

BONNET SHORES BEACH CLUB

BONNET BEACON

June 3, 2017

FROM THE OVAL CABANA . . .

These are exciting times for our club and I welcome you back to our oasis by the ocean. Please let me say that I am honored to serve as the new President. On behalf of the new Board, I can tell you that we are eager to make this an eventful season and to build upon the excellence of seasons past.

We are striving for greater transparency, so we will offer additional Board Meetings this summer. We value your input and ask that you get involved by attending meetings and/or by joining committees. The Board is committed to forming committees that will advise the Board on various operational aspects.

We would like to thank the entire nominated slate for their willingness to serve and the out-going Board of Directors for their efforts.

While many of the season's programs have been set in motion, we will make every attempt to enhance your summer season by listening to your concerns and by supporting our new operations team, both in a concerted effort to make improvements.

Please feel free to contact us at our new address: board@bonnetshoresbeachclub.com

See you in the boardroom or on the boardwalk.

Kevin Lynch, BSBCCA President

HERE'S THE REAL SCOOP (And I'm not talking maple walnut) . . .

The Annual Meeting was held on May 24th in the Pit here at the Beach Club. Although it was a chilly night, the meeting was attended by more owners than this writer has ever seen at any Annual Meeting. The Pit was completely filled with owners actively engaged in the process.

The main event was, of course, the much-anticipated election of the Board of Directors. Two slates of Board Members were nominated, one by the Nominating Committee and the other from the floor as the Bylaws allow. The election ---- including the tabulation of the votes ---- was closely overseen by attorneys representing both sides, one being the attorney for the Condominium Association and the other being the attorney hired and paid for by the slate nominated from the floor. The tabulation of the votes was a long and tedious process because the attorneys had to verify each and every proxy by researching the deeds of the units owned by the voters on the Land Evidence Records website and then matching that information with the Designated Voters Forms that were signed by the unit owners.

By about 11pm, the attorneys reported that the slate nominated from the floor was about 400 votes ahead with about 200 uncounted and contested votes. In view of the fact that the approximately 200 uncounted and contested votes would not have changed the results of the election, then-President Carol O'Donnell conceded and the slate nominated from the floor was declared the winner.

It was a long campaign and a long night, but rest assured that the election was a fair one. Every aspect was closely watched by the attorneys during the several months of the process.

Your new Board of Directors consists of President Kevin Lynch, Vice President Bill McGovern, Treasurer Mark Mesrobian, and Secretary Louise Healy (Where have we heard that name before?), Angelica Igliazzi, Vin Nugent, and Victor Samaha.

If you see one of these new Board Members, please say “hello.” And if you see one of the out-going Board Members, please say “thanks.”

ATTEND A BORED MEETING . . .

Are you kidding me? You could never be bored at our meetings. They’re absolutely riveting! Ok, maybe that’s a teensy weensy exaggeration, but they are truly informative.

The first Board Meeting of the new Board was held on Sunday, May 28th at 11am in the restaurant here at the Beach Club. Yes, this was announced and posted with the requisite 48-hour notice. Having said that, this Board wants to give you more notification of Board Meetings.

Accordingly, the Board Meetings for the next four months have already been tentatively scheduled. We say “tentatively” because the meetings have been scheduled roughly every two weeks. We don’t know if we will need to meet that often, but we think that we might at least at the beginning of our term. Eventually, however, we will get back to a once-a-month schedule.

So if you plan to attend a Board meeting, please check to be sure that it is indeed being held before you make that special trip to the Beach Club. You can check either on the website, facebook, or by calling the office.

You can see that we alternated days and times in the hope of making it more convenient for you to attend. Some people prefer days, some prefer evenings.

The tentative schedule is as follows, with all meetings taking place in our restaurant:

Monday, June 12 at 6pm
Sunday, June 25 at 11am
Monday, July 10 at 6pm
Sunday, July 23 at 11am
Monday, August 7 at 6pm
Sunday, August 20 at 11am
Monday, September 11 at 6pm
Sunday, September 24 at 11am

Board Meetings always have an Open Discussion Session during which time owners may address the Board regarding any concerns and/or questions that you might have.

SPEAK NOW OR FOREVER HOLD YOUR PEACE . . .

The Board is committed to increased inclusiveness by offering owners the opportunity to get involved in the process. We will establish committees on which owners can sit and help the Board. Yeah, yeah, I know you’ve heard this before, but this time it will really happen. We’re establishing committees for Finance, Sewers, Bylaws, and Entertainment / Food & Beverage. So tell us that you want to serve, but do it quickly --- we’ll hopefully make the appointments within the next few weeks. Many of you have said you want to get involved. Well, here’s your opportunity. Step up --- volunteer --- follow through. The Beach Club will benefit from your experience, knowledge, and willingness to serve. You can sign up in the office or you can email us at our new address of board@bonnetshoresbeachclub.com.

PROGRESS ON OUR PROJECT (And what do the initials spell?) . . .

We intend to include a Sewer Project Update in a future issue of the Beacon. The Board has asked for a report from our engineering firm of CDM Smith and also from Attorney Stephen Ucci who has been working on the project in concert with the former Board of Directors. We hope to receive these reports prior to the next Board Meeting, in case you plan to attend. We will also

share that information with you in the Beacon. We all need to know exactly what progress has been made on the Sewer Project because we will all be responsible for funding it.

AND THE ENVELOPE SAYS (And we're not calling Warren Beatty) . . .

We would like to introduce our new Chef and our new Food & Beverage Manager. We're excited about what Chef John Shumate and F&B Manager Don Turner have in store for us this summer. Both bring extensive experience in their respective fields (the former from Red Stripe, the latter from Outback) and an incomparable enthusiasm about what they can do to make the summer a great one here at the Beach Club. They will keep you updated about coming events via this publication (which is always available outside the office and on the website).

NO NEED TO CALL UHAUL . . .

Have you heard that we're moving? Come on, if you paid attention, you know that I already told you twice! We have a new email address ---- board@bonnetshoresbeachclub.com

NO B.S. AT B.C. . . .

At the new Board's first meeting on Sunday, May 28th, owners raised several issues of concern. So let's highlight some of them and see the Board's response to these requests.

1. Pricing of food and beverage was of paramount interest to many of the owners, with several owners opining that the prices are too high. Board Member Victor Samaha met with G.M. Mike, F&B Manager Don, and Chef John two days after the meeting. The conversation centered on the displeasure of the owners vis-à-vis the high prices. Board Member Victor emphasized the fact that owners expect reasonable prices and also the theory that the food service is just that ---- a service to the membership ---- and not a revenue source. We anticipate that you will see new pricing in place as soon as this weekend.
2. Owners expressed frustration that the boardwalk was not installed on the sand by Opening Day and was still not by the day of the Board Meeting. The boardwalk was totally completed within two days of the meeting.,
3. Owners in the horseshoe and the square complained that a ramp in that area had been partially dismantled in anticipation of installing a lift to the second floor. However, the ramp is still in the engineering / permitting stage. Accordingly, the owners questioned why the ramp had been dismantled already. The ramp was replaced within three days of the meeting.
4. The topic of the proposed lift was discussed at length. Several owners opined that if a lift were installed on the west side of the facility, the only equitable thing to do would be to install one on the east side as well. \$68,000 was budgeted for the lift in the 2017 Budget that was approved at the February 12th Budget Meeting. That would mean that a total of approximately \$138,000 would be spent installing two lifts. Several owners questioned the wisdom of such an expense. Indeed, one owner summarized the issue by opining that "a lift to allow access to a beach club is not a critical need." It should be noted that no regulatory agency has required the installation of the lift or of any other such device to facilitate access to the second floor. The Board immediately put the project on hold and is looking into less expensive options.
5. An owner opined that smoking should not be allowed under the tent. He maintained that smoking is prohibited under a covered area according to RI Health

Department regulations. President Kevin contacted our attorney two days after the meeting and requested a legal opinion regarding this matter. Our attorney states that according to RI law, smoking is banned in “enclosed” spaces. He explained that the statute is very specific in its definition of the word “enclosed” and the Pit does not fall under the definition. It should be noted that the former Board planned to poll all the owners to learn their preference regarding how smoking should be handled here at the Beach Club. This Board will also consider polling the owners to learn the majority preference regarding this important issue.

6. An owner raised the issue of the Saturday After-4 Guest Pass, stating that he doesn't understand why he has to pay an \$8 guest fee for a guest whom he is bringing to dinner in the restaurant. In actuality, there are two sides to this debate. On the one hand, it does seem counter-intuitive to charge a fee for someone to dine in the restaurant. On the other hand, it's already difficult enough --- if not downright impossible ---- to get a reservation in the restaurant on a Saturday evening. Will it become even more difficult if guests are allowed free admission to the facility if they are dining in the restaurant? The Board asked G.M. Mike to come up with some possible options. We'll discuss this again at the next Board Meeting on June 12th.

DO YOU KNOW THAT 36% OF RHODE ISLANDERS ARE EITHER ITALIAN OR IRISH? . . .

Remember our annual Italian Night is on June 18 (Father's Day), followed by our annual Irish Night on June 25. Both will present a buffet dinner with food that any Italian or Irishman would be happy to enjoy. Both events offer a great way to jump into summer and feature entertainment that is very popular here at the Beach Club. Be sure to make a reservation so you won't be shut out.

LET THERE BE PEAS ON EARTH . . .

The ever-popular Pasta Night beings on Thursday, June 22 with a variety of choices --- including peas --- to add to your pasta dish. Pasta Night will have last year's price. There will also be a prime rib special and I've heard talk about a ravioli special, too. Arrive early because this is without-a-doubt our most popular event. And it happens every week! What a country!

YOUR TASTE BUDS WILL BE DOING A TARANTELLA. . .

Have you met Chef John yet? All you have to do is meet his food and you'll be singing his praises. Chef has created some mouth-watering items for our menu. Check out this appetizer ---- thinly-sliced eggplant, pan-fried with marinara sauce, then finished in the oven with mozzarella and served with sour dough bread. Yum! And here's an entrée that might interest you --- pan-seared scallops with sundried-tomato-and-asparagus risotto, crispy pancetta and chimmi churri and garnished with arugala. Double Yum! The restaurant opens on Friday, June 23. Reservations are always suggested. With food like this, it's easy to understand why.

A HEAVENLY TREAT FOR HER AND HYMN . . .

Yes, I know --- you're trying to eat healthier foods and desserts just don't fit in with that new life style of yours. Well, if ever there were a reason to cheat ---- here it is. Chef has outdone himself with this dessert. Are you ready? Oreos dipped in a sweet batter, then lightly fried, drizzled with chocolate sauce, finished with powdered sugar, and served with a scoop of vanilla ice cream. Holy Moly!! I think you can actually hear angels singing with your first bite!

