

Barque Hill Association – 2006 Annual Meeting

Annual Meeting - Minutes of the meeting of May 23, 2006 held at Church Hill Parish Hall. Number of attendees was 10: (Anna Colella, Anne Merna, John Garvey, Lori & Bob Maynard, Carolyn Lundgren, Kevin Bedford, Mark Roman, Matt Hendison and Tom Poor).

President Tom Poor called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Secretary, Kris Buckley, and Vice President, Paul McCarthy were not in attendance.

1. The minutes of the previous meeting were read by Tom Poor and approved by those in attendance.
2. Financial Statements:
 - The President reported on the finances. A somewhat larger deficit than projected for 2005-06 was incurred due to increased costs for replacing fences on common land, the picnic and real estate taxes.
 - The President reported on the receipt of dues, noting 90 of the 107 owners paid the annual dues of \$150.00. In addition, a small donation and interest were also received.
3. Grounds
 - Our mowing and clean-up costs were in line with budget. However, our landscaper has requested an increase in his weekly mowing fee from \$200 to \$250 this coming season, citing fuel and other increases to his expenses. The Directors have agreed to this increase.
 - We spent considerably on fence repair as many rails and posts had to be replaced. The previous inspection of our fences was two years ago. Already more rails are down this year.
 - Thanks were voiced to Jessie Chai & Loann Keene for their flower and Christmas wreath arrangements at the base of Barque Hill Drive and Till Rock Lane.
 - Clean-up and burning of dead limbs and underbrush was accomplished in Shipyard Park, Till Rock Park and Barque Hill Common. Undergrowth was trimmed back on Barque Hill Trail to make it passable again.
4. Association Functions:
 - Picnic. Matt Hendison reported the annual September picnic was a great success. However, the cost was close to \$600 over budget. The suggestion was made that we should provide a less expensive picnic this year. Concern was expressed that with the bulk of our landscaping budget benefiting Barque Hill and Brigantine Circle residents, the picnic was perhaps an offset for Till Rock residents and hence deserved expansive funding. Others felt this concern was not particularly valid. Matt agreed to lower the budget for this year.

- The Halloween costume parade in October was a great success and will continue.
- Christmas caroling took place until the participants could stand the cold no longer. They were warmly received by the residents who were fortunate enough to be serenaded.
- Again some discussion followed on the feasibility of an adult function for the Association. Ideas, such as a tennis tournament, etc. were suggested with Matt to give ideas more thought. In addition a spring function for kids might include a bike parade.
- Welcoming Committee. Anne Merna reported on the success of the welcome baskets. Two new households, the Dassattis and Mastersons, have personally received the Norwell pottery gift from a member of the committee.

5. Common Lands:

- Although the rope swing has been removed, teens continue to damage the neighboring privately owned boathouse. Owners of the boathouse have been working with the Association to resolve the issue without returning the flat barbwire fence. All neighbors can help by keeping any eye on the park area and notify the police of any suspicious activity.
- There is a "right of way" owned by the Association behind the Romans' and Shepherds' property. The Association must maintain some usage of this land to avoid the possibility of "adverse possession." The Grounds Committee will investigate.
- Markers on Barque Hill Drive were not put in this winter at the request of an owner who damaged a new coat the previous year. After the first snowfall, a few were installed at the base of Barque Hill Drive to prevent further snow plow damage.

6. Condition of Roads:

- Road repairs have been completed in the spring of 2005. Top coat was laid down and survived a relatively mild winter in reasonable shape.
- Speeding continues to be a problem throughout the neighborhood. Several offenders appear to be contractors working in the area, but there are many residents who are also at fault. Discussion on the letter submitted to the Traffic Committee in November, 2003 was held. Members of the Barque Hill Association attended a meeting with the town on May 27th 2004. Members have also attempted to join the Town Traffic Committee to assist but have not received back an invitation. It may be appropriate to write another letter.

- The Association has volunteered to patrol Stetson Road to some extent to keep the roadside clear of trash and dead limbs. This activity is needed particularly on the strip which parallels Route 3 and is often used by residents on daily walks.

7. Directors:

- The list of current directors was distributed and approved. Residents interested in serving as a Director are welcome.

8. Web Site (www.barquehill.org)

- A member of the association praised the web site and John Garvey's efforts. A thought was expressed that a bulletin board might be established where neighborhood notices such as babysitting services could be posted. John will investigate.

9. New Business

- After all the above subjects had been discussed, the meeting returned to the financial report. It was noted that the checkbook balance of \$253 is very low and that we had not raised dues since May, 2002, and over the succeeding four years had spent down our surplus. We are faced with rising expenses, and an increase in dues to \$175 would not provide us with much of a cushion if an unexpected expense such as a fallen tree were to occur. It was moved that we raise dues to \$200 for the coming season. The motion was seconded and approved by a vote.

10. Adjournment

- There being no further business, it was moved, seconded and the meeting was adjourned at 8:20 PM.

Minutes submitted,

Tom Poor, Acting Secretary