

Greens Farms Association Minutes

Board Meeting May 9, 2024

Attending: Art Schoeller, Norman Kramer, Karen Kramer (RTM-5), Birthe Shwisha, Judy Swann, Dick Lowenstein (RTM-5), Claudia Shaum (RTM-5) Patrick Davies-Griffith ,Kat Palmer and MaryAnn Meyer

1) Muddy Brook Update

Art received an update from Keith Wilberg, Town Engineer regarding Muddy Brook. This is a “work in progress” to get all the bridges repaired. This will take some time and GFA will monitor and continue to help to facilitate the project. Keith is aware of the neighbors’ concerns and he plans to meet with them. The goal of the project is to mitigate the flooding in the area as much as possible. GFA will continue their support on this project.

2) HDC-Grayson Braun

Art spoke to Grayson regarding the field across from the Lower Cemetery at the corner of Greens Farms Road and the Sherwood Island Connector. The field was once the site of the Greens Farms Congregational Church. During the revolutionary war, the Church building was burned down by the British. The Town Attorney, Eileen Flug requested to review the files at the HDC to see if there are any real constraints using the property as the Town considers a new location for the proposed Fire, Police and EMS combined headquarters. Multiple sites are being considered and a decision has not yet been announced.

Claudia Shaum(RTM-5) added that the Town will need to show the increase of a benefit that this (approximate) \$90million project will have for the Town.

3) Nyala Farms

Jennifer Zimmerman and Chrissy Hunt (residents of Claphoard Hill Road) continue to monitor the activity at Nyala Farms. Bridgewater’s continue abusing the deeded restrictions which may have ignored Town regulation and neighbors’ approvals. Art noticed that there were small pink flags (indicating water shed markers) on the property. He was walking along the road and was approached by a security guard who was very nice. Surveillance on the property is carefully monitored.

4) Redistricting School Enrollment

Art was contacted by residents of Hardy Lane regarding school redistricting. The BOE is proposing to redistrict 43 students currently attending Greens Farms School to Saugatuck Elementary School. The residents indicated that they are not in favor of this redistricting. The Greens Farms School is not over crowded according to these residents. This is not typically an issue that the Board comments on as this is a BOE issue. Art will look into this further.

5) In Person Board Meetings

Norman suggested that we return to in person Board Meetings. Our next meeting is June 5th and MaryAnn will see if Lois would like to host the meeting at her home.

6) GF Association Mailing- Annual Meeting

The Board requested that the postcard be larger for our Annual Meeting info. The postcards are larger and printed on heavier card stock which required more postage. The cost for the mailing was \$1,972.30. Art also took care of printing 75 membership envelopes and 75 copies of our newsletter. Art has also updated membership info on Pay Pal and membership envelopes to reflect \$40 dues for household membership.

7) Nominations of Officers

For the Annual Meeting, nomination of officers was reviewed. Art will continue as President, Norman will continue as Vice-President, Kat Palmer has agreed to be Secretary (MaryAnn Meyer stepped down as Secretary but will continue as a Board member) and Treasurer is open (Birthe Shwisha has stepped down but will remain on the Board).

8) Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 15th at 7pm at the Greens Farms Congregational Church. The rental fee is \$210 as we were given the "frequent rental" fee. The regular fee is \$310. The Church will setup tables and chairs for the meeting and we will not need to return the chairs and tables to the closets. Coffee, tea, water, sugar, milk and paper products provided by the Church.

Judy has contacted John Coyne, Director of Operations at the Church and provided him details of the meeting.

Assignments for the Annual Meeting:

Printing of signage, member sign in sheets QR Code for PayPal -Bitsy Higgins

Cash box and plexiglass frames for signs-Judy Swann

Pens- MaryAnn Meyer

Assignment for Check-in Table and due payments-Birthe Shwisha, Liz-Ann Koos, Karen Kramer and Patrick Davies-Griffith.

9)Burying Hill Beach Parking/ New Creek Road

There has been an unusual amount of parking by GF Academy students at Burying Hill Beach. Art spoke with Sophia Wang from the school to let her know that beach stickers are required. There will be Town staff at the Burying Hill to monitor that cars have the required beach sticker. Art also spoke with Jennifer Campbell, CFO/COO regarding a crosswalk at Beachside Ave for students walking to and from the train station

Kat Palmer reported the curb at New Creek road looks better due to some street cleaning. The school buses for GF Academy have been making a turn off of New Castle to Beachside which is a difficult turn to make. There may be a stop sign needed at Maple Lane and needs some attention from the Police Dept. Cars are not stopping and a crosswalk may be needed in this area as well.

10) Next Board Meeting

Our next Board Meeting is Wednesday, June 5th. We plan to have an in person meeting. Need to check with Lois to see if she would like to host the meeting.

