

Changing Tides

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



President's Message

“The opposite of courage is not cowardice, it’s conformity.
Even a dead fish can go with the flow.” -Jim Hightower

We have some real big flow problems out here on the Neck. Flow of water; as demonstrated by our ongoing drainage issues. Flow of electricity; highlighted recently by the February storm that took out PSEG’s power and a whole lot of home heating pipes. And the ever-present flow of traf- fic...sometimes blocked when we experience severe flooding at the Bevin Seawall.

On behalf of The Board and our membership I want to extend my sympathy and concern for all those who sustained damages in the February 3rd power outage. While not a POENB issue specifi- cally, it is one of quality of life. We are lucky to have a group of smart, courageous and concerned residents from all parts of Eaton’s Neck and Asharoken who have taken it upon themselves to coord- inate efforts among the different property and responder associations. They have gotten the flow going in a good way....needed communication.

I encourage all to follow their progress by tapping into the several Neck-related social media plat- forms. Please consider supporting their efforts by getting informed; as I read once--the quality of one’s life is usually determined by the quality of one’s contribution.

The POENB’s annual membership drive is in full swing. As of March 11, we had 101 members which puts us ahead of last year’s pace. We encourage you to take advantage of the early bird special and sign up by March 31st. The vision of this board is to create a community connected by humanity, common beaches and common kindness shown to one another.

Frank Pasquale
POENB President

February / March 2023



POENB Minutes Friday, March 3, 2023

The meeting held in person at the Eaton's Neck Firehouse and on Zoom began at 7:30

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited followed by a roll call of officers.

Officer Roll Call:

Frank Pasquale - President
Ryan Schaefer-Walker - Vice President
Anthony Fusaro - Treasurer
Yvonne Lambertson - Assistant Vice President . . .
(Technology, Web and Communications)
Steve Neuf - Assistant Vice President . . .
(Engineering and Special Projects)
Sally Neal - Recording Secretary



Attendance/Motion to Accept Minutes:

There were 12 members physically in attendance, not including the six officers. Ten people also dialed in via Zoom. Frank Pasquale's motion to accept last month's minutes as published on the POENB Website was accepted.

Treasurer's Report:

Anthony Fusaro provided the Treasurer's report (see details on page 2) that included the Income Statement for the period January 1, 2023 to March 3, 2023 and account balances as of March 2, 2023 for three balance sheet line items.

Beach Committee Report:

President Frank Pasquale reported that 30 yards of wood chips were delivered to both VG and PB. These materials will be used during the month of April (date TBD) to shore up the bulkhead at VG and for general purposes at PB. Volunteers are needed, along with their pick-up trucks and wheel barrows, to quickly and efficiently spread these wood chips.

In addition to spreading wood chips, Frank stated that there are two more opportunities to help clean and beautify our beaches. Two volunteer days will take place in May. The specific dates selected will be announced in April.

Social Committee:

Vice President Ryan Schaefer-Walker stated that while the full 2023 social calendar is currently being finalized, two event dates have been confirmed:

- April 1st - Easter Egg Hunt
- April 15th - Casino Night from 7 pm to 11 pm.

Flyers announcing the details of these two events will (1) be distributed to resident's mailboxes, (2) announced in the Changing Tides and (3) available on the POENB's website <https://EatonsNeck.org>.



Update on Repairing/Replacing the Fence at PB:

During February's POENB meeting, several members expressed their dissatisfaction with (a) the split rail fence's aesthetic appeal, (b) its utility as a security device, and

(Cover photo: The Bevin Seawall, 2023 by Frank Pasquale)

POENB Income Statement January 1 to March 3, 2023

Income

Changing Tides Ads	400.00
Membership Dues	
Senior	7,208.96
Standard	8,339.66
Total Membership Dues	\$ 15,548.62
Parade Income	280.00
Interest Income	0.01
Total Income	\$ 16,228.63

Expense

Monthly Bank Fees	90.00
PO Box	194.00
Utilities	
Prices Bend	34.75
Valley Grove	102.43
Total Utilities	\$ 137.18
Website & Technology	14.90
Total Expense	436.08
Net Income	\$ 15,792.55

Operating checking account balance as of 3/2/23 is \$17,604.39

Beach Fund checking account balance as of 3/2/23 is \$2000

50/50 Savings Account balance as of 3/2/23 is \$640.07

(c) its ability to properly mark the boundaries of the beach property.

Frank Pasquale stated that he would ask three vendors to provide quotes on each of the following three options (e.g., each vendor must bid on each option)

- (1) Repair selected sections of the fence (use salvageable parts where possible).
- (2) Replace the fence in its entirety with another wood fence (dismantle the existing fence, re-use salvageable posts and cross members, and construct a new fence using more durable wood).
- (3) Replace the fence in its entirety with one made of PVC (dismantle the existing fence, sell or repurpose salvageable wood, and install a new PVC fence).

Additional detail on the condition of the fence and member's perspectives on the purpose of the fence are described in the February Meeting minutes which are available at eatonsneck.org, Click About POENB then Recent Communications

To expedite the decision-making process, Greg Hodges and Phil Cuiffo volunteered to prepare a written report that will:

1. Identify the key question (e.g., How to cost effectively and operationally efficiently improve the aesthetics, demarcation, and security of the PB property?)

2. Describe the current situation (e.g., large portions of the fence and hedge are in disrepair; PB is unkempt, poorly marked and insecure)

3. Describe each option (see above)

4. Identify for each option - vendor's name, cost, and pros and cons.

5. Propose a recommendation with the selection rationale - which also addresses installation timing, given cost considerations.

Labor typically represents 2/3 of the total cost of installing a fence. Therefore, Greg and Phil will disaggregate the quotes into materials and labor since it may not be practical to fully rely on POENB volunteer labor. Phil and Greg's report should be available for member review and a "key vote" at the

April meeting.



New Business: PSEG Update

John Ballow and Frank Pasquale summarized recent interactions with Public Service Enterprise Group Long Island ("PSEG").

Recent Power Outage:

At approximately 8:15 pm, on Friday, February 3, 2023, during a period of unseasonably cold (8 F)

and windy (40 mph) weather, residents of

Eaton's Neck ("EN") were without electrical power supplied by PSEG for approximately 18 hours.

Many homeowners experienced frozen / burst pipes as temperatures in their homes plummeted. PSEG's messages told residents to expect that electricity would be restored on a "rolling two-hour basis" (e.g., text message at 1 am stating that power would be restored by 3 am. At 3 am, PSEG stated that power would be restored by 5 am, etc.). In addition to physical damage to homes, there were health and safety concerns especially for people without access to independent back-up power sources (e.g., generators, solar battery packs).

Unfortunately, power outages on EN have become a somewhat routine event and appear to be caused by old, rotting trees and branches between Bevin Road and the Firehouse that fall on the overhead power lines.

Recent Eaton's Neck Community Actions:

In response to this latest power outage, John Ballow, decided to formally organize an Eaton's Neck Community Working Group (ENCWG).

The name of the associations, representatives, and the number of "meters" or buildings/homes in the association's area include:

1. POENB - Property Owners of Eaton's Neck Beach - Christine Ballow, John Ballow, Frank Pasquale, Sally Neal (419)

2. ENFD - Eaton's Neck Fire District - Philip Whiter, Commissioner, Peter Hluboky, Chief (1)

3. EHC - Eaton Harbors Corporation - Margaret Law, Tor Vincent (168)

4. NCRA - North Creek Road Association - Frank Moschella (38)

5. Stargazer Residents - Tom Burke (5)

6. OOW - Old Orchard Woods Residents - Lori Spiegel (5)



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EATON'S NECK FIRE DEPARTMENT

911 is the number to call in the event of a medical or fire emergency. Do not hesitate to call, because time is an important factor in emergencies.

Preparation for emergencies is important and time consuming. For example, from January 15, 2023 until June 15, 2023 thirty people, including five from Eaton's Neck will be attending an Emergency Medical Technician course at the firehouse. The 30 people will be attending class Sundays for 6 hours each day and 3 hours every Tuesday night. There are a total of 51 classes that must be attended for a total of 177 hours which include classroom, labs, a 6-hour practical final and 3 hour written exam. The students come from a variety of EMS and fire departments in Suffolk County including some from Riverhead!

Students will have to show competency in assessment of a patient, handling emergencies using Basic Life Support equipment and techniques. They must be able to perform CPR (cardiopulmonary Resuscitation), control bleeding, provide non-invasive treatment, stabilize and immobilize bones. They must also learn to manage emergency childbirth and be able to use a semi-automatic defibrillator and be able to administer emergency medications as described in state and local protocols. Finally, they will also put in additional hours for clinical requirements in Emergency Room and ambulance calls.

The fire department has changed its training schedule from Sundays to Monday nights in order to accommodate these 30 people who are dedicating this time to acquire skills to help their neighbors. Volunteers such as these are invaluable to their communities and deserve our thanks.

Yours for fire safety,
Rich Baer

7. USCG - US Coast Guard - Ellen DaSilva, Civilian Liaison (-10)
8. VOA - Village of Asharoken - EN Residents - Philip Quarles (100)

The ENCWG decided to use its collective voice (a total of ~736 homes) to discuss immediate, short term and longer-term solutions that PSEG can implement to provide EN residents with reliable electrical power. Under John Ballow's leadership, the ENCWG has:

- Started a Change.Org Petition to New York Public Service Commission (NYPSC) - 638 signatures as of March 1, 2023. URL is <https://Chng.it/GvQ82chhLs>

- Contacted the PSEG call center to register complaints about the duration and frequency of power outages on EN, and in particular the inaccurate messaging the night of February 3-4, 2023.

- Contacted or were contacted by local and state govern-

ment representatives including:

- US Representative Nick LaLota
- NYS Assemblyman Keith Brown
- NYS Senator Mario Matora
- Town of Huntington (“TOH”) Supervisor Edmund Smyth
- TOH Deputy Supervisor John T. McCarron
- TOH Councilman Dave Bennardo
- TOH Councilwoman Joan Cergol
- TOH Councilman, Eugene Cook
- Organized a 75-minute information sharing meeting on Wednesday, March 1, 2023 between representatives of the ENCWG and the following representatives of PSEG
 - David Lyons, Executive Director-Special Projects; Interim President and Chief Operating Officer (COO)
 - Stephen M. Collins, Customer Operations Analyst, Customer Experience, QA Electric
 - Kim Kaiman, Senior Manager External Affairs
 - Matthew Otto, Manager Distribution Operations Western Suffolk

March 1, 2023 PSEG - ENCWG Meeting Key Take-Aways:

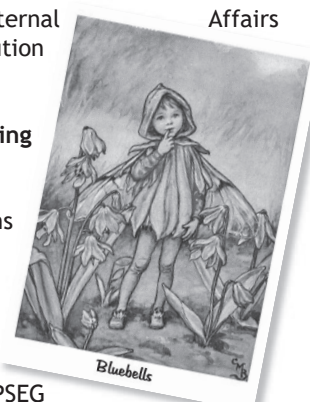
1. On Friday, February 24, 2023, John Ballow (POENB), Stephen Collins (PSEG), a TOH arborist, and a PSEG arborist assessed the health and status of trees and poles between Bevin Road and the EN Firehouse. This “Outage Patrol” identified 44 issues that needed to be resolved. PSEG sorted these issues into three categories:

- a. Immediate
 - b. Short-term and
 - c. Longer term.
2. PSEG said that “immediate bucket” items were “fixing” poles, trees and vines and implementing better controls over customer messaging.
- a. Poles - Remove/replace or reinforce 8 poles. Add or repair animal guards around wires, transformers, and switches
 - b. Trees - Trim/remove 14 trees deemed “hazardous.”
- PSEG is responsible for 11 trees while the TOH is responsible for 3 trees. PSEG’s vegetation management program requires that branches and trees be trimmed and/or removed if they are within a 10’x10’ space around the top wire power lines and poles and a 6’x6’ box around the lower wire power lines
- c. Vines - Mechanically or chemically (herbicide) remove vines on poles, wires, or nearby trees that impact service.
 - d. Messages - Apologized for inaccurate information disseminated; updated in-house systems so that PSEG employees no longer need to manually review reports and override auto generated notifications.

3. Executing changes to poles, trees and vines requires both (a) homeowner permission and (b) NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) approval (because some poles, trees, and vines are adjacent to areas designated as a “tidal wetland”). All homeowners have provided permission for PSEG and the TOH to take action. DEC approval is expected in 2 weeks. Therefore, all items in the immediate bucket should be completed by early April.

4. PSEG stated that short term category issues (expected to be done by mid to late April) are to develop a preliminary list of options including a cost analysis, project timeline, and pros and cons of each option. Current potential options include

- a. Reinforcing the current overhead system
- b. Installing a hybrid system of overhead and underground wires.
- c. Installing a completely new underground system, and



Join POENB before March 31st to take advantage of early bird savings!!

The POENB Board thanks the 252 households who joined our Association in 2022. Your support allowed us to pay off the final notes on our Valley Grove bulkhead project, rebuild and reorganize the dinghy area at Price’s Bend, put in brand new electric at Price’s Bend, continue to refine and reorganize our watercraft system and make emergency repairs at both beaches after storm washouts and flooding.

Because POENB is non-compulsory, we must depend on members joining to keep our beaches funded. If you feel they bring serenity to your life and add value to your property, we believe the POENB is worth your support. By renewing your membership today, your household will enjoy the following:

- Access to our members-only beaches at Price’s Bend and Valley Grove
- Free storage for (1) small watercraft (dinghy, kayak, double kayak or paddleboard)
- Advocacy on town and state matters that affect Eaton’s Neck residents
- Entry to fun POENB-sponsored events such as our Labor Day Party (paid event), Friday Night Grillin, Easter Egg Hunt, Halloween Parade, Community Garage Sale and more
- The Changing Tides Community Newsletter delivered to your mailbox each month
- Two beach parking passes for Price’s Bend; **please keep your car hang tags from last year**

Those who join before midnight March 31st will receive an early bird discount. Membership can be paid online (Paypal fees apply) or on paper. The PayPal link and printable 2023 form can be found at eatosneck.org under About POENB then under Become a POENB Member.

Beach season’s on the horizon and we have lots planned. Thank you for your continued support.

The POENB Board

d. Taking a more proactive approach to increase response time, if and when an outage occurs (e.g., strategically placing “hero kits” (filled with necessary supplies) along EN Road, using the same crews to respond to issues so that they are familiar with the area and are incentivized to both fix the current issue and prevent future issues, and using Hobart Beach or EN Firehouse as a staging area).

5. In the longer-term category, PSEG stated that by the end Q3 2024, EN should experience improved capacity given the installation of three new, underground lines/circuits from the Elwood Substation (near the LIRR tracks on Elwood Road. However, this upgrade will do nothing to enhance the resil-



POENB
Property Owners of Eaton's Neck Beach



2023 Membership Form

For over 60 years, POENB has served as the steward of our beaches at Valley Grove and Price's Bend, protecting and maintaining our shared properties through critical beach improvement projects.

With your POENB membership, your household will receive access to our members-only beaches at Price's Bend and Valley Grove; a beach parking pass; free beach storage for one watercraft; and entry to POENB-sponsored events. You'll also be supporting our community and joining an incredible network of neighbors and friends.

You may join online at eatonsneck.org (PayPal fees apply) or by returning this form and a check to the POENB mailbox at the firehouse. Alternatively, both may be mailed to the POENB PO Box at PO Box 124, Northport, NY 11768.

Please join POENB today by filling out and returning this form. Thank you for your support!

First Name

Last Name

Address

Phone

Email

We routinely publish the names of our members in Changing Tides. If you'd prefer not to be included by name, please check here.

Please choose a POENB membership level below:

- Standard Membership:** \$275 (Early Bird \$250 if received by March 31st)
- Senior Membership (ages 62 and above):** \$180 (Early Bird \$160 if received by March 31st)
- 4th of July Parade contribution (optional):** \$_____ (please add this amount to your check)

POENB membership entitles you to one complimentary watercraft slip, assigned in even years. As 2023 is a non-assign year, please fill this out only if you were NOT assigned a spot in 2022:

- I have no spot and seek one at: Prices Bend / Valley Grove** (circle one)
- My watercraft is a: Single Kayak / Double Kayak/ Paddleboard / Dinghy** (circle one)

To incentivize early membership, Second watercraft spot selection will be prioritized based on when you join. Please check below if you are interested in a second watercraft spot (\$60 fee applies):

- My SECOND watercraft is a: Single Kayak / Double Kayak/ Paddleboard / Dinghy** (circle one)

POENB runs on volunteerism and these are the areas where we need it most. Please check a box for yourself and a spouse/partner if applicable so we can reach out for help as needed. Thank you!

Projects (<i>helping with DIY improvement projects</i>)		Watercraft (<i>helping our system stay organized</i>)	
Beach Care (<i>beautification, clean ups, plantings</i>)		Changing Tides (<i>content, advertising, design</i>)	
Social Activities (<i>planning the events we all love</i>)		Communications (<i>drafting web & email content</i>)	

ience of power provided to EN because the new underground lines only extend three miles from the substation and Bevin Road and the Firehouse are approximately 5 and 6.5 miles, respectively, from the substation.

6. Currently, all of the electricity to EN is supplied above ground - via wires on poles. If a pole/wire is knocked over/down, the supply of electricity is stopped. Per PSEG, in Suffolk County, three poles A DAY are knocked down due to traffic accidents.

7. PSEG stated that electricity provision to EN is different from other communities on Long Island because (a) EN does not have a parallel delivery system (both aboveground poles and underground wires) and (b) EN uses a radial (vs. a "loop") distribution system.

a. In a radial distribution system, one power source is used to send electricity out from the substation to the service area. The electricity then terminates at a designated endpoint (e.g., end of EN Road).

b. A "loop" distribution system, as the name implies, allows electricity to loop or circle around the service area before returning to its original point. The loop is usually tied into an alternative power source. By placing switches in strategic locations, the utility can supply power to customers from either direction. If one of power fails, the provider can automatically or manually switch the power to the other source. While the loop system is more expensive than the radial because more switches and conductors are required, it is more reliable and outages, if they do occur, are typically shorter.

8. PSEG noted that there are two underground delivery mechanisms: (a) Direct Burial and (b) Conduit (neither of which EN has)

a. In a direct burial method, the power lines are buried in the ground. While less costly to install, issues may include vines or tree roots growing into the wires and difficulty "finding" the source of the "fault." A technician needs to painstakingly walk the line to determine the exact source of the fault. Direct burial wires have an expected life of approximately 30 years.

b. In the conduit method, the wires are enclosed in a pipe that is buried in the ground. The container protects the wires from water, vines, and burrowing animals. At strategically chosen locations along the pipe, (a) a manhole is created to allow technicians easy access to the wires and (b) an on/off switch is installed so that power can be turned off between the "nodes" where a fault exists. While the conduit method is more expensive to install, it is easier to fix if there's a



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problem. ConEd uses the conduit method for NYC. The conduit method, when coupled with a loop distribution system, is highly reliable.

9. PSEG monitors and records outages. Outages lasting less than 15 seconds are termed "momentary" outages while outages lasting longer than 5 minutes or longer are termed "sustained" outages.

10. PSEG requested that individual homeowners report their own service problems directly to PSEG rather than rely on one neighborhood representative to do so. When a customer reports an issue (via a phone call, text message or email), PSEG is able to identify the "meter" (house) where the problem is occurring.

11. PSEG agreed to provide local outage reports over the past 12 months indicating the frequency, duration, and cause of the outages.

12. PSEG conducts its vegetation management program (tree trimming and vine removal) every 4 years. EN had its trees and vines examined and pruned in 2020. Routine vegetation management activities currently scheduled for 2024 may occur earlier given recent issues.

13. It is unclear which organization's budget (TOH, Suffolk County or NYS) would fund any necessary electrical upgrades for EN. However, prior to determining the funding source, PSEG first needs to propose an infrastructure remediation plan for EN and then LIPA needs to approve PSEG's proposal.

14. John Ballow stated that local politicians (Brown and Matteo) were unaware that EN was without power for 18 hours until they read about it in Northport Observer

Next Meeting:

This month's meeting, originally scheduled for Fri April 7, 2023 will be held early March 31st, at 7pm, since April 7 is Good Friday and April 7 occurs during Passover (April 5 to April 13).

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 pm.

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community

Bulletin Board

April's POENB meeting will be held on March 31st this month.

April's POENB meeting, originally scheduled for Fri April 7, will be held early, on March 31st at 7 pm because the originally scheduled date occurs during Passover and on Good Friday.

Coin book Found
On Devon Place. . .

. . . If it is yours, and
you can identify it,
please call:
631-754-3805

The Good Fight

One of the things that makes Eaton's Neck great is the passion and hard work of its residents. In recent weeks John and Christine Ballow have worked tirelessly to draw attention to two big problems facing Neck residents:

- 1) PSEGs need to provide safe continuous electric service to Eaton's Neck and
- 2) The need to find a solution for the decaying Asharoken seawall.

By bringing together liaisons of all the major property associations, fire department and coast guard, they have created a coalition of voices that will be able to accomplish far more together than apart.

To read more about these issues and view the petitions created, go to change.org & type the following search words:

- 1) PSEG Trees Lines
- 2) Late Great Bevin Seawall.



Welcome to the Neck!

**New neighbors
Rob Lund and Rose Guiliano
to Eaton's Neck Road**

If you would like to be welcomed or have someone on your block who just moved in, please email us:
changingtides@eatonsneck.org



Soles4Souls Rotary Shoe Drive - Ends April 1st -

Drop your used shoes at any of our 80 locations.
All locations & other details available at:

northportrotary.org



Soles4Souls

Turning shoes and clothing into Opportunity



Daniel Gale

Sotheby's INTERNATIONAL REALTY

2022 Northport Market Snapshot



210 Homes Sold



\$827,500 Median Price
(+15% YOY)



24 Median Days on Market



\$3,000 Median Rent



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The Spring Market is here!

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If your property is currently listed with another brokerage please disregard. It is not our intention to solicit the listings of other brokerages.

POEM'S Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, April 1st

12 pm Sharp

(arrive by 11:45)

Price's Bend Beach. Bring a Basket or Bag !!



Rain date 4/8