**POPLAR POINT ASSOCIATION**

**Meeting Minutes**

 **9.28.24 10:00 AM Playground**

**Attending**

Onno Boswinkel, Trisha Borme, Maybeth Conway, George Hagerty, Cindy Hebert, Bob Hirsch, Steve Lord, Dawn and Paul Marcaccio, Joanne McDermott, Victoria McDonnell, Mary Ann Naddy, Edwin and Barbara Nicholson

Steve Lord, president, brought the meeting to order at 10:05 AM

**Secretary’s Report**

Maybeth distributed copies of the minutes from the 7/20/24 meeting. These minutes were also posted on the website prior to the meeting. A motion to accept the minutes was approved.

**Treasurer’s Report – Tony Scelsa**

Tony Scelsa was unable to attend this meeting due to a major flooding incident in his home. He did assure Steve that his records were dry and intact. He also reported that the association accounts were in fine shape with a current balance of approximately $5,000.00.

**Committee Reports**

 **Sunshine/Membership**

Victoria McDonnell reached out to a number of our community members in recent months. She delivered welcome baskets to new families on Lawton and Steamboat Avenues. She also sent get well wishes to Kathy Shippee and a condolence message to the Nicholson family.

**Playground**

Bob Hirsch reported that the decade old Poplar Point Memorial Playground sign was looking weather beaten. Members agreed to authorize the purchase of a replacement sign with no changes to the current language. Bob also reported the need for a replacement light on the playground flagpole which should cost approximately $50.00. This will be purchased in the spring. Some members noted that the flag should be illuminated at night.

**Website/IT**

Steve reported that the website is up to date with association information. He encouraged members to send along any relevant activity updates for posting.

**Events**

**Summer Events:**

The End of Summer cocktail party at our little beach is scheduled for this evening (9/28/24) from 5:00 to 7:00. As usual, it’s BYOB and an appetizer to share.

**Fall and Winter Events:**

The Halloween Hayride will return. Given our improved financial status and the enthusiasm of our neighbors, a decision was made to host this popular event again. Steve will reach out to Julie Beebe who regularly coordinates this activity. For updates, consult our web page or the Poplar Point Community site on Facebook.

Plans for the Holiday Dinner are progressing. Joanne McDermott confirmed December 14th as the date for the event which will begin with cocktails at Erney Fryberg’s home at 42 Wright Lane and then move to Joanne’s home at 24 Wright Lane for dinner. The event will be open to a maximum of 68 adults who are currently active members of the association at a ticket price of $50.00 per person Steve will send out a Save the Date announcement. Official signups will begin on November 1st. Those wishing to attend should complete a signup form with their names and street address and include a check made out to the Poplar Point Association. These forms should be placed in the mail slot next to the door on Ed and Barbara Nicholson’s home at 8 Wright Lane. Victoria McDonnell has agreed to run another 50/50 raffle this year.

There will be a need for late fall playground cleanup. Steve will organize volunteers for a late November or early December work group.

Bill Simeone’s generous tour of duty as playground mower and trimmer is coming to an end. He has offered to organize a crew of volunteers for the 2025 mowing season.

**Other Business – Any Offers/Suggestions**

**Traffic and Speeding Concerns:** Safety on local roads remains an ongoing concern for the association. As requested, a meeting was conducted with the town traffic officer to discuss speeding on Steamboat Avenue, parking overflow during summer events at the town beach/band shell, and related traffic issues. The group made additional suggestions which included the placement of a stop sign at the corner of Steamboat and Elgin avenues, the use of portable speed bumps for high traffic periods, and more frequent use of the town’s speed camera or the possible purchase of our own solar speed camera. Members also recommended possible outreach to the management of the shipyard for additional assistance. Steve will send a letter.

**Tree Removal:**  Dawn Marcaccio reported that the town is taking down trees in our area due to an infestation with ash borers. If anyone suspects the need for additional removal particularly if infected limbs hang over the road, contact the town for assistance.

**Possible Spring Yard Sale**: Members of the group suggested a Poplar Point Community Yard Sale in the spring to raise money for the association. A committee will be created to explore and organize this event.

**Adjournment:**  The meeting was adjourned at 11:09 AM

**Next Meeting**

Our next regular meeting will be held on Saturday, May 3, 2025 at the playground. Rain date will be May 12th.