

WILDWOOD ASSOCIATES
Board Meeting
3 April 2024
11 Birch Lane

Board Member Attendees:

Rob Swartwout, Vice-President
Suzanne Dupree, Treasurer
Beth Riley, Secretary
Leslie McKenney, Member at large via Zoom

Member Attendees:

Denise LaRue and Bob Furman
Sukie Curtis
Christina Ferland
Jim and Joanne Berg

The meeting was called to order at 7:08 p.m. by Vice-President Rob Swartwout.

Budget Planning:

Beth Riley reported on the two estimates obtained for managing invasive plants on the land between the entrance and the Judge's house. Several members requested that an estimate be obtained from Hughes Arbor and Land Management. Beth will contact Hughes to schedule an estimate.

The disposition of the downed trees on the beach and the broken limbs on the reserve birch tree was raised. Rob Swartwout volunteered to discuss this with Dave Lebel.

Treasurer's Report:

Suzanne Dupre reported the Association currently has \$43,004.61 in two bank accounts and \$80,645.24 in fixed assets for \$125,649.85 in total assets. Currently there are \$15,075.00 in outstanding dues for FY24 (June 23 – May 24). Suzanne explained that converting book keeping to the QuickBooks online version and integrating a direct feed from the bank took many hours. The books are currently reconciled in the new system and she anticipates that future invoicing will be completed in a timely manner.

Christina Ferland asked for clarification on the timing of dues payments. Suzanne explained that dues invoices for FY 24 (June 23-May 24) were delayed until December because of the conversion to the QuickBooks online version. Suzanne will draft an explanation and will make sure that clear consistent language is used in the billing process going forward. She will also prepare statements for members who have any unpaid dues from the last two years.

New Business:

Christina Ferland asked about the Owen Haskell visit scheduled for 9 April. Leslie McKenney relayed that the measurement, the first since the monitoring system was installed, had been completed early by Owen Haskell. A report will be forthcoming from Owen Haskell but Leslie did not know the timing for its completion.

Bob Furman asked for clarification about the safety of kayak racks on the beach. Background on WW kayak racks and rules governing them were discussed. Bob suggested building a number of sturdy, well-anchored racks as a community project.

Christina Ferland stated that she would like to know more details about Wes Bello's trimming of vegetation along the bank and reserve. She felt that this is a big expense and that beneficial plants were being cut along with the invasive ones. Jack Hackendorn volunteered at the last meeting to schedule Wes this spring but the Board did not know if that had been done.

Christina Ferland, Sukie Curtis, and Jim and Joanne Berg wanted to know if the Board would support a subcommittee to oversee bank management and invasive control on the bank, beach and neighborhood. They cited research by Ryan Colleran that was at odds with recent efforts to control knot weed on the beach and bank. According to Colleran's research, herbicides and planting the bank with native species is necessary to discourage knot weed spread. A discussion ensued about how to recruit committee members. Per the Wildwood Associates bylaws, "The formation of all committees shall require approval of the Executive Board." Further discussion by the Executive Board is needed.

Beth Riley pointed out that a Bank management plan already exists and was approved by 76% of households voting in the February 2022 special meeting. Any changes to the plan would need to be approved by a membership vote. Beth agreed to have a copy of the existing plan posted to the Wildwood website.

The meeting adjourned at 8:27 p.m.