



PWEA MEETING MINUTES

March 11, 2021

Call to Order

A meeting of the Board of the Port Washington Estates Association was held on March 11, 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 January 13th, 2021 meeting were approved to be posted on the PWEA website.

Update on Southern Bulkhead

Howard reported that the bulkhead is 90% complete and should be finished up in a matter of weeks. The new sand ramp will not be as wide as the original, though the contractors are building to plan. In order to protect the wetlands on Secor, the NYSDEC instructed us not to disturb the old bulkhead and grasses, so the opening is narrower. It should still be fine for launching most small craft. Jeff suggested we speak to Tom about the width of the ramp. Gavin and Howard will speak to Tom.

The bulkhead wall will now be capped, which seems safer and more accommodating than the sharp corrugated edges. The wall is not a straight line, but that’s also to design. We hope the cap will hold up well in spite of increased wave action.

Initiative for New Playground Equipment

Josh continues in his plans to set up a Playground Committee meeting. There was some response from our last request for interest. We discussed whether we should send out another MailChimp announcement to organize a meeting. Josh will write up the invitation for Gavin to send out.

Equipment Locations

Due to the change in the configuration of the sand area, eliminating the middle ramp, we discussed relocating the trash containers. They are installed on heavy concrete ballasts, so the new positions will be “set in stone”. There were suggestions to keep the two unsightly receptacles off the beach. Some potential locations are putting one by kayak rack and one by the beach house or one at each end of the beach. Meir asked if it was possible to have removable attachments to the bases so that the garbage receptacles could be taken out when not in use?



Questions arose about the grill locations and whether they are still used. We agreed to take the current grills out as they are not in good shape. Our intentions are to keep the rebuilt beach looking as clean and open as possible.

Update on Private Parties

PWEA has been receiving requests for private parties. A discussion ensued about when this will be safe, due to the ongoing Coronavirus pandemic. It was agreed that we should set clear restrictions for health reasons and so that members still get out to enjoy the beach. New party regulations discussed included:

- Only one booked party per summer weekend
- Restricting total guests to 100 or possibly less
- All parties over 25 need to supply valet parking and portable toilet facilities
- Outside caterers rather than onsite cooking
- Must follow current CDC guidelines, along with those of NY State and Town of NH
- Nobody without a hangtag is allowed to park on the beach
- Set-up of a Google drive sign-up sheet on the PWEA website

Josh suggested that we should let the majority using the beach have priority over party-goers in order to make the beach more usable in difficult times. When more people want to be outside, wouldn't it be better for use by our own members, instead of outsiders? Others were concerned about pushback. The compromise is to limit the number of private parties to one per weekend.

It was suggested that a Google drive sign-up sheet for parties be posted on the PWEA website. Along with limits to the number of guests, there will still be a sliding scale for donations, along with specific requirements at different numbers. As always, nobody without a hangtag is allowed to park on the beach, except the guard.

A brief mention was made of the possibility of a catered PWEA members' party by July or August.

Opening of Beach House Bathroom

There was an extensive discussion on whether to allow members to use the beach house bathroom. This has come up as an issue for people spending time and picnicking on the beach, with some unintended consequences. After reviewing potential options, a vote was taken:

The PWEA beach bathroom will be open from Sat-Sun only. Victor will clean and sanitize on Saturdays. Signs will be placed indicating that use is at members' and guests' own risk. Occupancy will be only one person at a time.



Individual Member Issues

The board received a certified letter from the PW Yacht Club cancelling the gentleman's agreement that has been in place between our two organizations since 1961, following their purchase of two lots that adjoined the club but fell within PWEA boundaries. There has been an ongoing discussion about their use. Gavin will speak to the new PWYC Commodore to relay our position, that the area in question should store boats only; no flammable liquids, no trash, and no cars. The Board has determined that both lots are subject to the same restrictive covenants as are other PWEA lots, which Richard pointed out is our ace card.

The PWEA board will send a letter in response to a member's refusal to pay the 2020 nominal assessment for the bulkhead replacement. The board has been transparent in validating the necessity of our expenditures. In fairness to all in the association, members must pay their dues. Whether or not they use the beach, they will take advantage of the maintained asset when selling their homes.

Jeff wondered what to do about others who haven't paid the assessment. How strongly do we pursue them, especially elderly members?

Expanding PWEA services

Angela suggested that we continue to disseminate information about upcoming town projects and issues, without voicing an opinion. Angela, Irene, Amelia, & Meir had attended a zoom presentation by Craig Johnson, representing Southern Land Company and their proposal for 145 Harbor Road on March 10th.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:30