



Grove Beach Point Association, Inc.

Spring 2013 Newsletter

Message From the Chairman of the Board of Governors
By Gary Bazzano

I would like to start by apologizing for never getting a hard copy newsletter out to all of you last fall. We had some transition and technical problems that caused the Board to not to be able to communicate through snail mail. Typically, any other correspondence in the off-season will be through email, so please be sure that the Board has your email address.

As I recap last summer, I can't help but think about storm Irene from the summer before. I'm glad that most of the residents were able to get their houses back in order to enjoy them for the summer and even though some were not completed, it seemed that everybody made the best of their summer. I hope we don't have another storm like that for a long time. As you will read by Ken's report, we should all recognize how important it is for us to have a stable beach, that can handle any storm of the magnitude of Irene. If we ever have anything larger than that, there will be a chance for mass devastation and that's why your Board is working tirelessly to find ways to nourish the beach in order to protect our assets.

Recalling the summer months, all seemed to go fairly well. We did have some vandalism as I had reported earlier in the summer but everything else went pretty smooth until the end of the summer when items were reported stolen from the areas adjacent to the patio and east. A motor was stolen along with an inflatable boat. As members of GBPA, we must be diligent to observe everything that goes on in our Association. At the time of this writing, the Board is researching the use of security cameras at the patio in order to curtail theft, destruction and drug and alcohol usage. These items will be on the agenda at the Annual Meeting. The use of the cameras would also enable members to go to a website and observe the beach activities happening waterside, somewhat like the Travel Channel does with their cameras.

Even though the Board meets throughout the winter months, everyone is always welcome to attend. The meetings are posted on the GBPA website and the locations are selected at the previous meeting, so please contact the Webmaster or any Board member for locations.

As Ken will mention in his report, Woods Hole Group had presented to the Association in August their report of recommendations for the preservation of our beach. It was disappointing to see that only 13 members attended. Thanks to all who came to listen and I hope all of you will read what Ken has to report, as it is something the Board had concentrated on this winter. The Association has the potential for some unheard opportunities for sand and as such will be working towards those. The state

DEEP wants GBPA to receive sand and they are working very hard in order for that to happen. The Association has done everything that the DEEP has requested and has established a very good relationship with certain integral members of the DEEP.

The Board also discussed in depth the ongoing litigation with an association landowner over the rights of ownership over the disputed property. I will explain further at the Annual Meeting, but if anyone would like to discuss further, please contact me.

The Beach took quite a bit of a hit this past fall and winter and we will be moving forward with preparing it for the summer enjoyment through the contracting of HS Plaut Environmental and potentially Shumack Construction. The Board will also be cleaning up all Association owned property. Unfortunately, the Board cannot authorize cleanup expenses associated with private property. If you own marsh property that debris washed and collected up onto, then please make sure you clean up those areas before the summer begins.

The Board also intends on bringing back security guards for another year as most seemed to be happy with their presence. Please look forward to seeing them and introducing yourselves to them.

The Board will keep you apprised of any on goings that are pertinent and if you have any questions, comments, suggestions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact any of the Board as our contact information is located at the end of the newsletter. If you wish to contact me directly, my email is gbazz@cox.net and phone is 860-604-0500.

PLEASE BE SURE TO COMPLETE THE RUBBISH FORM SO HOMETOWN WASTE MAY INITIATE PICKUP OF YOUR RUBISH.

I look forward to seeing all of you at the Annual Meeting on May 25.

**Beach Preservation
By Ken Penfield**

The past few months have been busy. We met with the State of CT DEEP representatives regarding our recent Woods Hole study and discussed our goals and plans for the direction we would like to proceed. Those of you who attended the presentation of the Woods Hole report in July 2012 will recall that the report requires nourishment of the beach and a "designed engineering plan" for placement of sand. The report recommends 40,000 to 45,000 cubic yards of sand nourishment for our association beach running from the most-affected area at the east toward the west to the association patio area. For those of you who remember the beach nourishment in the late 1980s, this would equal that amount.

Our initial goal is to obtain a Certificate of Permission (COP) from the DEEP for this engineered design so that if, at some point in the future, we are afforded an option to obtain 40,000 to 45,000 cubic yards of beach-compatible sand, we will have the appropriate approvals in place and be able to move forward.

During our meeting with the DEEP in September 2012, they brought to our attention a dredging project at Bay View Marina in Niantic which has approvals to dredge 45,000 cubic yards of sand that meets beach sand quality. We then met with representatives from Bay View to discuss options to receive their sand. As of this writing, we are still discussing options and delivery methods.

At our Board meeting on October 3rd, 2012, the board approved a move forward motion to obtain the COP from the DEEP. This includes negotiating with the Woods Hole Group for assistance with the required information for a COP. Some of the tasks required for the COP application are as follows:

1. Topographic Survey of our beach
2. Sediment Sampling and Grain Size Analysis
3. Biological Survey
4. Engineering Design Plans
5. Permitting

It is important to understand that at some point, should we find an opportunity to obtain appropriate amounts of sand, this will be an engineered project and not simply dumping sand on the beach; hence, the above requirements.

A COP, once approved, is good for 10 years, so should the Bay View project not come to fruition, we will still be able to use the COP for other potential projects.

We do not intend to purchase sand. We are looking for appropriate options/dredgings that fall within the Long Island Sound Management Plan which require dredging material to be placed on beaches rather than out in the Sound.

I've also had discussions with representatives from the State of CT DOT as they have a role in this process and will be able to keep us informed of potential dredgings elsewhere. There are two other dredgings in the works in Niantic, but they are not yet approved. We will keep an eye on these projects.

In summary, we have contracted with the Woods Hole Group to apply for a COP with steps 1-5 noted in this letter. The cost will be paid from current funds in our Beach Preservation budget. The Operations Budget and Capital Budget will not be touched.

We will continue to look for sources of nourishment in conjunction with the DEEP and DOT.

Should anyone have questions for me, please don't hesitate to call or email.

**Are you getting the best price and service for Propane?
By David Brault**

We use propane to heat our cottage and our appliances so we use a lot of propane. Propane is a clean and convenient energy source but it is difficult to determine if you are paying a fair price because most of the propane companies include the tank rental fee in the per gallon propane price. We have used several of the larger propane companies and got the run around from all of them when we tried to understand how the pricing kept going up when oil and natural gas prices were going down. Luckily Bill Scully told me that Wilcox Fuel in Westbrook now sells propane. They have a very transparent tank rental policy and I was able to cut my per gallon price by almost 50%!!! So if you use propane, give Wilcox a call and tell them Bill sent you.

<http://wilcox-energy.com/>

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GARBAGE/RECYCLING COLLECTION

GBPA has been having "group" garbage collection from Hometown Waste Removal Company (Hometown Waste, LLC) since October 1, 1996. The monthly fee for garbage and recycling service is now \$23.00. The summer residents have a choice of the 4 month plan or the 6 month plan as follows:

May 15 to September 15 – 4 month plan for \$92.00

May 1 to November 1 – 6 month plan for \$138.00

The full time residents will be billed directly by Hometown Waste, LLC @ \$23.00 per month.

Garbage and recycling pick up will be on Mondays from May 1, 2013 through November 1, 2013. Pick up is on Friday for the rest of the year.

On Memorial Day, July 4th and Labor Day weeks garbage service will be on the Tuesday following the holiday.

NAME: _____

Mailing Address: _____

GBPA Address: _____

Four Month Plan enclose \$92.00 _____ Six Month Plan enclose \$138.00 _____

Make Checks Payable to Hometown Waste, LLC

Please mail this completed form with your payment in advance to:

Hometown Waste, LLC
P.O. Box 1340
Madison, CT 06443

If you have any questions concerning your bill please call 203.245.8840.