

Sound Beach Property Owners Association - General Meeting - March 30, 1943*

Minutes of the meeting of the Sound Beach Property Owners Association held on Tuesday, March 30, 1943 at Kneer's Hof Brau, 3210 Broadway, Astoria, N.Y.

Meeting was called to order by Pres. Mr. Leonard Hafner at 9 PM. Motion made seconded and carried that the minutes of the last Meeting be approved as published in the Bulletin.

Report of Officers: Mr. Hafner reported that he was down to the beach a couple weeks ago and found both pumps out of order. He stated his son went to Medford to see Mr. Zeidler who promised he would take care of the pumps as soon as possible. One of our members present reported that there was no water at the Community house as yet. Mr. Hafner stated he would get in touch with Mr. Zeidler again and ask them to try and see if he could not get down there very soon and make the necessary repairs.

Report of Public Safety Committee: Mr. Werner reported that it was a little too early to make plans for the coming year and you'll of the present conditions it would be necessary to know how the funds of the Association would come in before trying to obtain men to do the necessary police work.

Department of Sanitation: Mrs. Kress reported that I will form a collector of garbage gone into the Army. She stated she would see what could be done about getting someone to take his place.

Department of Plants and Structures: Mr. Hanson had nothing to report. Mr. Hafner said that the painting of the promenade deck had to be discontinued owing to the weather conditions. He said that as soon as the weather permitted painting of this deck would be continued.

Auditing Committee: Mr. Hafner stated that it was necessary for in Auditing Committee of five members to be appointed at this meeting, the president to select to members and three to be elected from the General Body. The president selected Mr. William Toner and Mr. Harrell Hafner multiple our accountants. Mrs. Pfister, Mrs. Elliott and Mrs. Bobabia were nominated from the floor. Motion made, seconded and carried that the above mentioned be elected to the auditing committee to year 1943.

Nominating committee: the Pres. announced that it was necessary for a Nominating Committee to be elected at this meeting to take care of the fall elections. The following were nominated for this committee: Mr. Smith, Mr. Mesler, Mr. Cerria, Mrs. Wells, Mrs. Elliott, Mrs. Pfister, and Mr. Ankener. Motion made, seconded and carried that nominations for this committee be closed in the members listed above serve on this committee for the year 1943.

New Business: The nominating committee presented the following names as candidates for members of the Board of Directors of the Sound Beach Property Owners Association, to serve for a term of three years. They are: Leonard Hafner, Joseph Gilbert, Josephine Wink, David Case, Harvey Belair, Esther Kress, Mildred Bayard, Frank Di Lalla, and Robert Stephenson. Ballots were distributed and 79 were returned. Mr. Hafner stated that owing to the uncertainty of conditions at the present time that the Board of Directors have not made up a new budget the year 1943. After a general discussion, motion was made seconded and carried that a budget the same as 1942 be adopted and dues of eight dollars per year also be adopted.

Recommendations from Board of Directors: Mr. Hafner stated that in the past many people have criticized and asked why the necessary repairs to the pumps, plants and other Association property could not be ordered before the season. Mr. Hafner stated that the money to do this work was not received by the Association until after the season opened and it was not the intention of the Board of Directors to go into debt for this work, not knowing whether or not the money would come in to pay for same. He stated that if it was possible for the Association to collect the dues earlier in the season, that the officers would be able to have this work done by the time the members came to the beach and they would not be inconvenienced by the pumps being out of order in the ramps not as class condition etc. he stated that to remedy this it was the recommendation of the Board of Directors that all dues be made eight dollars up until May 1 of the current year and after May 1 that dues would be \$10 the year. He stated that in response to the questionnaire sent out, some of our members had returned the same with good check attached thereto in the Board of Directors wish to thank these members for their cooperation. He stated that membership credentials blanks would be sent to these people as soon as they were available. He stated that out of 545 questionnaire sent out received a total return of 256; which is a little less than half. The balance of the members did not answer. Of the 256 replies received 85% of the members answering indicated that they did not want the Association to do away with any of the facilities. Mr. Hanson, Treas., then explain to the members present, that the Association has a balance of about \$1100 in the bank which has been earmarked for various improvements to the beach, already authorized and some partly completed. He stated that in order for the work to be done before the members come to the beach the season, collection of dues should be paid. Mr. Hafner replied that the bylaws state that dues are due on January 1. The following recommendations of the board were then introduced.

Proposition #1: The question of the recommendation of the Board of Directors that an additional two dollars be charged members applying for membership at the May 1 of the current year. Note 1943 due to the lateness of the presentation of this recommendation a later closing date will be set. Mr. Butler moved that this recommendation be not adopted motion was seconded after a lengthy discussion motion was lost by a standing boat of 35 in favor and 71 opposed. Motion was made Mr. Thompson that the recommendation be adopted. Motion seconded and carried by standing boat of 77 in favor and 32 opposed. Dr. Brennan moved that the board of directors be empowered to make a letter date 1943 to give our members a little time this year and also to give the Board of Directors opportunity to set up the proper machinery for collecting the dues. It may be necessary to set the date back this year and to June 1 or even June 15. Seconded and passed.

Proposition #2: the question of an initiation fee to be charged by the Association for new members and property owners have allow them membership to lapse one year all. The amount of such initiation to be equivalent to the current years dues, starting 1944 and thereafter. A general discussion followed initiation fees as high as \$25 was suggested. Mr. Shire that the original recommendation of the Board be adopted seconded by Mr. Geisler motion carried on a standing vote, 69 in favor and 25 against. Mr. Martin moved that copies of the above recommendations as adopted be sent to war members. Seconded. Mr. Deichman moved to amend this motion; an amendment that bills for the current years dues be included with this notice. Seconded. No discussion. Adopted, with no dissenting votes. Motion

was made seconded and carried that at least three issues of the Bulletin be sent to our members of the current year seconded and adopted with no dissenting votes.

Good and Welfare: Mrs. Elliott stated that the Priest in Waiting River would be willing to, to our Community house and say Mass on Sundays the benefit of the people wish to attend. Mrs. Elliott was instructed to write a letter to Mr. Geisler was in charge of the arrangements for the use of the Community house.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 12:00 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Mildred Bayard, Acting Sec.

*(Taken from the Sound Beach Bulletin – April, 1943)

Sound Beach Property Owners Association – General Meeting – November 17, 1943*

The general meeting of the members of the Sound Beach Property Owners Association was held at Kneer's Hof-Brau, 3210 Broadway, Astoria, N.Y. on Wednesday, November 17, 1943.

Meeting was called to order by Pres., Leonard Hafner at 9:30 PM. Motion was made seconded and carried that we dispense with the reading of the minutes of the previous meeting. The president called upon the various offices for the reports of activities during the past season.

Report of Department of Public Safety: Mr. Warner of this Department made a very detailed report of the activities of his department. He stated that everything ran along very well during the summer and we were fortunate in having been able to secure the services of the policeman to guard the entrances of our beaches. He stated that he wished to express his appreciation to the people of Sound Beach for their cooperation during the summer.

Report of Department of Sanitation: Mrs. Kress stated that our garbage man was taken into the Army and it was therefore necessary to try and obtain the services of another man. After looking around she found the man was collecting garbage in Mount Sinai. She stated that there were some complaints but a great many of them were without foundation. She stated that owing to the shortage of gasoline, the man was unable to make the necessary collection for couple of weeks. He came to her home and informed her of this fact. When the gasoline situation eased a little, he made the collections as agreed and for the weeks that he was unable to collect, he extended the collections to make up for the weeks he did not work. She stated that in view of the fact that this was a new man in Sound Beach and he had to learn the roads, that it was felt that he did a very good job.

Report on Pumps and Ramps: Mr. Hafner stated that the pumps needed fixing. He stated that this was done at the clubhouse pump which had been turned off for the winter as there was no one to take care of it. The new pump at the West ramp was very satisfactory. The necessary precautions have been taken so that this pump will not freeze during the winter. About three weeks ago, we were informed that there was a washout at the West ramp in the same was in bad condition he got in touch with Dave Case and asked him to have this taken care of before any further damage was done and before we had another storm. Up to the present time Mr. Hafner stated that he had heard nothing further from Mr. Case.

Report of Chairman of Board of Directors: Dr. Brennan stated that there were very few meetings held this year. He stated that it was impossible to get a representative body together, as some of the members were in the Armed Forces and others were doing war work and what unable to assist the officers. He stated that the Pavilion at the center of the beach was in very bad condition he stated we might be able to sell the lumber that was left he stated we had received a small offer for what was left of the building and perhaps we could get a larger offer. He stated it would be necessary to have the permission of the body present to sell this building. After a general discussion, motion was made,

seconded and carried that the Board of Directors be given permission to sell this building and 12 obtain the best price possible for same.

Report of Treasurer: Mr. Hansen stated that we had 389 members who pay dues of eight dollars and 114 members who pay dues of \$10. A full financial report for the year will appear in the next issue of our Bulletin. This Bulletin, together with the minutes of the various meetings held during the year will be published prior to the general meeting which will be held sometime in February. Mr. Hansen also informed the members present that a lot of expenses were curtailed this season.

Report of Fire Department: Mr. Ankener reported for this Department. He stated that a contract was let for the erection of a new fire house. This is to be a one-story structure of concrete blocks. He also informed the members present that the Department had purchased a Hudson car which was equipped to take care of the residents of Sound Beach in the event of an emergency. Mr. Ankener stated he would like to make a report on a bed fire we had in Sound Beach towards the end of the season. The people tried to get the Fire Department on the telephone but were unsuccessful. There were several people present who wanted to assist the Fire Department. He stated that at any future time, if anyone wanted to assist the Fire Department in an emergency, they would be very glad to have them, but first they should report to the officer in charge and he will advise them what to do. He stated that if this was done it would avoid a lot of confusion and the people desiring to assist been be of some real assistance to the Department.

New Business: The nominating committee submitted the following candidates for election to our Board of Directors; Mr. W. Muhleisen, Mr. J. Stark, Mr. J Thompson, Mr. J Stirling, Mr. G. Kress, Mr. B Cnatingus, Mrs. Barry, Dr. A.J. Brennan, Mr. W. Leppin. Ballots were given to the members present, and the above were elected to service on our Board of Directors for a period of three years.

Good and Welfare: Mr. Hansen stated that he had several conversations during the summer with the owners of the private stairways leading to our beach. He stated that he was informed that some of them were there when the property was purchased by the present owners from the original owners. At the last meeting of our board of directors, this matter was authorized to be referred to our attorney Mr. Schoenfeld for his opinion. Mr. Schoenfeld stating that the stairways were an encroachment on our property and steps should be taken to have them removed. One of the parties owning one of the stairways was present at this meeting. She asked that we have a representative get in touch with her attorney and discuss this matter. After a general discussion, motion was made, seconded and carried that this matter be referred to the Board of Directors for action. After a general discussion it was suggested that we have refreshments after our next general meeting. Motion was made seconded and carried that the sum of \$100 be set aside for this purpose. Motion was made, seconded and carried that after this meeting adjourned, all the members present desire were to proceed to a restaurant in a body and be served coffee and sandwiches.

There being no further business to transact motion was made seconded and carried that the meeting adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,

Mildred Bayard, Acting Sec.

*(Taken from the Sound Beach Bulletin – February, 1944)