

**WALNUT BEACH ASSOCIATION
MEETING MINUTES FOR JULY 12, 2021**

Called to order: 7:06PM

Absent: Kim Thompson, Secretary

Approval of Minutes: Pam Parisi asked for a correction in the minutes because it had her down as absent for the last meeting which she attended. Minutes approved with correction.

President's Report: Donna Travis will be interim VP as Robin stepped down. Kim unable to attend tonight, Gean Brown will take minutes. **We will have no August meeting;** our next meeting will be Sept. 13th at 7PM at the Firehouse Gallery.

Wendy welcomed new members; there were 4 attending tonight's meeting. We have lots of new members signing up online. We need volunteers for events, sign-up sheets in front. We need volunteers for Corn Hole this Saturday and the weekly concerts to sell merchandise.

The Milford library showcased Walnut Beach in June.

Wendy announced we have 4 high school student volunteers doing community service.

Wendy asked if anyone was interested in being in charge of hospitality. She proposed a \$500 budget to do coffee and snacks. She said we also have a government liaison to keep us informed of what is going on in the town as well.

VP Report: No Report

Treasurer's Report: Elana Zabari reported:

Previous	Current
Operating 6,847.33	7,795.50
Concert 11,237.06	10,387.06
Festival 4,697.24	4,697.24

Membership: Pam Parisi reported 3 new members since last meeting for a total of 117 members.

Committee Reports

Block watch: Wendy asked if anyone interested to do this to be the point person for this.

Corn hole: Erik reported things moving along well. 25 teams signed up. They have collected \$1400 in gift card donations and purchases. There will be side games for a small donation. They passed the break-even point already. **We will need volunteers for Friday and Saturday.** 203 Corn hole will be running the games. Channel 8 doing a story on the event. Registration starts at 9AM. Tournament starts at 10AM. TV will be set up so players can see who they are playing.

WABABA: Melissa reported the 3rd Thursdays are in full swing as well as DJ in the park. Roylety Steel Band will be playing this Thursday at the Gallery 6-8. She reported there will be occasional Wednesday dates listed on the website. Elana will be playing on July 21st from 6-8 at the Gallery.

Wendy thanked Melissa for heading up the beautification at the arch. Nancy from Bees Knees donated the plants.

Walnut Beach Festival: The festival will be Sept 12th.

Concert Series: Wendy reported this was our 10th year for concerts since we missed last year. Our first band was rained out (makeup date Saturday, September 4th) but the Silver Steel Pan Band played July 4th and a great time was had by all. Sunday the Arena Rock Tribute Band was amazing. Next week the What It Is Band will be playing.

Concert Series Fundraiser: Wendy reported we will be doing the fundraiser under the pavilion this year. Lasse's will provide a barbeque which will be \$45pp, Wendy encouraged people to buy tables of 8 so you can sit with your friends. There will be a band, Bring your own beverages/cooler/Solo cups. There will be raffle opportunities. The date is Aug. 28th 2-6. Br

Government: Laura reported there will be a planning and zoning meeting to change the zoning for the empty lot on Smith St. Laura asks that those who oppose this change attend the meeting. A handout with the information was passed out.

Old Business: The Farmers' Market is held every Thursday in the pavilion. Live entertainment is provided.

New Business: Amber is our new Social Media Chair. She reports Facebook is doing really well. She made an Instagram page it is Walnutbeachassociation_ (underscore). Amber said the best content is video content; it makes it easy for people to see. Live is a good idea and please tag Walnut Beach Association.

Laura proposed a mailing to the area residents; it is called every door direct mailing. There are 3 levels:

1 – 1,200 pieces \$650

2 – 2,500 pieces \$1,055

3 - 5,000 pieces \$1939

Laura asked the group to approve level 2. All in favor none opposed. It was recommended by one of our new members that we reach out to realtors as well to ask them to put the card in with the welcome packets they give to new residents when they buy a home in the area.

Member Joe McHale spoke about the structural seawall by St. Gabriel's church. He said it has been in disrepair for some time and he was told that it is in the works but is taking a long time. He wanted to let us know about the undesirable elements that hang out at the end of Laurel Avenue at the seawall. Joe said several neighbors have been having problems with them. He said they have had several conversations with the police about it. Wendy suggested they take videos of the people.

Another member, Adriana from Laurel Avenue, spoke also about the problem sighting several incidents where her family have been harassed, verbally attacked by a woman and surrounded by others after she asked the people to not stand on the private part of the beach. Her 15 year old daughter has been harassed as well and racial slurs have been used by these people against the family. Laura told them they should take the police course that is held by the Milford Police. Gean asked if the association could write to the Alderman in support of the families on Laurel St. More discussion ensued. Wendy suggested this be taken offline at this time.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40PM.

Respectfully submitted, Gean Brown for Kim Thompson