Old Lyme Shores Beach Association

Quarterly Newsletter



OCTOBER 2026

Produced by: Old Lyme Shores Board of Governors, Officers, WPCA, and with support of OLS Residents

OCTOBER 2026
PHOTO CREDITS

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OLS Board of Governors (BOG)

Officers

President: John Cunningham
Vice President: Paul Yellen
Secretary: Tracey Cappellucci
Treasurer: Rob Cappellucci

Members

Tim Larson
Bob Palazzo
MaryKate Reynolds
Jack Thomas
Jerry Vande Werken
Mike Vasile

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Although the beach became quieter after Labor Day, our streets did not.

On September 12 we held the Fall Meeting at Old Lyme Middle School. Rob Cappellucci reported that we closed fiscal 2026 ahead of budget. Paul Yellen reviewed the season and reminded everyone to clear boats from the beach by November 1. Jay Moynihan briefed members on the sewer project ahead of the September 17 public hearing.

On September 28, Baltazar Contractors broke ground on Billow Road. After fifteen years of planning and negotiations, we finally laid our first sewer pipe in the ground. Crews have installed mains on Billow Road and Canty Lane and have started working up Brightwater Road. Inspectors from Fuss & O'Neill watch the work every day.

Our members have done their part by checking, changing, and verifying lateral locations. We opened the member portal on September 4, and many of you used it to review and confirm them. Our lateral outreach has stayed ahead of the construction crews. Dede DeRosa, Dennis Colombie, and Paul Yellen have spent many hours walking neighbors through the printed drawings.

Construction brings dust, mud, and detours. Thank you for your patience with the crews and with each other. As you have already done in the past few weeks, we encourage you to send any questions or concerns to construction@oldlymeshores.org, which reaches the people who can answer or act.

Jay Moynihan leaves the WPCA and the Board of Governors this month. I thank him for his years of service to the project.

Finally, thank you to Patti Vande Werken and MaryKate Reynolds for putting this newsletter together.

John Cunningham
OLSBA, President
email: john.cunningham@oldlymeshores.org

OLSBA NEWS + UPDATES



2026 BOG Meeting Schedule

Regular monthly meetings begin at 7pm via Zoom.

Annual and Fall meetings begin at 10am at the Old Lyme Middle School.

- January 21st
- February 18th
- March 18th
- April 15th
- May 20th
- June 10th
- June 13th (Annual Meeting)
- July 22nd
- August 19th
- September 9th
- September 12th (Fall Meeting)
- October 20st
- November 17th
- December 15th

2026 FALL MEETING
Saturday, September 12th at 10AM
Old Lyme Middle School

2026 WPCA Meeting Schedule

Regular monthly meetings begin at 7pm via Zoom.

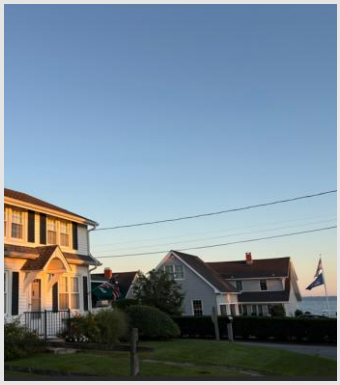
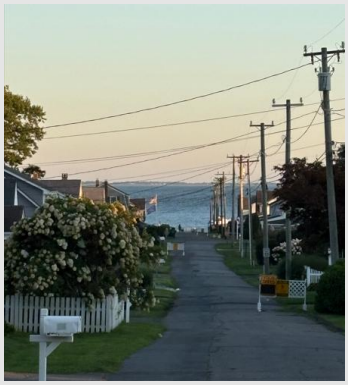
- January 13th
- February 10th
- March 10th
- April 7th
- May 12th
- June 9th
- July 14th
- August 11th
- September 8th
- October 13th
- November 10th
- December 8th

WPCA Officers and Members

Officers
Chairman: VACANT
Vice-Chairman: Bob Palazzo
Secretary: VACANT
Treasurer: TBD

Members
Nancy Boersig
Dennis Columbie
Tim Larson
Chris Shelton
Roger Zito

OLSBA NEWS + UPDATES

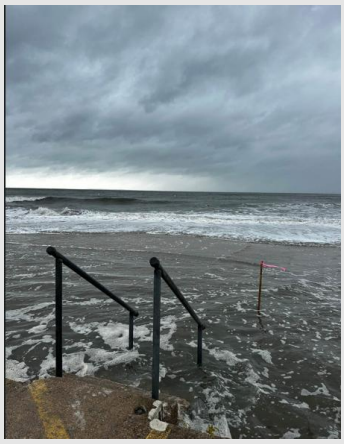

BEACH OPERATIONS REPORT: PAUL YELLEN

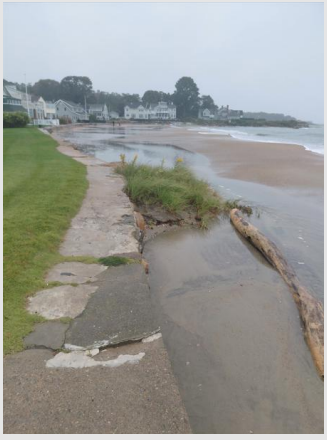
This past September, a rare "Northeaster" rain storm coincided with our local high tide, threatening our shores. In preparation, our faithful beach maintenance team consisting of Steve Potter, Geoff Huebner, George Finley and myself shoveled out the storm water drains from Billow and Brightwater. The goal was to allow excess rain water to drain, thus preventing the accumulation of standing water and potential for property damage. We also filled and placed sandbags on the ramp at Saltaire to prevent high waves or storm surge from accumulating in the low areas along Sea Lane. Fortunately, the storm did not generate the amount of rain predicted and we had no damage from the storm.

Our contractor dug out Sheffield Brook during a lull in the storm and there was no flooding along Sea Spray. Sheffield Brook continues to be a concern for Old Lyme Shores because of the failed design during its reconstruction, which allows for sand to frequently plug the two 36" drain pipes. We will continue to monitor it weekly to prevent any problems this winter.

Swim Lines: This winter the swim lines and the raft will be stored on the beach, since we have temporarily lost our storage area at the ball field. Our contractor will move the raft closer to the seawall and the lines will be put in large storage boxes. **Please do not play on the raft or attempt to move it.**

ALL boats left on the beach after November 1st will be removed from the beach and either stored at the owner's expense or disposed of, if not claimed. We will distribute pictures of the boats to perhaps remind you of your property left there.





EXPECTATIONS FOR SEWER WORK DURING THE WINTER MONTHS
Paul Yellen: A firsthand experience

As the work on our sewer project continues into the fall and winter months, there will be some inconveniences that our winter residents will experience. **Here's what I experienced when the work went by my house on Billow Road:**

- **Mail was not delivered for 2 or 3 days**. When I checked with the Old Lyme Post Office, I was told that the carrier will attempt to deliver the mail every day. If the road is impassable, the carrier will return the mail to the Post Office and try again the next day. Attempts will be made every day until they are able to deliver the mail. **Pro Tip: I picked up my mail at the Post Office, an option that is always available to you.**

- **I moved my cars and parked them out of the construction area for a few days. When the work approached my driveway, a supervisor contacted me in advance so I was never completely blocked in**. If you're unsure, talk to one of the supervisors who will give you a good estimate of when your driveway will be blocked.

- **My lawn was not damaged and my mailbox was not moved or taken down. If your mailbox needs to be moved, it will be replaced by the contractor. The contractor will also return to fix any damage to your lawn.** In addition, as sections of work are done, they will be temporarily paved.

- **Our roads will continue to be plowed and maintained throughout the winter.** Our plowing contractor has indicated that they will continue to clear the roads, but we should expect some delays. The sewer contractors will most likely assist in clearing roads in areas where they are working.

- If you have any concerns about the impact of the sewer project on you and/or your property, please reach out to me and I'll be glad to help you out!

RECRUITING COMMITTEE CONTINUES TO SEEK REPLACEMENT FOR OLS SECRETARY POSITION

While Tracey Cappellucci has agreed to remain in the role for the time being, she is not able to remain in the position for the long term.

Overview of the Secretary Role: The OLS Secretary plays a critical role in ensuring accurate documentation, transparent communication, and effective coordination of Board of Governors (BOG) and OLS Officer activities. This position is central to maintaining the official record of Board decisions and making those documents available to Old Lyme Shores Beach Association (OLSBA) members.

- **Primary Responsibilities:** Attends and takes notes for all BOG meetings (AI is used for first draft). Distributes meeting minutes (after review) in the required timeframes. Ensures timely posting of materials for community access and transparency. Responds to time-sensitive requests and last-minute updates related to BOG activities.
- **Experience:** Prior experience is helpful but **not** required. Candidates do not need to be highly technical to succeed. Support is available, and the role is manageable with a willingness to learn and adapt. AI is used to draft notes, so heavy-duty note taking is not required.
- **Upon satisfactorily fulfilling the position responsibilities, a $3,500 stipend will be paid to the OLS Secretary each year.**
- *If interested, please send an email, including any information you think might be helpful, to Recruiting Team members:* ***Sarah Fay*** *Sarah.fay@gmail.com* ***and Steve Potter*** *hlpjr33@gmail.com*.

OLSBA COMMITTEE LIST

The Recruiting Committee continues to seek input from OLSBA members so that we can produce an accurate OLSBA Committee List.
OLS Committees Doc Revised 10_22_2026.docx

- **First, a HUGE THANK YOU to Paul Graml for responding to the request we made in the July 2026 Newsletter.** We were seeking volunteers for the OLS Voting Operations Committee and Paul raised his hand to volunteer! Paul's willingness to work on that committee is greatly appreciated!

- **Second, despite multiple and varied attempts to receive feedback on the accuracy of the OLSBA Committee List, we have received very little information and we know that the List is out of date.** The Recruiting Committee is working to come up with a different approach, one that might involve phone calls to try and get this done, though that is not definite yet. Meanwhile, it would be tremendously helpful if you would look at the attached List. **It will take LESS THAN 10 MINUTES in total to help us out!**
  - **IF you have ever served on an OLSBA Committee or are on one now,** PLEASE take a moment to review the OLS Committee List and identify if your information is correct.
  - **If information is incorrect, please provide us with the correct information.** Please send it to Judeen Wrinn via email: Judeen.Wrinn@comcast.net

OLSBA Directory Updates



Copies of the all new OLSBA 2026 Directory were distributed at the *Fall Meeting* in September, 2026 and will be available again at the *Annual Meeting* in June, 2027

To add your household to the Directory or make changes to your existing information, please email:
MaryKate Reynolds: marykate.reynolds@oldlymeshores.org
Patti Vande Werken: pattivandewerken@gmail.com
Janet Roman-Ryan: jrr1122@aol.com

***Reminder: Resident information from previous Member Directories WILL NOT be automatically transferred to the new OLSBA Directory. If you want your information included, please email one of us!**

Old Lyme Shores Neighborhood Facebook Page

Stay connected with your OLS neighbors throughout the year! Join the *Old Lyme Shores Neighborhood* Facebook page for updates, information and photos.

- **Just-in-time updates** about safety and security, beach events, BOG and WPCA meetings, neighborhood and beach photos, items offered for sale or free, OLS cottages for rent, etc.

