

**GIANTS NECK BEACH ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 16, 2021
HELEN LENA CLUBHOUSE, NIAHTIC, CT**

Present: Page Heslin, Lee-Ann Berger, Wick Mallory, Lili Plisic, Bill Christopher

Absent: Peter Knowles, Lou Piscatelli

Also Present: Louise Wilcox

1. Call to Order

P. Heslin called the meeting to order at 7:34 p.m.

2. President's Report

P. Heslin reported that there has been a complaint about a commercial vehicle being parked in the driveway at 252 Giants Neck Road. The claim is that this is a violation of Section 2001.1 of our zoning regulations, which prohibits the parking of commercial vehicles on properties within the Association, with the exception of a single vehicle weighing less than one ton, provided it is parked in either a garage or the rear yard. The vehicle at issue is a school van that is parked in the driveway. P. Heslin noted that it is not clear that this would actually constitute a commercial vehicle. B. Christopher said that if we receive a complaint we have an obligation to take some action, by at least relaying it to the person at issue. He requested that P. Heslin relay the complaint to the property owners. Following discussion the rest of the board concurred.

Progress is being made on formation of the committee to consider development/improvement of the property surrounding the clubhouse, playground, and court. Under our bylaws, committees are appointed by the President and are to be no fewer than 3 and no more than 5 members, unless specifically authorized otherwise by the President. We currently have 6 confirmed members: Jim Horton and Joan Malone, who expressed interest in participating at the July Association meeting, Louise Wilcox, Trip Hartigan, Bill Christopher, and Glory Lena. We would like one more member for a total of 7.

K. Orshal has requested permission to plant a permanent pine/Christmas tree in the triangle on Brockett Road. She does not want to put up cut trees each year for decorating and caroling as they are difficult to install and keep stable. Following discussion, L. Plisic moved to deny the request.

MOTION: (Plisic/Christopher) to deny request to plant permanent tree in Brockett Road triangle.

VOTE: Approved Unanimously. Request is denied.

3. Treasurer's Report

L. Wilcox presented Treasurer's report. She noted that despite earlier communications re not using recreation committee funds for future yoga classes, she was contacted by the

yoga instructor for payment of 3 additional classes under the 2021-2022 budget year. Wilcox told the instructor that payment requests must be submitted by the relevant committee chair, which in this case would be Kerry Orshal as she organized it under the rec committee. She hasn't seen anything from K. Orshal yet, but expects that she will receive something soon. She requested direction on what to do in light of earlier instruction that no further classes should be paid from rec committee budget. Following discussion, Board directed Wilcox to pay the invoice if and when received, but with a clear statement that no further yoga classes would be approved as a rec committee expense. Wilcox also noted that the prizes for the pumpkin carving contest were significant last year, and seemed more geared to adults (such as restaurant gift certificates). Consensus of board was that any prizes beyond bragging rights for such events should be fun and nominal rather than of significant monetary value.

4. Security/Enforcement

P. Heslin reported on the off-duty police officer hired as a security guard for Labor Day weekend. She noted that the Heights Association had paid for the guard during the July 4th holiday weekend, and he spent time driving through our Association, and we had agreed to do the same for the Labor Day weekend. We had someone for Saturday and Sunday, but not Monday. It was a fairly quiet weekend, so we will have to give some thought to whether it is worth doing again next year.

There have been numerous complaints about widespread parking violations throughout the Association. The violators come from both inside and outside of our association. Externally, we had a number of instances during the summer where non-Association members parked on the causeway to use the main beach. On at least one occasion, they became belligerent and quite combative when questioned by Alan Pease. Internally, we have people parking in various prohibited places, including the triangle on Brockett Road, the banks of the lower pond along Lakeshore Avenue, various ROWs, and the dock.

If we want to enforce parking restrictions internally, our regulations allow us to ticket and/or tow improperly parked cars. As previously discussed, if we want to have the police department issue tickets, we will need to have signs posted throughout the Association that say "No Parking per order of Selectmen." P. Heslin noted that she has discussed the matter with the Chief of Police for East Lyme, who suggested that a first step may be to at least post signs on either end of the causeway to prevent parking there, as that is actually a true safety hazard. He is looking into the status of parking orders/approvals with respect to our various roads, and will get back to her. She will report back when she learns more. In addition to enforcement, we can think about prevention, such as placing physical barriers where appropriate, e.g. along Lakeshore Drive. Discussion followed. B. Christopher suggested placing large boulders. P. Heslin suggested maybe wooden posts connected by rope, for a more inconspicuous and nautical look. She was asked to look into pricing.

MOTION: (Christopher/Mallory) that P. Heslin (1) send general email blast to Association members concerning ongoing parking violations and warning of future

enforcement; and (2) send specific emails to P. Agostini re no parking on triangle and to Orshal/Cosentino re no parking on triangle and issue with alleged commercial vehicle in driveway.

VOTE: Approved Unanimously.

5. Discussion of Possible Future Projects

P. Heslin noted that now that the Court is complete it is a good time to think about potential future projects that the Board may want to consider. We have already decided to form a committee to consider and recommend potential development around the Clubhouse grounds, but could be good to consider other possible options. The following possibilities were discussed: additional dock capacity; revisions/updates to bylaws/ordinances/zoning regulations; racks for kayaks on ROWs.

6. Comments from the Public

Louise noted that she is getting additional estimates for windows and doors at Clubhouse. She hasn't heard anything back from the Town concerning the curb at West Beach. This remains an open issue and she will follow up again.

7. Adjournment

MOTION: (Christopher/Mallory) to adjourn at 8:58 pm.

VOTE: Approved Unanimously

Respectfully Submitted,
Page Heslin, Acting Secretary