

LORDSHIP IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION
Annual Meeting Minutes
July 26, 2023

Board Attendees: Hans Drenkard, John Florian, Jane Scofield, Emily Viner, Jim Warren

Committee Chair Attendees: Christine Griffin, Karen Kochiss

Approximately 40 members in the audience

Call to order 7:00 PM

Jim introduced Board of Governors and Committee Chairs

Approval Vote of nominated Governors' slate

Emily outlined voting requirements and asked if there were any opposition to the current slate. There were none, so the slate was approved.

Approval of Minutes from 2022 Meeting

Hans presented meeting minutes from the previous year and asked for a motion from the board to approve. The motion carried.

Treasurers Report

Emily presented the financial summary and proposed budget shown below.

- It was noted that Wayne's Walk Garden was a significant one-time expense last year.
- There was a second annual meeting mailing and membership income reported for '22-'23 that are attributable to the '23-'24 year,
- Proposed budget was approved.

Environment and Education Report

Christine Griffin recognized committee contributors and described three E&E projects :

- Trial Garden Pollinator Pathway- We need help with weeds and poison ivy. Thanks to all who have their own gardens to support pollinators.
- Earth Day/Greensweep – Wood chips were distributed on the nature path. We are planning to repeat in October.
- Rain Barrels were distributed in May. Thank you to Joe Gresko
- An education program is planned for October.

Some oak trees were cut down on Russian Beach and they are an important part of the ecosystem.

We will be looking at addressing the washout in the culvert.

Beautification Report

Karen Kochiss recognized Kevin Regan and his work as previous Beautification Committee chair.

Kevin thanked the crowd for their applause. Karen introduced herself and her sustainability philosophy focusing on perennials. She expressed appreciation for all the volunteer work. Garden Captains were announced and applauded. Lighthouse paint work was also acknowledged.

Ongoing projects:

- Japanese knotweed
- Erosion mitigation- bluestem planting
- Both of these are very expensive, and we are trying to work around them .
- Trees and CO₂, We need some town permission and donations. We are planning to walk with

town DPW to coordinate a tree plan.

Karen presented her perennial sharing sheet and left it at the back table for interested members to sign up. September weather is a good time for perennial planting.

Burgess Report –

Jane reported that one wedding was held on the bluffs this year with no more being planned. There have been two 2024 requests which have yet to be reserved and none for 2025.

Communication –

- John invited everyone to visit the website to read Charlie Lautier’s Garden story.
- The LIA store will have mugs and t shirts
- The calendar team was recognized and applauded.
- Next year’s calendar theme will be “A WalkThrough Lordship”. There are many submitted photos lately and will include some drone photography.

Open Forum-Jim Warren

- Golf cart parking on bluffs is an issue. Suggestions include:
 - golf cart parking area.
 - Calling a towing service.
 - Speak to the town about an exception for parking carts in the summer.
- People not respecting the environment when groups of young people pulling plants and snow fence pickets.
- We could consider a garden tour.

Joe Gresko commented on the airport. The sale to CAA was stopped. CAA management reverted to city. Runway 11-29 is going to be refurbished. The transfer act requires cleanup of property upon transfer. It is unlikely the airport will be sold. Currently the airport has no manager. Runway length will not change. The town was granted land at the end of the runway that would inhibit extension. \$16 million is current environmental remediation estimate. Joe is working on getting the tidal gate repaired.

K. Pancak has requested a special meeting to discuss and form a committee to address the trespassing, littering and vandalism on Russian Beach.

Tom Halverson reminded us that next year is the 100th anniversary of the LIA .

Closing Comments - Jim Warren

Adjourned 7:54

LORDSHIP IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION
ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT
 July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023

Previous balance \$10,863

FY23-24 \$11,138
 FY22-23 \$16,369
 • Households (710) \$ 2,240
 • Donations (Surfside Hotel) \$ 4,616
 • Calendars \$36,563

Calendar Expenses	Calendar Sales	Calendar Profit
\$2,508	\$4,616	\$1,941

Revenue \$47,226.25

Expenditures

Fundraising (annual mailing for 2 years) \$ 6,114.27
 Gardens (plants, stone, mulch, Wayne's Walk) \$ 4,339.82
 Bluffs, Invasive knotweed \$ 3,000.00
 Bluffs, Flailing \$ 4,750.00
 Bluffs, Signs \$ 255.00
 Bluffs Mowing & Trail Maintenance \$ 4,835.00
 Insurance \$ 902.80
 Weddings refund & security refund \$ 2,000.00
 Lordship Volunteer Fire Department \$ 100.00
 Web page \$ 931.63
 Calendar expenses \$ 2,508.14
 Postmaster (P.O. Box) \$ 276.00
 DELP – abandoned boats \$ 40.00
 Environmental Land Solutions Consult \$ 850.00
 Aquarion Water \$ 165.00
 Office supplies \$ 72.96
 Disbursements \$31,150.62
 Balance \$16,085.63

Respectfully submitted,

Susan N. Birge

Susan N. Birge, Treasurer

Lordship Improvement Association
 P.O. Box 313
 Stratford, CT 06615

	Proposed FY22-23	Actual FY22-23	Proposed FY23-24
Annual Membership Drive (mailing)	\$2,500.00	\$1,304.70	\$3,500.00
Aquarion Water Company	\$180.00	\$165.00	\$170.00
Gardens	\$2,400.00	\$4,339.82	\$3,000.00
Bluffs Flailing	\$3,000.00	\$4,750.00	\$4,750.00
Bluffs Mowing (\$3720) & Path Maintenance (\$3750)	\$2,500.00	\$4,835.00	\$7,470.00 (paid 50% in March '23)
Post Office Box	\$206.00	\$276.00	\$276.00
Web Fee	\$65.00	\$931.63	\$200.00
Volunteer Fire Department Ad	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$150.00
Insurance (Property & Board)	\$880.00	\$902.80	\$1,500.00
Removal of knotweed	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
Office Supplies	\$125.00	72.96	\$100.00
East Coast signs	0	\$255.00	0
Abandoned boats	0	\$40.00	\$100.00
Environmental Consultant	0	\$850.00	0
Calendar	0	\$2,508.14	2,600.00
Wedding refunds & security return		\$2,000.00	0
Total	\$22,166.00	\$28,331.05	\$22,981.00