**Board Members present:** Mike Snapp, Jack Andre, Bonnie Blades, Gary Heal, Asha Andreas, Gina Swartwood and Ginny Rice

**Board Members not present:** Tony Spakauskas and Alyssa Holiday

**Staff present:** Rhea Webster

Mike Snapp, Vice President of the Board of Directors for the Drum Point Property Owners’ Association (DPPOA), called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. With 18 Association memberships in good standing represented, a regular quorum was not present. However, per the motion made and approved during the September 24, 2019 General Membership Meeting, the next scheduled meeting would be held in accordance with Maryland Law § 5-206 (“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”). This is to be considered that additional meeting.

**Approval of Minutes:** A motion to approve the minutes from the June 25, 2019 meeting was requested. Betsy Fehn made a motion to approve. The motion was seconded, and the minutes were accepted as distributed.

**Vice President’s Remarks:** Mike remarked on the number of newcomers and allowed time for the Board to introduce themselves. He thanked the Board for their willingness to serve on the Board and asked those present to introduce themselves. He then thanked Rhea Webster for her dedication to the community.

**Committee Reports:**

**Planning Committee:** The committee consists of Mike Snapp, Gary Heal and Ginny Rice. Mike reported the following:

* The Planning Committee is in the process of investigating options to address the erosion at the community beach. The erosion has been increasing, and there is fear that we could lose the beach. The committee met with a representative from the Maryland Department of the Environment who said a permit can be secured. He suggested an engineer be consulted.
* A breakwater (similar to those installed at Swan Point in Charles County) is being considered. The engineer responsible for the work done at Swan Point was contacted, and he has provided a few suggestions and an initial plan.
* This will be a long-term project as it will take time to develop a plan, secure permits and develop a scope of work. Adjacent property owners are being consulted as the installation of erosion control devices can have an impact on adjoining property. Additional information will be made available with regard to planning and funding as a plan is developed. Cost is expected to be in the range of $100,000 or more.

**Finance Committee:** The Balance Sheet and Profit and Loss Statement were distributed at the door. Jack Andre, Treasurer for the Association, noted that we are within budget for the current fiscal year, with the exception of this year’s paving work, which ran over (see Operations/Roads report below). The bill for the three-year cutback has been received and paid. The balance sheet shows that Accounts Receivables are down compared to previous years, which means that more property owners are paying their bills in a timely fashion.

**Safety Committee:** Peter Holt reported that the surveillance cameras are working well to reduce vandalism at the beach, and the chips are changed monthly. He explained that the Association office is equipped with a whole-house generator and has emergency equipment (ham radio, first aid supplies etc.) in place and can communicate with County emergency response services in the event of an emergency.

**Environmental Committee:** Bonnie Blades reported that this year’s spraying of Phragmites has been done. Phragmites is an invasive plant species which the State is working to eradicate. The dead canes will be removed in the coming months.

**Operational/Roads Committee:** Gary Heal reported the following:

* Nearly a mile and a half of roads were repaved (portion of Laurel Way, Bay View Drive, and roads that run off of these two) were repaved.
* The three-year cutback is finished and took much longer than expected. There were a few property owners who did not understand the location of the right-of-way (10’ – 15’ from the edge of the asphalt). Gary and the contractor met with them to explain the reason for the cutback and the need to keep these areas free of vegetation.
* Money has been spent in the last several years on storm-water management. Therefore, there have been no reports of issues with regard to flooding of the unpaved portions of the rights-of-way.
* There are three “dry hydrants” in Drum Point, where Solomon’s Fire and Rescue can re-fill their pumper trucks. The proximity of a dry hydrant near your house may enable one to receive a discount on fire insurance. The hydrants are located on Anchor Drive Causeway, Laurel Way Causeway and the River View Causeway.

**Welcoming Committee:** Rhea explained the reasoning behind and creation of the committee, which was formed not only to welcome newcomers but also to encourage them to come into the office and provide contact information. Cindy Andre spearheaded the creation of the committee and speaks with local businesses who donate various items for inclusion in a bucket (donated by Ace Hardware). Brochures about the area are also included. Gina, Asha and Ginny assemble the buckets. Property sales have slowed in the past few weeks so fewer buckets are being distributed.

**Old Business:**

**New Business:**

**Presentation of Nominating Committee:**

The following property owners have volunteered to serve on the Nominating Committee: Peter Holt, Ralph Swartwood and Regis Johnston. Board members serve on a three-year basis, with three seats coming open each year. It is especially important that a quorum be reached at the March meeting so that the slate of candidates can be presented. If there is no quorum, a special meeting (called per Maryland State law governing quorums) will be held.

**Old Business:** None scheduled

**Public Comment and Response:**

* Mr. Zhadovich commented on the condition at the community beach and acknowledged the efforts being put forth by the Board to address the erosion but asked if perhaps the community might come together to remove overgrowth [He and Mike Snapp visited the beach after the meeting to determine what might be done].
* Ms. Fehn asked about the lot located across from her house. This lot is vacant and used as a turn-around by school buses and other vehicles. They often knock posts over in her yard. Unfortunately, there is nothing that the Association can do to prevent this from happening.
* Ms. Fehn informed the group that there is a strand of kudzu at the curve on Overlook Drive. She pointed this out to Karl Bowen (tree removal contractor for the Association), and he removed most of it, however one strand was missed. Kudzu is invasive, grows rapidly and can choke out other vegetation if not removed.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 10:50 a.m. The date of the March General Membership meeting will be announced and published on the website.