**Board Members present:** Amy Rispin, Dennis Baker, Max Munger, Curt Larsen, Fran Borsh, Larry Reich, Aubrey Mumford and Gary Heal

**Board Members not present:** Duane Heidemann

**Staff present:** Rhea Webster, Manager

Amy Rispin, President of the Drum Point Property Owners’ Association (DPPOA) Board of Directors, called the meeting to order at 10:20 a.m. With 35 Association memberships in good standing represented, a quorum was present, and business could be conducted.

**President’s Remarks:** Amy Rispin reported as follows:

1. She stated that there were six snow events this year and reported that the snow removal contractor worked closely with Board members and office staff to minimize costs as much as possible while maintaining safety. The amount spent on snow removal was approximately $60,000 or double the amount budgeted. The amount budgeted is based on an average rate of expenditure.
2. Statements with the new fee structure should have been received by all owners by this time. The fall and winter newsletters as well as the December General Membership meeting were used by the Board to disseminate information about the new fees. The funds collected from the mandatory assessment will be used to maintain community amenities, such as the boat ramp and the beach and to keep the Association from having to go into deficit spending (as approved at the June 2013 membership meeting). The community will vote on the upcoming year’s budget, which will encompass the new fee structure, at this year’s annual meeting (June 18, 2014).
3. A forum to “Meet the Candidates” for this year’s DPPOA Board of Directors election will be held during this meeting.
4. Mike Hart, Candidate for the Calvert County Board of Commissioners, was introduced.

Susan Holt made a motion to approve the minutes from the December 2013 meeting of the General Membership (made available at the door). The motion was seconded, and the minutes from that meeting were approved as presented.

**Committee Reports**

**Nominating Committee:** Marcia Lapham, Co-chair of the Nominating Committee, reported as follows:

1. There are four open seats for this year’s Board of Directors, and the Committee enthusiastically supports the four community members who have volunteered to serve: Gary Heal, Amy Rispin, Curt Larsen and Dan Mathias (attending this meeting by phone).
2. Amy Rispin asked for nominations from the floor. Hearing none, nominations were closed.
3. With just four candidates for four positions, John McCall made a motion to forgo an election and accept by acclamation the four candidates. According to the By-laws, this can be done as long as the candidates agree as to who will serve in which vacancy (Dan Mathias agreed to fill the two-year vacancy). The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.
4. Gary Heal, Amy Rispin and Curt Larsen introduced themselves and gave a brief description of their goals for the Board. Peter Holt read a statement from Dan Mathias. There was an opportunity for questions to be asked.

**Finance Committee:** Max Munger, Treasurer for the Association, reported as follows:

1. The Balance Sheet, Profit and Loss Statement and combined report were distributed at the door.
2. Payment for Covenant fees and the new mandatory assessment are being received at a faster rate than last year’s Covenant fees and voluntary dues.
3. The expense for snow removal, at more than $60,000 and Capital expense, at more than $100,000, are the two largest outlays. Capital spending includes road rejuvenation and paving.

**Roads Report:** Gary Heal reported as follows:

1. The Roads Committee has held several meetings to discuss the budget for Fiscal Years 2015 and 2016. Recommendations have been sent to the Planning Committee for review. The Finance Committee will review and make a final recommendation to the Board.
2. A major cost in the treatment of roads during snow storms is the cost of salt. Salt can triple the cost of the treatment. A Request for Proposals for the 2015/2016 season will be advertised this fall as a matter of routine.

**Environmental Committee:** Amy Rispin reported as follows:

1. The salt used on Drum Point roads is primarily calcium chloride versus sodium chloride. Although more expensive, Calcium Chloride is more environmentally friendly.
2. Grants are available for anyone who lives in the Critical Area and would like to consider the installation of a low-nitrogen septic system.
3. Patuxent River Appreciation Days are being held shortly.

**Planning Committee:** No report

**Old Business:**

Peter Holt presented an update on the status of beach security. The Board is considering the suggestion, from the security planning group, to install cameras at the entrance to the community beach. A budget for this expense has been submitted to the Planning Committee. Cost is estimated at between $1,000.00 and $1,200.00 for three cameras. A meeting will be held with members of the Drum Point Club in order to resolve the issue of security.

John Zalusky asked about a motion regarding a proposed amendment to the By-laws. The motion was made and tabled during the General Membership meeting held December 7, 2013. After discussion, Mr. Zalusky made a motion to place the subject of amending the By-laws on the agenda for the next General Membership meeting, scheduled for June 18, 2014. The motion was seconded and passed by a margin of 32 in favor and three against.

**New Business**

**Meeting Venue:**

Mike Snapp suggested another venue be found for meetings that cannot be held at the Drum Point Club, as there are often noisy events taking place in other, nearby rooms. The June and September meetings are scheduled to take place on Wednesday evenings at the Drum Point Club.

**Public Comment:** The following property owners commented:

* Al Lavish introduced a long-time community member, George Clements.
* Len Addiss commented on the condition of the rights of way as well as the fact that the paving contractor has not yet finished the shoulder work.
* John Zalusky commented on the following:
  + The need to be aware of the location of the rights of way
  + The proposed cell phone tower site (corner of Barreda Boulevard and Rousby Hall Road). A public hearing is scheduled for April 3, 2014. A link to the County information page on this subject will be placed on the DPPOA website
  + The mandatory assessments with regard to conserved properties such as those owned by the Southern Calvert Land Trust
* Ralph Swartwood commented on the cracking of some asphalt on Bay Drive as a result of the delay in finishing shoulder work associated with the paving (inclement weather caused the delay of the work, which should commence shortly, now that the weather has warmed).
* Mike Snapp requested an update on the entrance signs (the sign at Leasons Cove is being re-built by Hilltop Signs in St. Mary’s County. The electrical portion of the sign at Barreda Boulevard will be done by a professional electrician. Much of the work will be done by volunteers, now that the weather has warmed.
* Susan Holt commented on the commitment needed by members of the Board who are often called in the middle of the night to handle such issues as the need for treatment of roads during snow storms. She also commended former Board members, Len Addiss and John McCall, for their many years of dedication to the Board and the community.
* Peg Duffy suggested using tape, which can be purchased at Ace Hardware, to delineate any areas in the vicinity of the right of way where one may have plants they wish to protect from pruners hired by the DPPOA.
* Fran Borsh commented about the need for a speed bump on Cove Drive. As a Board member, Fran can place this item on a future Board meeting agenda.