

Great Sand Lakes Association Annual Meeting
June 24, 2017 – 10:30 a.m.
(as approved at the June 30, 2018 Annual Meeting)

The Annual Meeting of the Great Sand Lakes Association was held on Saturday, June 24, 2017 at the Harwich Community Center.

The meeting was called to order at 10:30 a.m. by Jim Robichaud, GSLA President.

Voting rules

Jim explained that, according to the GSLA by-laws, each household has two votes at the annual meeting.

Minutes of the 2016 Annual Meeting

The Minutes of the 2016 Annual Meeting were approved as submitted.

Treasurer's Report

Dave Callaghan presented the Treasurer's report and copies were made available to those in attendance. He noted that our cash balance was \$11,618. He explained that the Red River print shop which printed our rosters has closed so we did it ourselves for a much lower cost this year by using the printer at the Harwich Conservation Trust. As an expression of our thanks, we made a donation to the Trust on behalf of the GSLA. The Treasurer's report was accepted.

Membership Report

Jim noted that our current membership is 212 (at last year's annual meeting it was 205) including 15 new members who joined for the first time. He noted that people are seeing the benefits of the Association, and real estate is picking up as is the quality of property. He mentioned the pristine beaches, the new stairs which were installed at Association Beach, the various plantings, etc. and pointed out that we do much of the work ourselves in order to minimize expenses.

He summarized the good meeting he and Patsy had with Chief Guillemette, the new Harwich Police Chief, who stressed the importance of calling the police anytime there is a neighborhood event that causes concern. They discussed the problems of illegal parking, alcohol on the beaches, etc. The Chief emphasized letting the police know if there is something they can do better.

Jim introduced the members of the Board who were present at the meeting:

- Patsy Lightbown, Vice President; Dave Callaghan, Treasurer; Judy Adams, Clerk; Kathy Lydon, Ellen O'Connell, and Marian Piro.

Jim asked that the GSLA members get the word out to their neighbors who are not currently members to join the Association. He is hoping to get the membership to 250 (out of 274 households).

Introduction of New GSLA members. Jim noted the names of new homeowners who have joined the GSLA since the last annual meeting.

First Membership Year	Owners	GSLAAddress
2017	Amy Forbes & Barbara Forbes	9 Restabit Road
2017	Andrew & Polly Goddard	23 Rainbow Way
2017	Bruce & Deborah Paige	17 Restabit Road
2017	David Rentsch & Jacqui Bowman	857 Queen Anne Rd
2017	Donna C. Lifson MD	5 Restabit Road
2017	Joseph Parent & Korinne Van Keuren Parent	9 Bobolink Lane
2017	Karen Maney	55 Clearwater Drive
2017	Kevin Wade	1254 Orleans Road
2017	Lauren C. Bombanti	749 Queen Anne Road
2017	Marilyn F. Raatz	6 Mockingbird Lane
2017	Martin & Carol Dyer	13 Restabit Road
2017	Richard & Marian Skowronski	22 Vacation Lane
2017	Rick & Maggie Charron	168 John Joseph Rd
2017	Ryan & Holly Timms	83 Clearwater Drive
2017	Wendell W. Nickerson	769 Queen Anne Road
2017	Tom & Carol Thibert	184 John Joseph Road

Deceased Members: Jim read the names of the GSLA members who died in the past year. A moment of silence honored them:

Janet O'Leary
Kitty Sawin
Ruth Sheehy
Dorothea Dee

Old Business:

Beach Committee. Each Great Sand Lakes household should have received a parking permit to be displayed on the dashboard when parking at the GSLA beach on Clearwater. When renting, homeowners should be sure to give it to the tenants.

In a discussion of illegal parking on GSL streets, it was pointed out that only the Town of Harwich can install "No Parking" signs. In addition there was a discussion of "Sign Pollution" as one member pointed out what everyone agreed was an unattractive intrusion on the views. Tony Piro and Jim explained the legal reasons behind some of the signs, e.g., the requirement that No Trespassing signs be placed at every entrance

to a private beach. Dave suggested the Board look at all signage within the GSLA to see if there are some we can remove in an effort to minimize excess signage.

Water quality: In response to a question about how the GSLA works to ensure that the ponds remain clean and healthy, Jim noted that we pay Barnstable County to routinely test the water quality at the 4 public beaches from mid-June through Labor Day. If the water testing fails, a sign is posted and it is retested in two days. In addition, GSLA volunteers carry out tests of temperature, oxygen saturation, turbidity, etc. several times each summer and collect water samples that are submitted for tests related to the presence of chemicals and/or plants that are found in the water. Patsy noted that the GSLA website contains a history of the water testing and it is important to keep educating residents about their role in protecting the ponds. It was emphasized that real estate values directly relate to the water quality of the ponds.

In response to a question regarding floats and docks on the ponds, Jim noted that they are supposed to be registered with the state. GSLA does not place any floats or docks on the beaches it owns and manages. Any docks in the water have been placed by homeowners.

Boat Policy. Members were reminded that boat policy as well as other related information is available on the GSLA website. Jim noted that the boat policy has been working very well. More owners remove their boats from the beach at the end of the season and there are fewer boats belonging to people who don't live in the GSL neighborhood. Dave explained that a new boat sticker is not needed each year but boat owners should check their boats to ensure the sticker is still affixed. He also suggested that owners who keep boats near the pond on their own property do not require a sticker but may benefit from having one if the boat "escapes" during bad weather.

GSLA-Harwich.org – has a lot of useful information regarding the GSLA and members are encouraged to contact a member of the Board with any suggestions, comments etc.

New Business:

Election of Board of Directors.

The proposed slate for 3-year terms expiring 2020 was presented: Judy Adams, Ellen O'Connell and Kathy Lydon were elected by acclamation.

Election of Treasurer and Clerk.

Dave Callaghan was elected to continue serving as Treasurer; Judy Adams was elected to continue serving as Clerk by acclamation.

Jim noted that there was a vacancy on the Board due to the death of Janet O'Leary and emphasized the importance of having new contributors. Margaret Fallon volunteered to serve on the Board. A motion was made and seconded to elect Margaret to the Board for a two-year commitment, fulfilling Janet O'Leary's term. The motion passed by acclamation.

Jim noted the upcoming Annual picnic to be held on Saturday, August 5 at Association Beach and the Holiday Luncheon to be held once again at the Riverway Lobster House on Saturday, December 2.

Adjournment:

Jim adjourned the meeting at 11:50 a.m.

Judy C. Adams
Clerk