

Salisbury Beach Betterment Association
Annual Meeting Minutes
Surfside Deck, Ocean Front, Salisbury MA. Date: July 15, 2019

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM following an hour of social meet and greet with attending SBBA members.

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, President Ray Champagne introduced the following guests:

Senator: Diana DiZoglio

MA Representative: James Kelcourse

Town Manager.: Neil Harrington

Board of Selectmen:

- Chairman Freeman Condon
- Donna Abdulla
- Wilma McDonald
- Ronalee Ray-Parrott
- Chuck Takesian

Chief of Police: Tom Fowler

Fire Chief: Scott Carrigan

DPW Director: Lisa DeMeo

SBBA Board of Directors:

- President: Ray Champagne
- Treasurer: Don Egan
- Secretary: Pat Hanno
- Scholarship Chairman: Donna Champagne
- So. End Reps: Derek DePetrillo, Bill Greilich, John Housianitis, Mike Spero
- No. End Reps: Lou Masiello and Al Peterson
- At Large Rep: Ron Guilmette
- DCR Rep: Mike Magnifico* (not present)

1. Minutes of the last annual meeting

- President Champagne asked for a motion to approve the minutes of July 16, 2018. Accepted and approved unanimously

2. Treasurer's Report

- President Champagne asked for a motion to approve the treasurer's report submitted by Don Egan which was accepted and approved unanimously.
- Total cash on hand \$73,997

3. Beautification Report

- The beautification committee chaired by Edna Margraff sees that the flowers at the triangle, near the Salisbury Beach sign, the "Welcome" sign on 286, and potted plants located at various areas are maintained.
 - We've been receiving "shoutouts" from residents and visitors about how beautiful the flowers look.
- The committee made sure that flags were installed before Memorial Day
- No home tours took place this year.
 - The committee is looking for new volunteers to join and for members who might offer their home for a house tour in 2020. Interested parties were asked to contact Edna.

4. Scholarship Report

- Donna Champagne reported that \$6,374 was raised from this year's fundraiser Joey Voices that was held in June. This will help with the 13 scholarships in the amount of \$400 each that were presented at this year's annual meeting.
 - Motion made, seconded, and approved unanimously
- Awards were handed out by Donna and Jane Keenan

5. Featured Guest Speakers

- Keynote speaker, Senator Diana DiZoglio's key notes:
 - Many concerned parties are aware of, and working toward solutions for the spillage of sewage into the Merrimack River.
 - She and other legislators are hoping to pass a Bill that would create a "notification system" alerting affected communities of how serious the spillage is in their area.
 - \$100,000 has been secured to pilot a program such as the flagging system (being used elsewhere) along with an app on your phone and a website to forewarn communities about raw sewage spills.
 - The Senator has passed through the Senate budget \$50,000 to form the Merrimack District Commission to look at short and long term solutions to keep the Merrimack River clean.
 - Still waiting on the conference committees to conclude their reports to get a vote which then, hopefully, will move things along.
 - Senator DiZoglio has gotten involved with the SBBA in dealing with the accountability and transparency of the DCR's Preservation Trust Fund. She has arranged for a meeting with Commissioner Roy to come to Salisbury on Sept. 6, 2019 to meet with the SBBA and town officials to address concerns with the allocation of funds for the Trust.
 - Finally, the cost of purchasing a dredger for local beach communities to share would be excessively high (as much as 3x higher than was expected). It will be a fraction of the cost compared to the 30 year contract that is in place now. The report that this is based on is public record and will be forwarded to SBBA.
- Representative James Kelcourse
 - He spoke first due to the Senator's late arrival and very briefly touched upon all of the same topics, allowing her to go into more detail. The Rep. thanked and applauded the SBBA and Salisbury as a whole for keeping our elected officials on target with issues of concern to our community. He encouraged us to continue reaching out to their offices and other State and Federal Agencies.
- Town Manager Neil Harrington
 - He spoke of the positive things happening in Salisbury
 - Parking issues being worked on with an increase in Kiosks and signage.
 - Over \$200k has already been collected from fees and parking stickers.
 - Looking to get a \$400k grant to upgrade Driftway parking and sidewalks.
 - At the Town Meeting a loan was approved to alleviate the flooding that has plagued Liberty St. for 20 years.
 - Still working with architects on a design for a Visitor Center and new restrooms. We need to acquire some additional space. The goal is to secure a bond to help with cost.
 - DEP needs to help with ideas regarding construction on a Barrier Beach.
 - Beach center continues to be improved with the help of business owners and advisory groups.
 - Still working with DOT to improve N.E. Blvd. Three plans are being reviewed. Stay tuned.

- Residents will be allowed to give their input at future meetings.
- Select Chairperson Freeman Condon
 - Freeman thanked the SBBA for the positive impact it has on Salisbury.
 - He was grateful for the beautification of our town, the support of the police dept. In purchasing the electronic speeding sign, and the generous scholarships awarded.
 - He's proud of what we do as a group and told us to "keep doing what we are doing".
- Police Chief Tom Fowler
 - The chief thanked the SBBA for our support regarding safety issues with the donation to purchase the electronic speeding sign on N.E. Blvd and new crosswalk signs.
 - He encouraged anyone seeing suspicious activity to report it to the police dept.
 - Police Dept. is not equipped to issue speeding tickets based on a license plate.
 - Speed cameras are not legal on roads such as N.E. Blvd. "enforcing" the speed on N.E. Blvd is not "practical".
- BOD Beach Preservation Sub-Committee Bill Greilich spoke on behalf of this committee
 - He thanked Sen. DiZoglio and Rep. Kelcourse for helping the SBBA get detailed accounting of revenues collected by DCR for the Preservation Trust Fund.
 - Bill sited the goals for this committee as:
 - Having an SBBA member serve as a trustee on the PTF
 - Having some influence on how monies are spent and their allocation
 - That voices of the SBBA are heard in legislative processes
 - To participate in overseeing that monies are spent in accordance with the intent of the PTF
 - Next step is to meet with Commissioner Roy and Town Officials

6. Member's comments and concerns

- A concern was expressed about pesticide spraying on July 4th at 5:00PM. The town has a contract with a company to do this. We have no say on when this is completed. It is a bacterial spray, not harmful to humans or animals. Mosquitos eat it and their larvae die.
- Fencing will continue after the piping plovers have moved on.

7. Nomination of Officers

- All present BOD members were elected to another year in office.

8. Raffles

- A lucky member won Edna Maggraff's beautiful beautification basket.
- The scholarship 50/50 raffle of \$100 was won and donated back to the scholarship fund by the winner, who's daughter was one of the recipients of a \$400 scholarship this year.

The annual SBBA meeting was adjourned at 8:40 pm by Ray Champagne

Respectfully submitted,

Patric Hanno, Secretary