improvement project. A sturdy post will replace the unsightly arrangement of rusted chains holding the private beach sign between PWEA and Secor beaches. Free access by PWEA, Secor, and Manhasset Bay Estates is desirable as long as residents don't abuse this. This applies not only to us, but to the other associations.

*Meeting was adjourned at 7:20*