

Changing Tides

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



Dear Eaton's Neck Friends, Family, and Neighbors

April 2024 has been a month of noteworthy events, quite literally making it one for the record books. In less than a week, the northeast experienced a major spring storm on April 3rd, an earthquake on April 5th, and a solar eclipse on April 8th. Did I miss anything?

True to form, the Eaton's Neck community showed resilience and readiness throughout these events. We are all aware of the severity of the storm on April 3rd, and I want to take this opportunity to acknowledge and thank Chief Pokorny and his team at the Eaton's Neck Fire Department for their preparedness and swift response. Our Fire Department stood ready to evacuate anyone if needed. I also extend my gratitude to Town of Huntington Highway Supervisor, Andre Sorrentino, and his team for promptly deploying heavy equipment to clear the roads during the storm's peak.

Not to be overshadowed, just a few days later on April 5th, a significant earthquake shook New Jersey, felt as far as Albany and Pennsylvania. Then, on April 8th, we were privileged to witness a once-in-a-generation natural phenomenon, the solar eclipse. As seen in the photo above, many of you gathered for some fun at Hobart to make the most of this special event.

As I often say to my wife, "there is nothing quite like living in Eaton's Neck." From our stunning beaches to our unique community of neighbors and friends, we are all so fortunate and blessed to call Eaton's Neck home. Enjoy the weather, the BBQs, the sunsets, and everything wonderful about this time of Year.

With warmest regards,
Tom Kehoe, Jr.

April 2024



POENB Minutes for Thursday, April 4, 2024

The meeting was held in person at the Eaton's Neck Firehouse and also on Zoom 7:05 pm to 8:30 pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited followed by a roll call of officers.

Officer Roll Call

Tom Kehoe - President
Ryan Schaefer-Walker - Vice President and Treasurer
Yvonne Lambertson - Assistant Vice President (Technology, Web & Communications) (via Zoom)
Steve Neuf - Assistant Vice President (Engineering and Special Projects)
Anthony Fusaro - Assistant Vice President
Sally Neal - Recording Secretary
Nancy Regan - Corresponding Secretary (Absent)

Attendance

There were 15 members physically in attendance, not including six officers. Four people also dialed in via Zoom.

Reading of the Minutes

Tom Kehoe's motion to accept last month's minutes as posted on POENB Website was accepted

Correspondence - Tom Kehoe (for Nancy Regan)

Eaton's Neck Fire Department (ENFD) Letter

Tom summarized a letter signed by ENFD's John Pokorny, Chief of the Department, Michael Pinto, 1st Assistant Chief and Robert Ryan, 2nd Assistant Chief.

Since 1956, the ENFD has responded to fires and health emergencies. During weather-related catastrophes, the ENFD has also opened the firehouse to provide shelter, electricity, heating/cooling and hot meals. Just last night (April 3, 2024), ENFD volunteers and the department's high-water truck were standing-by to assist residents who could have been "stranded" on Asharoken Avenue.

That said, the ENFD **needs additional persons who are willing to serve**. Recently, five new persons signed on and will be providing EMT services. However, **more volunteers are urgently needed, especially firefighters**.

Tom Kehoe urged all residents to consider serving. Additional information on a potential volunteer's responsibilities (e.g., how they teach, train,

Property Owners of Eaton's Neck Beach

Profit and Loss

January 1 - April 4, 2024

	Total
Income	
Changing Tide Income	1,600.00
Interest Income - Bank	0.01
Membership Income	
Regular Membership Income	24,128.05
Senior Membership Income	21,186.26
Total Membership Income	\$ 45,314.31
Social Income	
4th July Income	747.50
Total Social Income	\$ 747.50
Uncategorized Income	0.00
Watercraft Income	3,000.00
Total Income	\$ 50,661.82
Gross Profit	\$ 50,661.82
Expenses	
Bank Charges & Fees	20.00
Beach Expenses	6,743.21
Beach Security Expense	270.00
Changing Tides Expense	1,785.15
Meeting Expenses	657.27
PayPal Fees	409.05
Social Expenses	
Egg Hunt Expense	437.63
Parti Gras Expense	255.55
Thanksgiving Turkey Trot Expense	127.28
Total Social Expenses	\$ 820.46
Software/Website Expenses	415.19
Utilities	
Prices Bend Utilities	188.90
Valley Grove Utilities	175.29
Total Utilities	\$ 364.19
Total Expenses	\$ 11,484.52
Net Income	\$ 39,177.30

Balance Sheet

	Total
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Bank Accounts	
50/50 Proceeds	620.18
Beach Infrastructure Funds - Bank Account	5,400.00
PayPal Bank	4,739.55
Petty Cash	200.00
POENB Operating Account	54,089.90
Total Bank Accounts	\$ 65,049.63

and serve together) was included in last month's Changing Tides (CT) and is also posted on the ENFD website (www.eatonsneckfd.org). Please also feel free to reach out directly to ENFD leadership if you'd like to know more about this critical organization and its activities.

Our cover, "Eclipse at Hobart, is by George Gifford. On April 8th, a group of solar groupies gathered to celebrate "totality". The next total eclipse, viewable from the US, won't be for another 20 years.

PSEG and Reliable Electrical Power

As discussed in last month's CT, PSEG has nearly completed burying the electrical lines from Bevin Road to North Creek Road and executing additional changes to vastly improve the reliability of electrical power to EN residents. This effort was, in large part, spearheaded by John Ballow (POENB's representative) along with representatives from seven other associations (the Eaton's Neck Community Working Group or ENCWG). For more than 50 years, EN residents routinely had experienced power outages lasting an hour to four days. In 2022, EN experienced 22 power outages. This number of outages (vis a vis other communities on LI) represented a "five sigma event." It had gone on for too long and was unacceptable.

Tom Kehoe noted that "without the efforts of the ENCWG, last night's (April 3rd) rain would have shut the power down for hours (plural) but fortunately no one experienced so much as a flicker."

Beach Report - Tom Kehoe, Sally Neal, Anthony Fusaro, Yvonne Lambertson, Steve Neuf

Beach Maintenance

Per its by-laws, POENB has a two-fold mission: (1) protect and preserve two beaches - at Price's Bend (PB) and Valley Grove (VG) and (2) protect and advance the common welfare and mutual interests of all residents with civic and corporate officials.

The primary revenue source to accomplish these two goals are membership dues. The lion's share of these dues, approximately 80 - 85%, are spent on protecting and preserving the beaches and making them a place where members can relax, enjoy water activities, and engage with their neighbors.

Typical beach expenses include (1) seasonal clean ups, (2) sand/beach grooming, (3) landscaping, and (4) maintenance of security equipment, fencing, the swimming area, watercraft racks, the bulkhead at VG, and grills, benches, play sets, and benches.

Given social changes, POENB is relying less on volunteers and hiring more third-party contractors to conduct beach maintenance and improvement tasks.

Landscaping

The Board contacted several local companies about their interest in bidding for the landscaping contract for the two beach properties. In 2024, Ted McCarthy will provide landscaping services. Ted has many commercial customers in the area, including the

Asharoken Village Hall. Ted and his crew will be conducting a variety of cleaning up activities (e.g., at PB removing the blue hanging slide, old telephone poles, unsightly dirt pile, dilapidated benches, and non-functional grills as well as trimming invasive seagrass). The work should be completed by the first week in May.

The Board also thanks Steve D'Amato (a long tenured resident) and his Ecological Landscape Company for the many years of landscaping service his firm provided.

Beach Grooming

Beach grooming/raking (e.g., removing debris and seaweed) will be conducted on a biweekly basis. The Board has renewed the contract with the current vendor. The cost of services this year will be nearly identical to what it was last year.

Dumpster - The Board will try to move the dumpster to a more discrete location - so that it's not the first thing a member sees upon entering the PB parking lot.

Abandoned / Unclaimed Watercraft - The Board has communicated multiple times using several mediums (e.g., blast and direct emails, notices in the CT, Facebook postings, and POENB website) about the need for members to remove their watercraft from the racks. Per the watercraft rules (as posted on the Eaton's Neck.org website) the deadline for watercraft removal in odd years was November 1. In mid-February 2024, the Board physically transferred watercraft that had not been moved by members (by November 1, 2023) to an area near the shed in the PB parking lot.

However, there are still watercraft (kayaks, paddle boards and sunfish) at both PB and VG that appear to be abandoned. The Board is considering two options if the boats are not claimed by April 30, 2024 (1) throw them into the dumpster or (2) sell them and retain any profits from the sale.

"Light" Beach Tidy and Social and Community Service Event - Although the landscaper will perform the "bulk" of the cleanup work at both PB and VG, POENB will sponsor a "light" beach tidy event at both VG and PB. These two events will have a three-fold purpose.

1. Conduct a final sweep, refresh and spruce up of the beaches (e.g., pick up trash, perform some light raking) in advance of the late spring/summer season 2. Serve as an opportunity to welcome new neighbors and deepen existing friendships - coffee and breakfast foods will be served



**SALES IN ASHAROKEN/EATON'S NECK
6/2023 – 3/2024
DAYS ON MARKET (DOM)**

80 Eaton's Neck Rd. - \$829,000 closed 8/30/2023 - 15 (DOM)
 299 Asharoken Avenue - \$1,375,000 closed 9/18/2023 - 17 (DOM)
 2 E. Bevin - \$1,575,000 closed 9/22/2023 - 79 (DOM)
 31 Westview Road - \$950,000 closed 9 /27/2023 - 19 (DOM)
 106 Cove Road - \$1,050,000 closed 11/3/2023 - 36 (DOM)
 7 Exeter Court - \$850,000 closed 11/15/2023 - 65 (DOM)
 86 Winkle Point Drive - \$875,000 closed 11/21/2023- 43 (DOM)
 5 Pheasant Lane \$1,729,000 pending 12/21/2023 - 120 (DOM)
 93 Eaton's Neck Road - \$577,500 closed 12/21/2023 - 25 (DOM)
 74 Winkle Point - \$1,380,000 closed 1/31/2024 - 15 (DOM)
 35 S. Harbor Road - \$928,000 pending 2/9/2024 - 115 (DOM)
 26 Norfolk Drive - \$1,399,000 pending 3/8/2024 - 30 (DOM)



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3. Enable local school and civic groups (Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, athletic teams) to engage in a community service project. To receive credit for participating in the “light beach tidy” please send the standard paperwork / form(s) to info@eatonsneck.org and a Board representative will sign the form and return it via email.

For PB, this event is tentatively scheduled for Saturday, May 11 at 10 am. For VG, the tentative date is pending. Please consult the POENB website for further updates and details (www.eatonsneck.org).

VG - stairs

As discussed during prior meetings, the VG stairs have become rickety and dangerous. As a temporary measure, Tom Bishop, VG Beach Committee Chair, repaired the most broken parts.

Concurrent to the temporary repairs made by Tom Bishop, Joe Cartolano and Phil Cuiffo Sr. have been working on a longer-term solution. Joe and Phil obtained three bids for three different solutions from three different vendors.

Option 1 Eric Van Dormolen (vendor), a marine engineer, recommended replacing the existing stairs with Grade 3, Ground Contact, pressure treated (PT) lumber. It appears that prior contractors may have used “Grade 2” PT that was not as durable - hence the need to repair the stairs every 3 to 5 years.

PT lumber is usually made of pine or spruce that has been infused with chemical preservatives to protect the wood from rot and insects and then exposed to pressure as well. The chemicals and pressure extend the useful life of PT lumber. PT lumber has three grades - Grade 1, Grade 2 (a lower grade than Grade 1), and Grade 3 (the highest grade which is also called Premium or Select by different manufacturers). Builders often use Grade 1 or 2 when constructing decks or stairs.

A better grade of PT lumber is one that (1) has been infused longer and more deeply with the chemical treating solution, (2) has been coated with a water sealer, (3) has been gently kiln-dried after treatment (KDAT), (4) is Ground Contact rated - which means the wood can be inserted into the ground and get wet for long periods of time without rotting or deteriorating, and (5) is straighter and has fewer knots and defects.

Option 2 Precision Masonry (Huntington) recommends using stone to replace the existing stairs. This effort would involve installing sono tubes filled with cement but may not be realistic since it would be extremely expensive (e.g., 6 figures).

Option 3 The Geo Group (Commack) recommends using Trex, a composite material made of recycled plastic and wood. Trex is more resistant to the elements, less susceptible to pests and mold and is easier to care for (no sanding, staining or sealing) than wood.

The Board will review the three proposals and provide a recommendation for a key member vote.

Steve Neuf is also investigating the possibility of receiving funds from the TOH to pay for a portion of the repairs since TOH’s work in 2022/2023 to improve the drainage on Carlisle did not stop the rain water from Carlisle being directly pushed over the stairs during heavy storms.

Social Committee - Yvonne Lambertson and Ryan Schaefer-Walker

Easter Egg Hunt

Yvonne Lambertson, Ryan Schaefer-Walker, Jeanmarie Mansfield & Alex Meyerholz did a fantastic



Eaton's Neck Fire Department

55 Eatons Neck Road, Northport, NY 11768 (P) 631-757-8932 (F) 631-757-8953

*1st Assistant Chief
Michael Pinto*

*Chief Of Department
John Pokorny*

*2nd Assistant Chief
Robert Ryan*

An Open Letter to the Residents of Eaton's Neck:

Quite simply, we need you. While we are proud of our ability to respond to emergencies with a dedicated staff of 24/7 **VOLUNTEERS**, this level of service depends on ordinary citizens just like you in our small community who give up a portion their valued time to helping others during their time of need. Our ranks are staffed by your neighbors; accountants, electricians, lawyers, nurses, bankers, teachers, etc. While the demographic of our membership is diverse, our mission is the same; to help our neighbors when they call for it, no matter the time, weather, or day.

Although the current staffing has enabled us to continue to provide a high level of service, the need for more volunteers has become increasingly apparent. In 2021, your Eaton's Neck volunteer firefighters and EMS crews answered over 98 Fire and EMS calls for assistance. In 2022, we answered over 116, and in 2023 over 128 calls. Growing call volumes and an aging membership have made the need for new members greater than ever before. To-date in 2024, we have answered more than 10% of the alarm equivalent from last year.

We ask that you consider joining our ranks. In addition to the pure satisfaction of helping your neighbors and free high-quality training, you can receive generous tax incentives, a modest retirement program, up to 100% paid college tuition; and these are just a few of the benefits of joining the ranks of the Volunteer Fire Department. You can choose to become a firefighter, an EMS-only member where you become a NYS certified EMT, or you can do both. No prior experience or knowledge of the fire service is necessary to join our ranks.

Please email us at info@eatonsneckfd.org and ask for more information about becoming a valuable member. Someone from our membership committee will get back to you as soon as possible. I sincerely thank you for taking the time to read this letter, and your consideration of joining our department.

Sincerely,

John Pokorny
Chief of Department
Eaton's Neck Fire Department

job executing the annual Easter Egg Hunt that was held on Saturday, March 30th at PB. More than 2,000 plastic eggs (filled with treats) were "hidden" in various locations. The Easter Bunny, thanks to the generosity of John Pokorny's family, also made a special appearance. Approximately 150 people attended the event.

Parti Gras

Parti Gras, POENB's largest social event, will take place at PB on May 26th at 3 pm. The cost of admission will include BBQ, ice cream, and soft drinks. There will also be face painting for kids. Adults are welcome to BYOB.

July / August Grill and Chill and Movie Nights

The Board plans to sponsor 2 or 3 (in total) Friday Night Grill and Chill events at PB during July and August. Exact dates will be confirmed later. As was done in prior years, the grills will be lit around 6:30 pm and members are invited to

bring their own drinks, cook their own food and enjoy the company of friends and neighbors. However, this year, after dinner, at ~8:45 pm, there will be a movie night. Michael Cohen, a recent resident of EN, has offered POENB the use of his equipment.

Membership - Gene Caputo

As of April 4, 2024, 200 EN (out of 419) homeowners have chosen to become POENB members. The number of members is greater than it was at this time in 2023. At the May meeting, Gene will provide additional statistics on the membership including the (1) number of regular vs. senior members, (2) number of new vs prior year members, and (3) number of members who pay online vs by paper check.

Treasurer's Report - Ryan Schaefer-Walker

The Treasurer's Report (see details on page 2) (Include the Income Statement for the period January 1, 2024 to April 4, 2024 and a partial Balance Sheet as of April 4, 2024.

Revenues, given strong membership numbers, are slightly higher at this point in time. Expenses are also higher in 2024 because several 2023 bills were paid in 2024.

As of April 4th, POENB had roughly \$65K in all of its bank accounts.

Other Financial and Administrative Topics - Sally Neal and Anthony Fusaro

As discussed in the March minutes, the Board is reviewing POENB's finances and exploring ways to ensure the Association is on firm financial footing in the short and long term. As part of this review, the Board is obtaining a valuation of the two beach properties.

Details of the results of this research will be presented to members at a future meeting.

Bevin Seawall - John Ballow

John Ballow updated members on the status of "permanently fixing" EN's #1 public safety hazard (aka the Bevin Seawall). As discussed in prior minutes, there are three options:

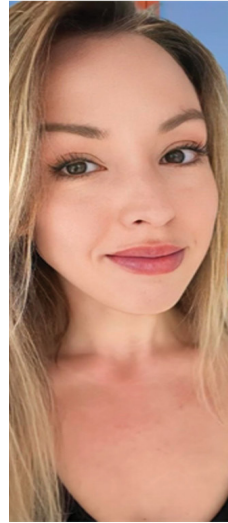
Wait for a catastrophe to occur - is defined as Seawall is breached and EN residents living at or above Bevin are unable to exit by land. This is the most likely option from a timing perspective. VOA, TOH or SC all do NOT have a written emergency evacuation plan. FEMA will not do "pre-assessment" unless 10K or more citizens are impacted. Support VOA's efforts to "go it alone" - is an operational and financial long shot since it might cost \$30 million and 10 years to execute. Pressure the Army Corp of Engineers (ACOE) to fix the wall - is at a standstill since both the local and DC offices of ACOE have stated that "five public access points" to the VOA beaches (e.g., every 0.5 miles from the 2.4 miles of road from the Soundview Boat Ramp to Bevin Rd) is a non-negotiable, prerequisite for their involvement.

John and others are working with SC Legislator Bontempi, US Rep. LaLota and US Sen. Schumer's office to request ACOE's engagement.

Keith McLaughlin provided drone footage of the Seawall taken on the morning of April 4th (post recent storm). In person attendees could see the extent of erosion - pieces of steel fully detached from the wall and rocks pushed across Asharoken Ave.

Next Meeting

Next month's meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 2, 2024 at 7:00 pm.



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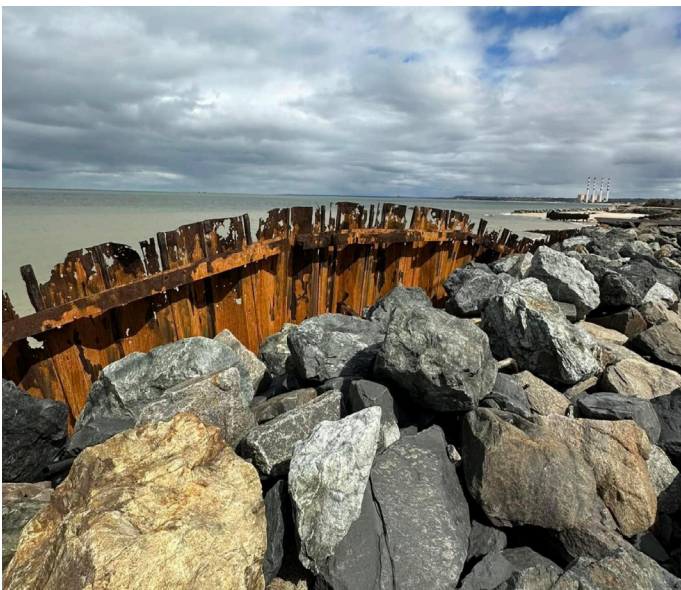
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Community

Bulletin Board



Eaton's Neck became Eaton's Island on April 3rd after a major storm washed out Asharoken Avenue, tossing boulders like toys and ripping steel sheeting from the already compromised seawall at Bevin Road. Big thanks TOH Highway for speedy debris removal in insane conditions. Thanks also to the ENFD and Asharoken Police. The ENCWG (Eaton's Neck Community Working Group) has been trying to get funding to fix this problem for well over a year now. Perhaps photos like these will convince the Army Corps of Engineers, "Houston, we have a problem".



EATON'S NECK FIRE DEPARTMENT

The local program for recruitment of new fire department members continues as Newsday published a full-page article on this Long Island concern. The 109 fire departments on Long Island are all recruiting new members. The article reinforced Chief John Pokorny's recent open letter to the Eaton's Neck community stating the need for new members. Please consider joining the department and providing help for neighbors in their time of need.

During the recent storms, the department officers monitored weather and road conditions. This was critical when the Bevin Rd area was flooded and impassable. Arrangements were made with Northport Fire Department to ensure the safe transportation of patients to the hospital.

Recent department activities include the preplanning drill at the Morgan Estate and the upcoming exercise at the Suffolk County Fire Training Academy on April 22. These are two examples of preparation to save life and property

On the home front, fire blankets are worth considering for extinguishment of small fires in the home without the need for training and cleaning up after extinguisher use.

Yours for fire safety, Rich Baer

Save the Dates!

Parti Gras is coming! Our biggest beach party of the year will be held on Sunday May 26th at 2 pm. Ticket info will be blasted out as soon as it's ready.

The Eaton's Neck Garage Sale will be Sunday June 9th. If you'd like to participate, please email Heather Brown Kennedy at Heatherbrownkennedy@gmail.com and Alex Meyerholz at ameyerholz4@gmail.com

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Light

BEACH CLEAN UP

**PRICE'S BEND
VALLEY GROVE**

MAY 11th at 10^{AM}