

**WILDWOOD ASSOCIATES
BOARD MEETING
AUGUST 21, 2023
11 BIRCH LANE**

Board Members Present:

Rob Swartwout, Vice President
Suzanne Dupre, Treasurer
Beth Riley, Secretary
Kim Caldwell, Member at Large
Walt Craven, Member at Large
Leslie McKenney, Member at Large

Members Present:

Jim and Joanne Berg
Maureen Connolly
Joe Michaud
Karen St. Clair
Vilean Tagersell
Christina Ferland
Paula and Dick Michael

The meeting was called to order at 7:06 p.m.

Budget Update:

Suzanne Dupre noted that the transition from the previous Treasurer is ongoing and that she was not able to provide a detailed report at this time. She reported that half of the delinquent members have paid their dues as result of the reminder invoices. Walter Craven presented Suzanne with the earnings from the raffle and bake sale from the Fourth of July.

Reserve Management Plan Update:

Kim Caldwell reported that Owens Haskell can come this fall or in the spring to measure the monitoring points along the bank to obtain data to assess sloping and rate of erosion. A motion was made and seconded and passed that we hire Owens Haskell in the spring. The beach grass has rebounded well and Kim suggested planting another 100 plants. Kim wants to ask State Coastal Geologist Peter Slovinsky about approval to line the bottom edge of the bank with any trees that may fall. This would dissipate wave energy and prevent undercutting of the bank especially in light of new storm patterns from the southeast that could damage the stairs and beach. Dick Michael expressed concern that large trees with branches lining the bank could block access to the beach. Kim presented an estimate of \$1300 from Cudmore Curbscapes for a pilot planting of native plants that promote soil stability in the gully and above it. After a discussion it was decided that neighbors could do the planting to save money. Joanne Berg suggested that another quote should be obtained which Kim agreed to facilitate. It was agreed that the test plantings should be done.

Bittersweet Removal Near Entrance:

Concern has been raised about invasive bittersweet in the woods on the south side of the entrance. A previous estimate from Mike Hughes using a herbicide would need to be updated and competing bids obtained. Christina Ferland pointed out that treatment would take at least two years and regrowth would need to be monitored and treated indefinitely. A motion was made, seconded and passed that the Board gather information from contractors on cost and procedures for killing bittersweet, present it to

the neighborhood.

Knotweed eradication method:

Joanne Berg presented background on Brian Colleran's knotweed control method using a low-dose herbicide. Kim Caldwell raised concerns about the ecological impact of herbicides on the ecosystem. Joanne noted that Brian Colleran has agreed to come to Wildwood on September 17th to share background information on this technique. This private effort is separate from the bank maintenance plan that is budgeted and approved by the Association and includes how we will address all invasive plants.

Evaluation of trees abutting the Water District site:

In response to concern about trees near the Water District site falling onto Wildwood Property and/or blocking the road, the Board will ask Arborist Dave Lebel to assess the trees.

Wildwood Website:

The Board agreed to Henry Cline's offer to build a website that could be used to pay dues, house the WW Directory and provide easy access to Wildwood information. Joe Michaud reminded the Board that there is an existing website that is unused and agreed to assist Henry in transiting existing information to a new website. Concerns about security of the website were raised and will be passed on to Henry.

Other Business:

In response to a neighbor's email about mowing near the entrance, Rob will talk to our mowing contractor.

Vilean Taggersell brought up the possibility of a French Drain around the reserve to control water flow and eliminate the soggy patch at the top of the gully. Dick Michael provided information about a previous plan to install such a drain across the reserve. The drain would funnel water that normally flows out from the bank into the large storm drain at the northeast end of the reserve. Dick will try to find a copy of the plan.

Jim Berg thanked Caleb Ballard for installing the water tap and shower at the bottom of the beach stairs.

The meeting adjourned at 9:19 p.m.