

**Centerport Harbor Civic Association
General Membership Meeting, February 21,2024**

Present: Anne Wesp, Bob Berding, Betsey Cambria, George Pullis, Mike Regan, Jim Walker, Judy White, and Carol Zwiulich

Pledge of Allegiance

Treasurer's Report: CHCA has a balance of \$8,680.24 and has paid \$75 for a public sign to advertise our organization. CHCA has pending annual costs of \$1,200 for the post office, the accountant, and insurance.

Elections of the 2024 Executive Board:

President: Anne Wesp; Vice President: Judy White; Treasurer: Betsey Cambria; Secretary: Carol Zwiulich.

Advisory Board: Bob Berding, Bob Lopez, George Pullis, Mike Regan, Jim Walker, Mary Werner

Guest Speakers #1:

John McCarron, Deputy Town Superintendent and Joe Cirigliano, Town Director of Public Safety

The update regarding several Centerport-centric issues which were discussed on the August 7, 2023, walk of Centershore Road were given:

- **Survey of Centershore Road:** CHCA was informed that there will have to be multiple surveys as some “uphillers” own the property that runs along the water. Unfortunately, no money is budgeted for this effort.
- **Wildlife Crossing Signs on Centershore Road:** Rob Schwartz requested that the Town put up a few more animal crossing signs as wildlife has been killed by speeding vehicles. Rob also noted that he and local neighbors have been disposing of the dead wildlife.
- Mr. Cirigliano noted that this is a matter for the Director of Transportation and Traffic Safety, Scott Spittal's department. Residents are encouraged to call Mr. Spittal regarding the disposal of dead wildlife.

Funeral Parlor Code Language: CHCA has been informed that the Town is in the process of having the antiquated code regarding parking at funeral parlors re-evaluated by the Town attorney's office.

Dark Skies Light Code and Water's Edge lights and light reflection.

A Dark Skies Light code exists; it appears that Water's Edge would not be grandfathered in. Mr. McCarron suggested that residents call Code Enforcement regarding this matter. Mr. Cirigliano said that he will call Code Enforcement and suggest that the matter be investigated.

Lights on Causeway Bridge/Damaged Guardrail by Mill Pond and Centerport Harbor: CHCA informed Mr. McCarron and Mr. Cirigliano that a few lights were out on the causeway/bridge and that the guardrail on the southwest side of the causeway has been damaged and in need of repair for well over a year.

- Mr. McCarron suggested that residents email him and he would contact Mr. Spittal regarding the matter.

Informational Signs: CHCA requested that informational signs be installed in Heron Park and Grist Mill Park by the Town..

- CHCA could provide the information, and the Town would create the signs and install them.

- It was noted that in the Town Planning Department, there are people who are naturalists who can help create the signs.

Traffic on 25A: This past August, the Second Precinct had spoken with Water's Edge regarding the danger that Water's Edge related traffic and its illegal parking have been creating. However, the problem persists. CHCA encourages the Town to work in partnership with the New York State DOT to get a traffic study.

Chalet: Possible Park Conversion: Further discussion took place regarding possibly purchasing the Chalet property and converting it to a park with aid from EOSPA and with possible County money that has been earmarked for land development.

- **Buses:** It was cited that Water's Edge is parking its buses on Chalet property. The diesel buses are continuously running, creating a terrible smell. Mr. McCarron noted that this matter will be investigated, however, it's a difficult situation as the Chalet is private, not public parking.

Kayak Launch: Mr. McCarron noted that we need to inform him where CHCA would like the Town to place the kayak launch. The Town needs to verify that the area that CHCA has requested is Town property.

- **Suggestion:** Place launch north of BoatWorks. We have to investigate if there is Town property there.

Fundraiser/Bricks: If CHCA conducts a brick fundraiser in Heron Park, the Town must install the bricks.

Report a Problem: If a resident sees a problem such as a pothole, missing light, etc., they can go to the Town website and use the "submit a service request" feature.

Code violation: Illegal activity which takes place on Town property needs to be reported to Town Code Enforcement.

- Residents are encouraged to call Code Enforcement at: 631-352-3167 during business hours, 8:30 am-4:30pm.
- After business hours and during weekends, call 631-351-3234, for 24 hour emergency security.
- **Criminal Activity:** Call the police. For non-emergencies, call: 631-852-COPS (2677)- (i.e., illegal parking on 25A)
- **Phragmites:** Cutting of Phragmites and trees along the Mill Pond is illegal (this is a DEC issue) .
- If residents observe suspicious activity, they are encouraged to take a photo from a safe distance (do not approach the perpetrator) and call Code Enforcement.

Noise Violations: 11:00 pm-7:00 am

- The Town Noise code is an online document. It is recommended that residents print the document and become familiar with it.
- If there is noise after 11:00 pm, residents are encouraged: 1. To call the police, non-emergency #, 631-852-COPS, 2. Follow up with Code Enforcement (the next day), 3. Be prepared to sign an affidavit.

Guest Speaker #2: Rob Schwartz

- Rob. S. spoke about being a beekeeper and of the workshops he gives at the Town's Manor Park, regarding bee care and how to become a beekeeper. He donates his services to the public.
- Rob S. advocates that Centerport/Huntington become pioneers for this cause. Field trips are held there every other Saturday. Rob gives free beekeeper lessons.

Update on Jellyfish and ZBA

- **ZBA Meeting:** CHCA paid \$1250 and filled out the requested paperwork in order to secure a ZBA meeting. However, at the January 18, 2024, ZBA Meeting, CHCA was shut out. Only lawyers were allowed to speak. Then, attorney for the developer, Michael McCarthy Esq., stated that there is no application for the Jellyfish Proposal. Mr. McCarthy characterized the proceeding paperwork as a pre-application. CHCA is not clear whether this means that the current Jellyfish proposal is dead.
- **Town Board Meeting:** On February 6, 2024, three CHCA Board members spoke at a Town meeting regarding the planning/ZBA process which did not allow us to participate. CHCA is now planning to meet individually with Town Board members in order to address the problem.
- **CHCA is part of HARC** (Huntington Alliance of Responsible Civics)

Greenlawn Retro Fitted Mailboxes. Retro-fitted mailboxes located by the Greenlawn US Post Office have been illegally tampered with and mail has been extracted. It's suggested that residents use the indoor mailboxes.

Next CHCA General Membership Meeting is March 26th, 2024, at 7:00 pm at at Harborfields Library

Important Date: April 13: Annual Spring Clean Up, starting at 9:30 at Heron Park in Centerport