

Changing Tides

A publication of the Property Owners of Eaton's Neck Beach



Dear Friends of Eaton's Neck



April has been a very busy month. So busy in fact, that you're likely reading this April issue in early May. But sometimes the Changing Tides has to take a back seat to the work that needs to get done.

One look at today's cover shows you exactly what I mean. In early April a team of volunteers spent a day completely overhauling the dinghy racks at Price's Bend. Old broken racks were removed, usable racks were straightened and new racks were installed to increase capacity. Scrub was removed, sand leveled and each rack neatly color coded. If you haven't been down, it's a dramatic improvement and will bring much needed order to the area. Our volunteers are named inside this issue. Thank them.

Another successful volunteer effort was our always amazing Easter Egg Hunt. One member organized it, we had teenagers stuffing and hiding eggs and the beneficiaries were the kids who loved it. One look at their smiling faces makes every drop of work worthwhile. Thank you to all who made it a huge success.

Speaking of volunteerism, our annual POENB beach cleanup will be on Saturday May 14th. Please save the date and give us a few hours of your time. We'll blast out details on tasks we want to accomplish.

Watercraft selection forms have gone out. We're asking all to select up to four spots and we will make final assignments in early May. Reminder that our beach season doesn't begin until Memorial Day so we're ahead of schedule. Don't put your craft on a rack until you've received an assignment.

Did someone say Memorial Day? Drumroll please...Parti Gras will return this year as promised. To make it a success we need all hands-on deck, so if you can help please email info@eatonsneck.org. We'll also need the support of the Eaton's Neck Fire Department which does so much to make that event a success. Please mark Sunday May 29th on your calendar now and get ready. I think we all deserve a good party.

Ryan Cote,
POENB President

April 2022

POENB Meeting Minutes of April 1st, 2022

Our POENB meeting was held in person at the Fire House. The meeting began at approximately 7:35 PM. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Roll Call of Officers:

Ryan Cote, President
 Frank Pasquale, Vice President
 Anthony Fusaro, Assistant Vice President
 Nora Beck, Treasurer
 Yvonne Lambertson, Recording Secretary
 Steven Neuf, Assistant Vice President
 Ryan Schaffer-Walker was not present.

Correspondence:



In Ryan Schaefer-Walker's absence, Ryan Cote reported that we had received an email alerting us that some kids were carving out a deep hole on the bluffs north of Valley Grove Beach. Ryan reported that a shovel was photographed protruding from the cave entrance and parents should look to see if they're missing a shovel. This is a potentially dangerous situation for the children and the bluff. Ryan passed around photographs of the "cave" and indicated POENB would send out a blast with photos (follow-up: the eblast was sent with more photos).

Ryan C. reported that Nick Cavuoto, the contact person for the Eaton's Neck Oil buying group, had reached out to the board to discuss a proposal he had recently received from Swezey's Oil. As Nick was in attendance, Ryan turned the floor over to him. Nick indicated he recently contacted Jim Dowd, (Swezey's is the Eaton's Neck Group's Current Oil Supplier) over concern about the rising oil prices. Eaton's Neck's current contract is up at the end of May. Nick alerted everyone that the capped price this year is at \$2.79/barrel of oil. COD prices are usually less expensive than what the residents here would pay, but as of meeting night, the COD was \$4.79 for deliveries of 100 or more gallons. Swezey's asked Nick if the Eaton's Neck residents would prefer to renew their contract early to get a better lock in price. In exchange, Swezeys was willing to go to \$3.799 as the cap for next year.

Nick alerted current oil group members email and Facebook and the majority agreed to lock in earlier. Nick, Ryan C. and Christine Ballow all

(This month's cover photo "Community Boat Rack Repair" by Ryan Cote.)

2022 POENB Treasurer's Report

January 1 - April 1, 2022

Income		
Changing Tides Ads	\$	360.00
Membership Dues		
Senior		12,724.98
Standard		17,145.93
Total Membership Dues	\$	29,870.91
Parade Income		870.00
Interest Income		0.36
Total Income	\$	31,101.27
Expense		
Beach Expenses		
Prices Bend		228.11
Valley Grove		-
Total Beach Expenses	\$	228.11
Changing Tides		838.48
Loan Repayments - VG		828.72
Monthly Bank Fees		90.00
PO Box		182.00
Office		58.00
Paypal Fees		446.08
Sales Tax		4.40
Utilities		
Prices Bend		288.01
Valley Grove		84.29
Total Utilities	\$	372.30
Website	\$	21.17
Total Expense	\$	3,069.26
Net Deficit	\$	28,032.01

Operating checking account balance as of 4/1/22 is \$38,81

VG Note checking account balance as of 4/1/22 is \$10,050.

As of our April meeting we had a year-to-date total operating income of \$31,101.27 and year-to-date total operating expenses of \$3,069.26. As of 4/1/22 this left an operating surplus of \$28,032.01.

Membership receipts were \$12,724.98 for senior and \$17,145.93 for standard totaling \$29,870.91. During the month we paid beach expenses, bond repayments, Changing Tides and a few miscellaneous general expenses.

We are starting off with a strong membership season to replenish our income. We thank existing members and appeal to non-members to please join.

mentioned that they received their agreements on April 1st. Nick also mentioned anyone can join in at any time throughout the year and their contracts would expire at the same time (May 31st). They just would not be able to lock in the same rates. Those people who joined later would get whatever the market rate is at the day of their sign up.

Anthony F. asked how many houses are on the contract. Nick said 120 for certain, but Swezey's also allows family member who live off Eaton's Neck, to join. Asharoken also participates. New customers have to submit to an inspection of the oil system to make sure it is up to par. Nick also mentioned to take advantage of balanced billing. Ryan thanked Nick.

Reading of the Prior Meeting's Minutes:

Ryan asked that a motion be made to accept last meeting's minutes as printed in the Changing Tides. A motion was made and seconded.

Presidents Report:

Ryan indicated that there was so much going on, the presidents report would be spread out throughout several committee reports. He began with a report on the beaches.

Beaches:

Ryan indicated that a work session to re build the POENB dinghy racks would take place the following morning with several member-volunteers and board members. Ryan offered a special thanks to Greg Hodges who is the principle organizer of these sessions and the person who orders all the materials. Ryan indicated the work would include straightening the old racks, cutting away some of the bad bars and replacing them, adding in new bars and doubling up the bars in several locations and increase dinghy capacity by approx. 12-13 boats. Ryan indicated scrub would be cleaned up and sand re leveled in the area.



Ryan Cote mentioned that POENB will be returning to the use of Watercraft stickers in 2022 and thanked David and Ryan Schaffer-Walker for creating the beautiful design. These stickers have already been ordered. Ryan and David were also good enough to design a revised car hang tag which will be re-usable. Instead of handing out new hang tags each year, members will only need to replace a color-coded sticker annually.

Watercraft:

Ryan C. thanked so many people for joining in time to take advantage of the early bird special and reminded members that all forms received

are being date and time stamped to create a rank order. Ryan and Anthony Fusaro have been checking the P.O. and POENB mailboxes for forms every single day while Gene Caputo and Yvonne Lambertson have been processing the online forms. In this way, there has been a seamless integration between online and on paper memberships. However one chooses to join, their member rank will be accurately recorded.

As this selection process is occurring, the POENB is making final fixes and tightens on the racks so that they are ready to accommodate new craft. The goal, Ryan indicated, is to start releasing spots in early May. Last year spots were officially released on May 13th so we are on or ahead of schedule. Ryan reminded all that the POENB beach season does not officially begin until Memorial Day.

Ryan indicated that Board Member Yvonne Lambertson has been doing the lion's share of work to get the new system and up and running and turned the meeting over to her to further explain the process. Yvonne indicated we are creating a map of every POENB watercraft spot. In late April a google form will be emailed to those requesting watercraft spots, asking them to upload a photo of their craft, answer some questions and, using the provided map to select up to four spot locations. POENB will do its best to get one of those or as close as possible. Once that data is collected, watercraft will be assigned in the order forms were received.

If extra spots remain, POENB will make them available as second spots which require a \$60 fee and are good for one season only. Ryan mention the Board is considering leaving a few POENB spots vacant to allow late season arrivals an opportunity to get a spot.

Beach Clean Up:

It was announced that Saturday May 14th will be our annual beach clean-up day, with a rain date of Sunday May 15th. (Please see the ad in this issue with more specific details)

Beach Party:

The topic of doing a Memorial Day Beach Party (Parti Gras) was brought up. Gene Caputo was good enough to create a spreadsheet of people who volunteered to be on social committees the last two or three years. Ryan said the POENB will provide those volunteer names to our social chair who will then reach out to people and ask them to step up and help. If we can get help, we will have a party. But we need all hands-on deck.



Beach Reservations:

Nick Cavuoto also volunteers his time to help the board manage the beach reservations. Ryan thanked him and alerted those present that the POENB April 1st marks the day when we can start taking reservations. Those interested need to read the rules on eastonsneck.org.

Membership Report:

Gene Caputo gave official membership count as of Friday April 1st as 185 which, he feels is pretty good for this time of year. Gene reported prior years numbers. 2021 we were at 172, 2020 at 119, 2019 at 144, 2018 at 167. We are on a good pace and everyone's early support of the POENB is very appreciated.



Planning and Zoning:

Ryan Cote reported that he and POENB member Bonnie Schalle had just had an on-site Valley grove meeting with new Highway Superintendent Andre Sorrentino, the Huntington Town Engineer and several members of the highway department. The topic of discussion was to show the Town their damaged section of seawall which resides over the town the drain pipe, encourage them to fix it and to have a substantive discussion about long-term drainage solutions that will prevent these type of pipe backups from happening so frequently.

Before getting into his discussions with the Town, Ryan turned the floor over to POENB member and Essex resident Harvey Brown. Harvey had been having similar discussions with the town pertaining to the TOH drain pipe that sits adjacent to his property. Harvey indicated that the Town of Huntington's legal department had alerted him that they have decided to eliminate the outdated storm drain/beach pipe systems in favor of installing multiple leeching pools or dry wells higher up on Eaton's Neck streets to catch more water before it races down the hills and out into the Sound. This plan had been discussed with prior Superintendent Kevin Orelli and had been in the early stages of soil and clay testing when Mr. Orelli was voted out.

Harvey indicated the Town is considering sealing off the existing storm drains and, in their places, installing new drywells every 250 feet on both sides of the street all the way to the end

**** Make a Note of it! ****
Next months' meeting will be
Friday may 6, 7:30
at the Firehouse



EATON'S NECK FIRE DEPARTMENT

March 19, 2022 was a sad day for the department. Long-time member Kevin G. O'Neill had served for 48 years including service as a Commissioner of the fire district. Kevin's financial expertise and experience was especially valuable in the early days of the department when money was tight and a great deal of equipment had to be purchased. His financial advice saved the district and the taxpayers a great deal of money. Kevin also played a valuable role as a firefighter throughout his membership.

His friendly, kind thoughtful comments on issues were always welcomed by the department during the period from 1974 until this March. Among the more public activities, Kevin was a constant figure each 4th of July at the table selling 50/50 tickets to friends, neighbors and visiting fire department members. Kevin's participation and valuable advice will be sorely missed.

The loss of one valuable member raises the issue of replacement of that place in the department. Before Kevin's passing an open house and recruitment activity were scheduled for Saturday, April 23 from 10 AM to noon at the firehouse. Anyone interested in joining the department and serving the community is invited to stop by and pick up an application. All training is free and the benefits of membership are many, including the development of long-term friendships and the satisfaction of community service.



Yours for fire safety, Rich Baer

to catch the water. The national standard is for distance placement is 500 feet, so this plan surpasses that. They told Harvey they have a contractor. Harvey asked how many inches of rain the system designed for? The town claims 4 inches of rain per basin. Harvey told them that isn't enough and the town replied that the national standard is 2 inches. Harvey mentioned to the town that there is buried electric on Essex and the town told him the contractor will figure that out. The town would not give Harvey a time frame that this work will begin. They only disclosed that they

would start soon. Anthony F. wondered if that's why he's been seeing the blue markings all over the street? Harvey indicated blue is for water and orange for electric but felt the lines in the street have nothing to do with this project.

Ryan picked up the story from here. After speaking with Harvey, he called the Huntington Town attorney and left a message. Ryan did not get a call back but a few weeks later received a call saying the new town supervisor, Andre Sorrentino, wanted to come out and meet Ryan with his engineer.



Ryan shared that he was impressed upon meeting the Town engineer. She seems very passionate about the project told Ryan that we have a very old system from 1950s that is obsolete. The Town's intention is to create multiple small localized water sheds all over the Neck instead of having it all rush down and try to crash through one broken pipe. Their plan, he confirmed, is to abandon that old pipe. Ryan asked about removal of the old pipe and did not get a straight answer. The engineer did reveal that she had located two buried pipes (between Eaton's Neck road and Carlisle and another one between Drake and Carlisle). That are feeding excess water down Carlisle. The town now plans to close those up. Frank P. indicated he doesn't think that the capacity will be enough to catch all the water due to the tilting of the street. Harvey said the town never maintained the current system and that is why we have the issues we do.

Ryan then asked Mr. Sorrentino to come see the hole the waves had punched through the TOH portion of the bulkhead. Mr. Sorrentino looked at the hole but didn't say much except to ask, "this is ours?" Ryan confirmed it was. Ryan indicated that the extent of the town's repair thus far has been to put some sand bags in front of and behind the hole.



Ryan spoke with the foreman who admitted the pipe is always full of sand and the water comes shooting down and gets backed up and then very bad weather comes and the top gets popped off and scours everything behind it. The town usually won't admit that the pipe is clogged. Ryan finished by saying the TOH indicated they still have to do the utility mark outs and then the contractor will come to start the work. Ryan gave his cell phone number to the supervisor to request updates he can pass along to membership, but as yet has not been contacted.



Did you know there was a scandalous murder-suicide committed on Duck Island in 1921?

George and Helen Henderson purchased Duck Island from Edward Thompson in 1907 and built a two story mansion overlooking Northport Bay. George passed away in 1915 and his wife Helen, and young daughter of the same name, continued to live on the island. She was married once more, divorced and married for a third time to Henry Glover Hemming a "broker" from NYC.

Apparently, Henry had been married first to Helen's sister but divorced as he was accused of cruelty. Why then did Helen marry him, knowing his temperament? In court, Dr. Donahue of Main Street, Northport would testify that Helen told him that she married Henry because he begged her to, 'to redeem his soul.'

Just a few weeks into the marriage Helen contemplated divorce because of his cruelty and brutality not only towards her, but to her 13- year-old daughter. On July 14, 1921, Helen visited Henry at their NYC apartment for the day, where she tried on new dresses he bought for her. When she wanted to go home, according to her testimony, Henry suggested they take the car instead of the train. Their chauffeur, Joseph Schmidt, was told to meet them in front of Penn Station, where he picked them up and drove them out to the island, first stopping at Hall's, a restaurant in Centerport, where Helen made a phone call to the house to let her daughter and caretaker, Frank Eberhardt they would be home soon.

Schmidt testified that he pulled into the driveway near the front porch where Eberhardt and Helen's daughter greeted them. Henry helped Helen out of the car and then took a step onto the porch. This is when, according to Schmidt, the caretaker Eberhardt yelled to Henry not to take another step, saying,

'You can't come in here and you know it.'

'You cannot stop me,' said Henry.

Eberhardt replied, 'If you attempt to come into this house , I'll shoot you.'

After more words were exchanged, Eberhardt shot Henry dead. The chauffeur jumped in to the car to go get the police and heard two more shots as he drove away. It is said that Eberhardt then turned the gun on himself.

Afterwards Helen was accused of setting her husband up to be killed. However, she was finally absolved by the prosecutor of any involvement. Helen sold Duck Island later that year to Miner D. Crary, Henry A. Ingraham's brother-law.

- Terry Reid



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Social:

The Easter Egg Hunt is coming up. The POENB thanks Jean Marie Mansfield for heading up that great event. And a Memorial Day party is planned to take place.

Nora's Treasury Report:

Nora reported that the membership season has pushed us into surplus. We have received membership dues of \$29,870.91. POENB Received some additional Changing Tides advertisement revenue \$360. Some beach expenses, Changing tides, loan repayments, nothing significant yet. The current surplus was \$28,032.01. Checking account balance: \$38,812.07. Valley Grove note checking account balance was \$10,050.5



New Business:

Ryan C. concluded the meeting by noting that Stan Thompson passed away. Stan was responsible for building most of the bulkheads along our western shoreline in the 1970s and 1980s. Stan was the first person to press the Town of Huntington to start putting dredged coast guard sand back on the beach where it could do some good. He was the earliest local advocate for the replenishment of our beaches and was always willing to work with any new POENB administration to press the Town of Huntington to do the right thing by its beaches. A fight we continue to this day.

Christine Ballow took the opportunity to mention the passing of long-time educator Charlotte Koons on Locust.

Ryan concluded by acknowledging the passing of Kevin O'Neill Sr. Kevin was an ex-fire commissioner, lifetime member of the fire department and a fixture in the Eaton's Neck community. The ENFD gave him a beautiful send off at the Nolan Funeral Home. Our community is the lesser without him and he will be sorely missed.

The meeting adjourned around 8:25 PM.



community

Bulletin Board



Thank you 2022 Beach Cleanup volunteers!

Volunteerism Builds! POENB thanks the following volunteers who gave of their time & talents to revamp the dinghy racks at Price's Bend, making them functional and organized.

Greg Atkins
Frank Bonomo
Ryan Cote
Greg Hodges
Meghan Hodges
Dane Nau

Charlotte Nau
Steve Neuf
Kevin O'Neill
Frank Pasquale
Mike Still
Jaime Velez



Thank you 2022 Easter Egg Stuffers-'n-Hiders!

Volunteerism Smiles! POENB thanks Easter Egg Hunt organizer **Jeanmarie Mansfield** and the host of teen egg stuffers, hiders and event runners who made a lot of kids smile.

Patrick Clements
Lily Clements
Caragh Cote
Tessa Cote
Colin Cote
Charlie Gifford

Jillian Heuer
Brooke Kershow
Amanda Kutzma
Penny Mansfield
Skylar Neuf
Kelsey Reid



Clearing the Way



Digging the Holes



Perfectly Straight



Our Eggminstrators



Stuffing and Sorting



The Egg-Hiding Team

POENB
PARTI GRAS
 ◆◆ SAVE THE DATE ◆◆
 PRICE'S BEND BEACH
MAY 29/3PM

A seafood boil of clams, shrimp, crawfish and corn plus sausage, hot dogs, hamburgers, salads, watermelon and desserts.

◆ THIS IS A BYOB EVENT ◆
 Please bring tables & chairs + Open to members and their guests

PLEASE RSVP BY MAY 20TH • BONUS GIFT FOR THE FIRST 100 HOUSEHOLDS

PARTI GRAS

NAME _____ ADDRESS _____ CELL _____
 #OF ADULTS(\$20 EACH) _____ #OF KIDS (12 & UNDER) (\$8 EACH) _____

PRICING AFTER MAY 20TH INCREASES TO \$25 FOR ADULTS & \$10 FOR KIDS
 Please drop checks in the POENB Mailbox at the Firehouse (payable to POENB)
 Please cut out or copy this ad and return it with your payment

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BEACH CLEAN UP

Sat May 14, 8:30 am

Grab a rake, meet your neighbors, help your beaches!

Arrive at Price's Bend for work assignments. Residents living near VG may go directly there.

Prices Bend Tasks
 Clean out/rake out under hedges/prepare planting beds
 Clean out/rake out areas behind kayak racks/shower
 Rake up/clean up shoreline seaweed & thatch

Valley Grove Tasks
 Cut back scrub on north side, hillside, stair/kayak area
 Clean out/rake out under hedges
 Clean up planting beds at benches, rock, entry sign

Thank you! Some helpful things to bring:
 Rake |Gloves|Weed Wacker|Scrub Cutters |Long Sleeves

Call the Cotes

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