

Winter 2020



Drum Point Light

Drum Point Property Owners' Association

www.dppoa.org

office@dppoa.org

410-326-6148

*happy
new year*



Celebrate the Season

Regardless of how you celebrate the season, the suggestion posted on Next Door Drum Point is a good one. On Christmas Eve at 6:00 p.m. they are asking everyone to come outside and ring a bell for two minutes to spread the Christmas spirit and to help Santa fly that sleigh. Whether you attend Christmas Eve services, light a menorah or a Kinara or just set cookies out for Santa and enjoy the time with family and friends, it is the time of year to come together in celebration of our similarities and to share our traditions. After a tough year, it would be a lovely way to make the season a bit more special for the kids and community. Let's end this difficult year with a bit of magic, hope and togetherness and welcome the new year!

Still receiving the newsletter through the mail?- it's much nicer in color.

Contact the DPPOA office to receive it in color via email (office@dppoa.org)

President's Column

Mike Snapp, President DPPOA Board of Directors



I hope you all are staying safe, well, masked, and distanced as needed to avoid COVID-19 exposure during this latest national spike in infections. We've been pretty lucky in Calvert County, but our numbers have been rising lately. The following website has information on COVID testing in Calvert County: <https://www.calvertcountycovid19.com/testing-sites>. Maryland has finally started a voluntary contact tracing application for your Apple and Android phones. You can get information on the app, its use and privacy at <https://covidlink.maryland.gov/content/mdcovidalert/>.

At our September General Membership Meeting, a budget item was approved for a study and plan to control the erosion of our Community Beach on Beech Drive. We have now contracted with a Virginia marine engineering firm, Coastal Design P.C., to complete the first two tasks of a shoreline management plan to restore and enhance the Community Beach. Coastal Design has designed several other successful restoration projects in the area, including Swan Point on the Potomac and areas on Pax River NAS. The first two tasks will provide a site survey and assessment, design options, preliminary plan, and projected completion costs. Their study will address any impacts to adjacent properties, and they have provided a similar proposal to the Drum Point Club. We expect to bring the study results and our recommendations to the DPPOA membership at our March General Membership Meeting.

Over the years, owners of Drum Point "waterfront" properties on the bay, river, and inlets have constructed piers, boathouses, bulkheads, riprap, etc., under evolving county and state permit requirements. Many of these structures are on a narrow strip of land, actually owned by DPPOA, between the Mean High-Water Line and the owners' lots. The county now requires that permits for such structures be preceded by either transferring riparian rights or the actual strip of DPPOA land to the property owner. The DPPOA Board has the authority to transfer riparian rights by Quit Claim deed and can do so fairly quickly. But transfer of actual ownership of DPPOA property requires approval of the membership per our Bylaws; this could take up to 6 months depending on when we can get a quorum at a membership meeting. You can request either or both depending on your needs, and your urgency. Contact the office for details. Also, please note that DPPOA does not provide maintenance or liability protection for these structures constructed by present or past property owners.

I continue to ask your support in helping us maintain a beautiful community by controlling litter and picking up after your pets. We are really appreciative of our neighbors who help clean up on your walks around your neighborhoods. We have placed trash cans on DPPOA access areas on the Bay Drive causeway, the Community Beach and the River Terrace beach access. Please help by using those and by hanging on to your litter until you reach your destinations where you will usually find trash receptacles.

I hope you can join us at the General Membership meeting on December 12th at 10:00 a.m., barring any change in Club restrictions. We will provide safe distancing and masks if needed.

Happy Holidays,
Mike

Be Ready for the Unexpected

The recent power outage throughout much of Drum Point was a result of heavy winds and rain and reminds us of the need to be prepared. Just a few tips:

- Build an emergency kit that includes, among other things, important documents, first aid kit, supply of food and water for up to 72 hours, a portable radio with spare batteries, hygiene items, pet supplies and spare cash.
- Keep an eye on the weather. If a storm is predicted and power is lost, your septic pump will not work - fill a tub with water that can be used to flush the toilet.
- The Association office has emergency first aid supplies and radio communication capabilities. It is also equipped with a whole-house generator should there be a major long-term outage.
- While phones and email messages are monitored throughout weather events, please call 911 for an actual emergency, as the office is not equipped to handle true emergencies.

The Calvert County Emergency Services office has requested that we report any damage that might occur to personal property (such as downed trees on houses or cars). Please do contact the DPPOA office to report any damage to personal property as a result of major weather events. This information will be forwarded to the County. If a disaster is declared by the State of Maryland, this information will be used for purposes of FEMA/MEMA disaster relief funding, should it be made available.

Nominating Committee FY 2022 Board of Directors Six Seats Opening

If you've lived in Drum Point for any length of time, you are likely aware that this is the time of year that the Board forms a Nominating Committee, as required in the By-laws. The Committee is charged with finding candidates to serve on the Board of Directors for the upcoming fiscal year, which begins July 1, 2021.

With the postponement of both the March 2020 and June 2020 meetings of the membership, the job of the Nominating Committee could not be fully carried out. As a result, Tony Spakauskas who was President at the time, appointed Mike Snapp, Alyssa Holiday and Maggie Johnson, the three candidates who had volunteered to serve. Although the By-laws allow for this to occur, they also require that if these Board members wish to continue to serve on the Board, they must run in the next election.

With three seats coming open each year, three additional slots will also be open, that of Tony Spakauskas, Jack Andre and Ginny Rice, for a total of six open seats for the upcoming year. As usual, a Nominating Committee will be appointed and announced at the December 12th meeting. Anyone wishing to serve on the Committee should step forward at that time or contact the Association office at (410-326-6148 or by email at office@dppoa.org).

Roads Committee

Gary Heal, who has served for a number of years, both on the Board of Directors and as the Roads Chairperson, will be stepping back from his duties starting in the spring of 2021. Gary has played an important part in his role as Roads Chair, and he will be missed.

With Gary's leaving the committee, the Board is in search of someone willing to volunteer his or her time. Duties would include working with the Project Manager in determining the location of the next repaving project and areas in need of storm water management maintenance. While the position does not require the experience of a civil engineer, some background in that department would be most helpful. The person in this position also helps determine when the snow removal contractor might be called upon and oversee major cutbacks of the unpaved rights-of-way.

Gary is willing to answer questions and guide the new person through the first few months. If you are looking for a way to serve your community and have some background in facilities maintenance, please contact Rhea in the Association office.

Invasive Plant Species

Heavenly bamboo (*Nandina domestica*) is an invasive shrub that invades natural areas in Maryland. It has evergreen leaves and bright red berries that are easy to spot in winter and typically grows 4' to 8' tall. Heavenly bamboo is native to Asia and was introduced to the United States in the 1800's as an ornamental plant.

Heavenly bamboo reproduces from roots and seeds and displaces native vegetation where it invades natural habitats. Its leaves and berries are toxic to birds and other animals. It has been classified as a Tier 2 invasive plant in Maryland and now requires a warning label for potential environmental harm where it is sold. (For more information on Tier 1 and Tier 2 invasive plants in Maryland, please visit the following website (you may have to cut and paste the link):

https://mda.maryland.gov/plants-pests/Pages/maryland_invasive_plants_prevention_and_control.aspx



Heavenly Bamboo - Nandina Domestica

Prevention is the best control method for heavenly bamboo. It should not be planted in gardens and landscapes. A beautiful native alternative to heavenly bamboo is Winterberry which is easy to grow in many types of soil in full sun to part shade.



Winterberry



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General Membership Meeting

All meetings will be conducted according to Maryland Code, Corporations and Associations, Title 5, Sub Title 2, section (§) 5-206. which states, If the number of members present at a meeting does not meet the requirements of a quorum, those present may call another meeting to meet quorum requirements. At the additional meeting, the members present in person constitute a quorum.*

*Per the DPPOA Attorney - Any and all business of the Association can be discussed at the meeting.

General Membership Meeting

Agenda

10:00 a.m. Saturday, December 12, 2020

Drum Point Club

Call to Order
Approval of Minutes
President's Remarks

Committee Reports

Old Business
Beach Erosion
New Business

Presentation of Nominating Committee

Public Comments

Adjournment