

Minutes for the April 15, 2021

Gerald Park Association Board of Directors Meeting

Held via Zoom due to COVID-19

The meeting was called to order at 6:03pm. A quorum was established. Board of Directors members present were Steve Belanger, Linda Blakesley, Lisa Catanese, Pam Cropley, Eric Miller, Raymond Perugini, Kevin Ryan, and Dave Sutherland. Absent was John Petrovits.

Audience of Members: Lisa Lowell, who coordinates our Welcome to GPA gift baskets, was present.

Minutes: Minutes from the March 11, 2021, GPA Board of Directors meeting were approved with no changes.

President's Report: Linda Blakesley stated that:

- She was informed that a GPA resident recently passed away. Board members send condolences to his family and friends. He will be missed.
- A tree service will be coming to the GPA park and beach on Friday 4/16 to give an estimate on the tree work. Several board members said they would try to be there.

Tax Collector's Report: Laura Young submitted a report showing a 96.37% collection rate, which is excellent in order to fund our budget. Board members discussed possibly raising the collection rate estimate when forming the 2021-22 budget; currently the budget assumes a 90% collection rate but in the past several years that number has been higher.

Treasurer's Report: Dave Sutherland submitted a report showing spending to be on track.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Avery Shores Turnover: Linda Blakesley reported that she sent several email requests to be put on the Steering Committee's agenda again, but had not received a response. She will try to contact the chairman by phone. If that fails, the Board discussed asking our attorney to facilitate scheduling the meeting. As per our meeting with the Steering Committee on February 22, the committee would like their town attorney present for future discussions on this issue.

Beach & Beautification:

- The spring cleanup is scheduled for Saturday, May 15, at 9:30am (rain date May 16). All GPA members are asked to help out, even if just for an hour or so. It's possible that we would be building the new kayak rack at the same time, provided the needed materials can be ordered and delivered within our planned budget.
- The wooden picnic tables at the beach are starting to fall apart and will need to be replaced soon.

Member Involvement Committee:

- Some summer activities have been planned and will be promoted on Facebook, on our website, and in the spring newsletter. Linda Blakesley will send the list to Lisa Catanese.
- In addition, the committee set a date of Thursday, May 6, at 6pm (and Saturday, May 8, at 10am if needed) for board members to do a neighborhood walk-around to meet and greet GPA members and invite them to participate in the spring cleanup and other activities.

Environmental: No report.

Fuel Oil Cooperative: Finished for this year. Once again, thanks to Harvey Barrett for arranging this each winter.

Website: Lisa Catanese said we are due to renew our URL, and she may purchase it for multiple years since it looks like our website is here to stay.

Welcome to GPA: Lisa Lowell reported that she delivered baskets to two new residents and that there are several more properties currently on the market for which deposits have been made.

Bylaws and Park Rules subcommittee: The subcommittee drafted of new park rules and circulated them to Board members for their review. Any Board members with comments are asked to mark up the copy and send it to the full board. The final draft will need to be approved by GPA members at our June budget meeting.

GPA taxes subcommittee: This continues to be on hold for the time being.

OLD BUSINESS:

Building of the new kayak rack: Ray Perugini and Eric Miller will coordinate with John Petrovits to see if the needed materials can be purchased for the May 15 beach cleanup.

Storage shed: Board members suggested adding another \$1000 to the 2021-22 budget to bring the total to \$2,000. If fund are also available within the beach and beautification line item, it might be enough to purchase a shed this year.

Letter from Town regarding available road funds: Continues to be on hold.

Format request to add road turnover to Steering Committee agenda: Discussed under Committee Reports.

Tree health at the park: Discussed in the President's Report.

Drain washout at the beach: GPA members will continue to keep an eye on the repair work done by the town to ensure it's working to stop the erosion.

Blighted property within GPA: Linda Blakesley reported that several GPA members have asked about this issue, including whether they could help. Some board members contacted various companies and organizations to see if a bottle redemption service could come to the house, but none was available. However, town trucks have been at the property recently, so it looks like the town is taking action to help in light of the formal complaint that a resident had submitted to the town.

NEW BUSINESS:

Draft budget for 2021-22: Board members reviewed the line items and agreed that most would stay the same. Funding for Gerald Park Day and for the 2022 fireworks will be included in the hope that we will be able to gather in groups again post-COVID.

June budget meeting date: This meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 23, 2021 (rain date June 24) at 6:30pm at the GPA park. All GPA members are encouraged to attend.

September annual meeting date: This meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 22, 2021 (rain date September 23) at 6:30pm at the GPA park. All GPA members are encouraged to attend.

NEXT MEETING: The next Board of Directors meeting will be held Wednesday, May 19, from 6:00pm – 7:30pm in the GPA park if the weather cooperates; otherwise, via Zoom.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:25pm.