

SAYBROOK MANOR ASSOCIATION, ANNUAL MEETING

SEPTEMBER 8, 2024

Board members present: J. Boggs, K. Bennetto, R. Bowden, J. Cerrito, D. Duryea (Tax Collector), R. Marino, D. Pettinicchi, R. Savastra

Board members absent: K. Jockers, J. Santaniello

Meeting commenced at 10:01 a.m. in the Clubhouse

54 members present at the meeting.

Minutes were read aloud by D. Pettinicchi, in Keri's absence, and were passed unanimously.

Jean Boggs reminded everyone that this meeting dealt with the July 2023 – 2024 year.

OLD BUSINESS

Beach (Rosario Savastra)

- There were no buoys at the Middletown Avenue beach, and we will have to pay to have them replaced. Existing ones could not be untangled.
- No beach sand was needed this week.
- Middletown Avenue (Wall Beach) wall was repaired and reinforced .
- Hartford Avenue wall being repaired and dock being replaced (slats, not pilings).
- New contractor for beach maintenance next year, will cost more.
- Benches will be removed at usual time and placed back on beaches in Spring
- Stairs – Anyone can clean them, so if they are dirty, feel free to clean them.

Clubhouse (Rich Bowden)

- 12 rentals, grossing \$1,655
- Additional expenses:
 - Fire suppression inspection, \$279
 - Locating septic tank, \$505
 - Roof replacement, \$14,110
 - Repair of split heating system (still pending), \$105

Events (Jen Cerrito)

- July 4 parade and hot dogs
- 2 bingo nights
- Cornhole and BBQ
- Pizza truck
- Bagels on the beach cancelled

OSCRC (Dave Pettinicchi)

- Overview of OSCRC operation, mission, board members from 11 beach associations
- Applied for grant to fix the wall but it was declined, because funds were earmarked for Covid relief efforts.
- Working on larger grant to fix both walls. Long-term project.

Tax Collector (Denny Durrea)

- Total due = \$51,623.39
- Total collected = \$53,504.25

Financials (Kathy Bennetto)

- Kathy went through line-by-line explanation of P&L Report
- **Voted on 2025/2026 budget of \$72,825 which passed unanimously.**
- This will result in a SMA mill rate increase from .09 to approximately 1.35-1.50.

Commented [1]: Here is the vote.

By-Laws

- Draft of by-laws was sent out in the Spring. Some people indicated that they did not receive them., which generated a side conversation about communication.
- We communicate via gmail. Facebook and the SMA website, so there is sufficient opportunity to communicate. Anyone having issues should contact Dave Pettinicchi to be sure they are on the master distribution list for gmail. That is our main communication tool.
- Back to by-laws, Jason Cataldo asked why we did not put rules and regulations in the by-laws. He was on the committee that revised the by-laws but he did not attend the meeting. By-laws do not normally contain rules and regulations.
- Motion to accept by-laws was made and accepted. Motion passed.

New Members

- New members introduced themselves:
 - Bill and Beth Lebreque (Hartford Avenue)
 - Bob and Janet Duggar (Middletown Avenue)
 - Bill and Lori Van Kruh (Hartford Avenue)

Elections

- Up for re-election: Rich Marino, Jeanne Boggs, Rosario Savastra, all of whom indicated that they would run this year.
- Dennis Dowd nominated himself from the floor.
- Voting completed (see results in New Business section).

NEW BUSINESS

Election results:

- Jean Boggs 57 votes
- Rosario Savastra 64 votes
- Dennis Dowd 39 votes
- Richard Marino 35 votes

- Dennis will replace Rich on the board; Jean and Rosario will serve another term

Look into pulling sand from the channel onto the beach for the winter. This protects the shoreline from erosion. More sand will result in more beach area too.

New stairs for front of Clubhouse. Looking for people to help with installation.

Chief Spera – no answer on painting golfcart spaces at the end of Hartford Avenue. Asked membership to park closely together, parallel on left side, so as to accommodate more golf cares and allow room for residents and emergency vehicles to get in and out.

The one-way sign on New Britain Avenue does not help at all. Very dangerous when people come down the wrong way. Lots of underage people driving golf carts. It was clearly reiterated once again that only licensed drivers are allowed to operate golfcarts.

Pinder working on maintaining dock and walls. They did a nice job on the wall repair, fixing cracks, reinforcing the stairs and shoring up areas as needed.

Dock is being rebuilt commencing September 9.

Beverly Pasioca (check spelling) asked to speak. She was receiving threatening and inappropriate comments from an association member (who was not present at the meeting) regarding their dog. She should contact OSPD about that. She also clarified beach and wall ownership in front of her property.

Jason Cataldo brought up the fireworks again, citing damage to his property. He has enlisted legal counsel regarding this. A robust conversation ensued. Jean once again stated that the Fourth of July fireworks are NOT an SMA sanctioned event, and the association is not liable for any resultant issues.

Meeting was adjourned at 12:05 p.m.