

Barque Hill Association – 2007 Annual Meeting

Annual Meeting - Minutes of the meeting of May 22, 2007 held at Church Hill Parish Hall. Number of attendees was 6: (Roy Colella, Kevin Bedford, Eric Thorbahn, Loann & Jon Keene and Tom Poor).

President Tom Poor called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Secretary, Kris Buckley was unable to attend.

1. The minutes of the previous meeting were read by Tom Poor and approved by those in attendance.
2. Financial Statements:
 - The President reported on the finances. A somewhat larger surplus than projected for 2006-07 was recognized due both to a larger number of owners paying dues and slightly less expenses.
 - The President reported on the receipt of dues, noting 90 of the 107 owners paid the annual dues of \$200.00. In addition, a large donation for grass on Barque Hill Drive and interest were also received.
3. Grounds
 - Our mowing and clean-up costs were in line with budget. Our landscaper, Bill Goodwin of On the Green, increased his weekly mowing fee from \$200 to \$250 last season, citing fuel and other increases to his expenses.
 - We had some expense on fence repair as many rails and posts had to be replaced. This repair is an ongoing item since our split rail fences are continually subject to weakening from weather.
 - Thanks were voiced to Jessie Chai & Loann Keene for their flower and Christmas wreath arrangements at the base of Barque Hill Drive and Till Rock Lane.
 - Clean-up and burning of dead limbs and underbrush was accomplished in Shipyard Park Undergrowth was trimmed back on Barque Hill Trail to make it passable again.
 - Mention was made of the effort to grow new grass on Barque Hill Drive. Clean-up and overseeding occurred this spring, but progress is slow without help from rain. Further, efforts to protect the area with stakes or even rocks were recognized as unfeasible given the Town's liability for any accidents which might occur.
4. Association Functions
 - Picnic. The annual September picnic was a great success. Matt Hendison, the architect of this and previous years' picnics, has moved to Los Angeles, a great

loss to our neighborhood. Dan Uhlman has volunteered to step into the breach with the able assistance of Eric Thorbahn. Fortunately, Matt has left information on his contacts. It was felt that the picnic is a great asset to our community, well worth the expense, and an integral part of neighbors seeing one another.

- The Halloween costume parade in October was a great success and will continue in the Shipyard Park area.
- Christmas caroling took place until the participants could stand the cold no longer. They were warmly received by the residents who were fortunate enough to be serenaded.
- Again a brief discussion followed on the feasibility of an adult function for the Association, but no conclusions were reached.
- Welcoming Committee. Anne Merna was not available to report on the activity of this Committee, but the intent is to welcome each new owner with appropriate material.

5. Common Lands:

- Since the removal of the rope swing in the fall of 2004, misuse of the Shipyard Park area has declined. This past year seemed particularly quiet with no reports of teens and others causing disturbance.
- There is a "right of way" owned by the Association behind the Romans' and Shepherds' property. The Association must maintain some usage of this land to avoid the possibility of "adverse possession." The Grounds Committee will investigate.
- Markers on Barque Hill Drive were not put in this winter. After the first snowfall, a few were installed at the base of Barque Hill Drive to prevent further snow plow damage. Effects of salting and snow removal seemed more severe this year as the damage to Barque Hill Drive appears more widespread.

6. Condition of Roads:

- Road repairs were completed in the spring of 2005. An ironic suggestion was made that perhaps the old rutted road was not such a bad thing as it kept the speeding down.
- Speeding continues to be a problem throughout the neighborhood. But particularly on Barque Hill Drive. Several offenders appear to be contractors working in the area, but there are many residents who are also at fault. Discussion on the letter submitted to the Traffic Committee in November, 2003 was held. Members of the Barque Hill Association attended a meeting with the town on May 27th 2004. Members have also attempted to join the Town Traffic Committee to assist but have not received back an invitation. It may be appropriate to write another letter.

- The Association has volunteered to patrol Stetson Road to some extent to keep the roadside clear of trash and dead limbs. This activity is needed particularly on the strip which parallels Route 3 and is often used by residents on daily walks.

7. Directors:

- The list of current directors was distributed and approved. Residents interested in serving as a Director are welcome.

8. Web Site (www.barquehill.org)

- A member of the association praised the web site and John Garvey's efforts. A thought was expressed that a bulletin board might be established where neighborhood notices such as babysitting services could be posted. John will investigate.

9. New Business

- None.

10. Adjournment

- There being no further business, it was moved, seconded and the meeting was adjourned at 8:15 PM.

Minutes submitted,

Tom Poor, Acting Secretary