

Minutes for the November 19, 2020 Gerald Park Association Board of Directors Meeting

Held via Zoom due to COVID-19

The meeting was called to order at 6:09pm. A quorum was established. Board of Directors members present were Linda Blakesley, Lisa Catanese, Pam Cropley, Eric Miller, Raymond Perugini, John Petrovits, and Dave Sutherland.

Audience of Members: None.

Minutes: Minutes from the October 22, 2020, GPA Board of Directors meeting were approved with no changes.

President's Report: Linda Blakesley thanked Board members and GPA members who helped out at the fall beach and park cleanup. She noted that although all canoes and kayaks were supposed to be removed by November 1, there were still 2 canoes and 2 kayaks left. We will post notices about them on the website and Facebook page to ask that they be removed asap for the winter months.

Tax Collector's Report: Laura Young submitted a report indicating the current tax collection rate has increased to 91.48%. There are 13 newly delinquent accounts for which Laura will pursue payment. Board members suggested offering a payment plan to those with delinquent accounts who may be facing difficulties due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Treasurer's Report: Dave Sutherland reported that several bills have been paid, including the cost of the pavement repairs at the east end of Avery Shores.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Avery Shores Turnover: John Petrovits reported that Harvey Barrett is working on setting up a meeting with town officials to discuss next steps.

Beach & Beautification: Jim Cropley has finished the beach improvement work, including creating a walkway from the parking lot. Unfortunately, the bench on the west side of the beach had to be moved to fix the erosion issue and became damaged. There is still plenty of seating at the park.

Member Involvement Committee: Events are being planned for 2021 and will be shared on our website and Facebook page.

Environmental: Linda Blakesley asked Sharon Powers if she would be willing to continue providing information on the health of the lake; awaiting Sharon's reply. Scott Gallo currently serves on the lake advisory committee and also may be able to help with this going forward.

Fuel Oil Cooperative: Another delivery is likely in the next month or two; anyone interested in participating in purchasing home heating oil at a group rate should contact Harvey Barrett.

Website: Lisa Catanese said that due to COVID concerns, it's difficult to get together with Kevin Ryan to work on upgrading the website to accommodate a dynamic calendar. Raymond Perugini suggested adding a link to a Google calendar, which can certainly be done. Eric Miller offered to put one together.

Welcome to GPA: Linda Comeau, who has put together our welcome baskets in the past, has moved out of town. Fortunately, GPA member Lisa Lowell has offered to take it over.

Bylaws and Park Rules subcommittee: The committee has worked on updating the park rules and is in the process of refining them. Work on the bylaws is continuing and is expected to take some time.

GPA taxes subcommittee: Pam Cropley researched legislation regarding the ability to make taxation changes for our Association. A special legislative act may be needed if any changes were to be made, since the Association was set up as a quasi-municipality, and an attorney would need to be involved. The subcommittee is considering next steps.

OLD BUSINESS:

Road repairs at the east end of Avery Shores: These repairs were completed the week of November 16. The Board thanked Raymond Perugini, who cleared out the drainage area to further help with the water flow. Residents in that area also said they would take steps to protect their property from water runoff that could freeze in the winter.

NEW BUSINESS:

None.

NEXT MEETING: The next Board of Directors meeting will be held Thursday, January 7, from 6:00pm – 7:30pm via Zoom.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:13pm.