

**Middlesex Beach Association
Committee Reports – June 2024**

BEACH COMMITTEE, Mark McCulloh

- We are fully staffed (happily) with 17 full-time guards and 8 part-time guards. As discussed earlier, this continues to be more challenging every year.
- We have taken the base to \$20 an hour with the board's approval. North Indian and Indian Beach are enthusiastically doing the same. They are relieved we are doing what's necessary to retain our guards. They are very happy with the service we provide.
- Junior Guards starts on 6/15 and we are full! We have 30 kids in the program and it's one of the best on the beach. We really don't need any support for the program, it's self-sustaining. I keep asking Holden if he needs anything, but he says he doesn't and everyone else is thrilled with it the way it is. This is an important program as it builds our pipeline for future guards.
- Slow week this week after a very busy Memorial Day. We have used that slow time for intense procedure and first responder training.
- Our first hosted competition is coming up on the 27th of June. The very popular all women comp. The only one like it on the beach. Since I have been overseeing the guards, I have funded the purchase of the comp tee shirts and managed the proceeds. That came under scrutiny last year as some issued concerns how the funds were handled. Or, at least, concerns there was no record keeping. That didn't sit well with me as I never recouped 100% of my contributions for those shirts and funded things like rain jackets, MXB changing towels, prizes and travel expenses for nationals. I won't be doing that via the t-shirts anymore, so the board needs to figure out another way. Basically, we order anywhere from 80-100 shirts for each comp (we have two). The cost has ranged anywhere from \$800-\$1100 bucks and we tend to double that in proceeds. Bob set up a separate bank account for this last fall after the concern was raised. I need to know asap as I have to have the order in for the shirts soon for the first comp or we won't have them. Please advise.
- Lastly, big shout out to Marty and Chuck Taylor for helping the crew repair and pant stands. I will, personally, find an appropriate way to thank them but wanted everyone to know of their contribution

Thanks, once again, for all the tremendous support.

BUILDING COMMITTEE, Margie Cyr

We are in the final month of the construction season in MBA; and we are beginning to close out some of the projects. There are still several of the large projects that will close out in the next two weeks. One will cease work on June 30 and begin again after Labor Day. We are beginning to receive notice of projects to start after Labor Day. We have a house demolition and new house build on Dune Road that is waiting for approval. We encourage any homeowner that is considering a project to reach out to the Building

Committee early in the process to make sure all details are taken care of before project submittal.

COMMUNITY FACILITIES, Don Deraska

General: I'm working on getting the "litter patrol" sign up onto the website...though Community Patrol has been performing this during their regular "drive arounds." Will plan to include Beach Plum Rd this year.

Roads: We've added additional yellow markings along east Errett Rd to try to make it more obvious to people parking there to avoid blocking the driveways. Many thanks to Joedy & Carol Smith for their help & patience.

Drainage: We've had sinkholes develop on driveways due to failed culverts @ 121 Evergreen Rd & 14 Short Rd. Both have been temporarily addressed by stenting the existing culvert with a smaller plastic pipe and backfill with or redistributing gravel. We're keeping an eye open for additional failures (likely any of the remaining steel culverts) and will implement this temporary repair process when needed (Dave has crafted the necessary hoe extension to help with this and I feel we are getting better and more efficient @ the process with each job done!)

Guard Shack area: AC is being installed. Siding could use some scrubbing and door trim needs to be repainted.

Beach Walkways/Dunes: All Mobi mats are installed for the season. Someone asked why we don't install a Mobi mat on the Bridge Road dune crossing. We will consider this in the future (for this year we decided to test out installing an additional Mobi mat on the initial portion of the Bayberry Road dune crossing).

It seems likely that the beach grass that has grown into the walkways IS invasive Japanese sedge grass (though this needs to be confirmed). If so, it is NOT appropriate to transplant it. I'll check in with Mike Jantzen as to whether he's learned of any effective ways to eradicate this.

Green World Landscaping reset the pavers around the Guard Shack (and installed a new valve box) and on the Evergreen Rd walkway. They switched the Bridge & Evergreen Rd trash enclosures and Marty Shecter/Chuck Taylor reconstructed the trash enclosure at the guard shack so that it fits better & is sturdier - THANKS guys! I have fixed the pavers on the east end of the Bayberry walkway (uneven due to root growth).

Many thanks to Patti & Tim Sheffey for completing repair work of the dune fencing along the beach (this was not completed during our May work day and they graciously volunteered to finish the work).

Some of our Lifeguards scraped & painted the stands to have them ready for the season and Marty Shecter attached the numbers & information boards to them.

Fencing: We're still looking into replacing the post & chain @ the west end of Addy Rd leading to Pine Rd with a vehicle-width gate.

LANDSCAPING COMMITTEE, Holly Fluty Dempsey

As determined by community voting, the three top priority areas of Middlesex Association property (our entrance to beach side on Bridge Road; the two median strip signage areas, and six road entrances on the Pine Side) were pruned and planted with annuals by Chester River Landscaping the Friday of Memorial Day weekend. The fourth area, which is Beach Plum, was scheduled to be trimmed and weeded however the work was delayed a week due to rain. All four areas were subsequently mulched by the end of the first week of June.

Installation of the Pollinator's Garden is complete. The fence remains under construction. Buckwheat seeds were sown on the bamboo removal area to serve as a fast-growing cover crop and provide walking space for the July 4th Family celebration.

Chester River Landscaping is becoming more familiar with the areas to be mowed and trimmed throughout the community. On June 7th a rock in a driveway was dislodged by one of their mowers and broke the window of a car parked on the property. Communication with the property owner, Solutions Property Management, and Chester River Landscaping was immediate and resolved successfully. Design elements for the fall planting season are in process with the plan for the Board to review the draft scopes of work and budget no later than the August Board meeting.

SOCIAL COMMITTEE, Kate Munteer

- The May 25 Meet and Greet BBQ was well attended by nearly 200 people. Thanks to Toni Wood and Nancy Glasgow for organizing this fun event, and to our grill masters, Tom Glasgow, Bob Wood, and Kerry Hall.
- The Thiedes, at 26 Short Rd, will host a Happy Hour on June 15 from 5-7 p.m. We are looking for a July host.
- The second annual "Happy Birthday America" Family Block Party is scheduled for July 1, (rain date July 2), from 6-8 p.m. along Beach Plum Road between Errett and Bayberry. This is being ably coordinated by Linda Uhas and Mary Hendrick. There will be fun and games for all, but especially the kids. Volunteer help is being recruited.
- Plans are still underway for a series of events over Labor Day weekend celebrating our 65 summers.
- The sale period for anniversary merchandise has closed, and the products should arrive soon. Thanks to Nancy Glasgow and Toni Wood for organizing this!

COMMUNITY PATROL COMMITTEE– Kerry Hall

- We remain fully staffed; all shifts are currently covered including all night shifts.
- No issues with staff to date, new members are trained and continuing to learn on the job. Gary is tracking performance real time and will be communicating feedback real time on strengths and improvement opportunities to each individual.
- No significant "Incidents" so far this summer, 3 Incident Reports have been filed to

date for minor matters. Security camera is functioning as intended and has been helpful to date and in fact fully captured one of the incidents. We will continue to evaluate whether to expand and add cameras in the future.

- I have received unsolicited feedback from several community members noting the increased presence of CP on the beach after lifeguards leave duty. Patrolling the beach on polaris, picking up trash, enforcing the no dogs on beach rule, etc. CP has been asked to focus the night shift on the beach from 5-8pm.