



TO: Old Lyme Shores Beach Association

FROM: Paul J. Yellen, OLSBA President

DATE: June 15, 2025

RE: Annual Meeting Update

Good morning and Happy Father's Day to all the dad's out there! Yesterday was our Annual Meeting and was held at the Middle School Auditorium. Our attendance was slightly lower than normal, possibly because of the fact this was the 15th Saturday in a row where we have had rain and many families may have stayed home because of the weather. It was cool and gloomy all day and I noticed some houses had their fireplaces burning to take the chill off. The annual meeting is where the association approves its budget, tax mil rate, elects its officers and at least two Board of Governor positions and gets committee and beach news updates. We urge all members to attend these meetings, be informed, vote and voice your opinion.

The following slate of officers was elected:

- Paul J. Yellen, President
- John Cunningham, Vice President
- Rob Cappellucci, Treasurer
- Tracey Cappellucci, Secretary

The following BOG members were elected:

- Time Larson, 3-year term
- Gerry Vander Werken, 3-year term
- Jack Thomas, 1-year term

Our budget was approved and a 1.9 tax mil rate was approved. As we know the Town completed a state mandated revaluation of all properties in town recently and most of us have seen significant increases in the value of their property. Our mil rate is based on the assessed value of your property and since property values increased our mil rate was lowered.

We had committee reports and brief summaries of these are:

- Beach Committee: George Finley talked about the new DEEP mandated swim lines and swim area buoys, Anthony's Property Services has cleaned the beach of excessive shells, logs and other debris. We've removed 14 truckloads of beach sand, at no expense to us, and delivered it to Hawks Nest Beach and have pushed sand down to the low tide mark and away from the sea walls.
- Communications Committee: Patti Vander Werken spoke about our quarterly newsletter and she is looking for beach related articles as well as new ideas to get the word out to our residents.
- Infrastructure Committee: I outlined the plans for some new informational signs at the entry to the beach properties, projects that will be postponed until the potential sewer project and sought input on other improvements that you see that needs to be addressed.
- Security Committee: Eric Bird who has taken the lead of the Gate and Beach staff, in his 8th year of service, and explained the entry process for beach guests at the gate, how the staff will be assigned and what their duties are. I shared details on a planned meeting with the Town and the other beaches to prepare for the July 4th holiday in an effort to mitigate the problems we had last year as well as the need to be involved with our beach property security with the expression "if you see something, say something". Our schedule for gate closings has been approved by the BOG and will be attached here.
- Recreation / July 4th Plans: Dave French, on behalf of Julia Nixon, talked about the exciting schedule for the activities on July 4 & 5, and the 2 scheduled bands on the beach including the band run by long time beach resident, Michael Cleary. Did you know that Julia has been leading our July 4th activities for 25 years! We're also looking into teaming up with Black Hall Outfitters to promote their summer activities for kids that you might be interested in.
- WPCA: Chairman Jay Moynihan presented a brief summary of their activities and plans moving forward for us since the Supplemental Bond Resolution was approved on May 24th. These include updating the Cost Sharing Agreement to better represent our needs and interests, planning to go out to bid and working with our beach and Town partners.

In summary we're looking for a great summer here at OLS! We can always do a better job in serving our residents. I encourage you to get involved with a committee, help the Beach and Gate staff if they need support in doing their jobs, obey our stop signs and 15 MPH speed limits, follow the rules we have in place for the beach and roads and speak out if you see a problem or potential problem.