

FIRE ISLAND PINES PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC.
AND THE PINES FOUNDATION, INC.
Whyte Hall

Minutes of meetings Saturday, August 5, 2023

Directors participating in Whyte Hall: Allan Baum; Alan Brodherson; Gary Clinton; Andrew Kirtzman; Chris Mai; Nate Pinsley; Leland Rechis; Henry Robin; Russell Saray; Eric Sawyer; and Ed Schulhafer.

Directors participating telephonically: Greg Henniger; Charles Montorio-Archer; and Matt Tague.

Directors absent: Jay Pagano.

Also participating: Karen McCutcheon (Community Manager); Gabriela Casella Nicosia (Office Administrator); Jennifer Suh-McCormack (Finance Manager) and Justin Blake (Nominations Chair).

Henry Robin called the meeting to order at 10:05 AM.

Russell Saray moved to approve the minutes of the July 8, 2023 meetings of the Boards of Directors. Motion was seconded by Chris Mai and was unanimously approved.

FIPPOA Discussion:

- The FIPPOA Papers
 - Gary Clinton and Russell Saray provided an update with respect to the review of the archives.
 - Gary made a motion, which was seconded by Russell, that the Board approve an expenditure of up to \$5,500 to scan and digitize the archives.
 - After further discussion, the Board unanimously approved the motion.
- Political Action Committee
 - The PAC has been relatively dormant in recent years and has not undertaken any fundraising.
 - The need to replenish our beach highlights the necessity that we maintain good relations with our elected representatives.
 - At the local level, our view has generally been “the politics of the Pines is the Pines” and party affiliation of a candidate or incumbent has been an afterthought.
 - Neil Foley is our Brookhaven Councilman and is up for re-election this year.
 - Ed Romaine has served as Brookhaven Town Supervisor and is now running for the position of Suffolk County Executive.
 - Dan Panico is one of the two candidates running to replace Romaine as Town Supervisor.
 - The PAC will be sponsoring an event for Foley, Romaine and Panico which will take place in the Pines on Saturday, September 9, 2023 at a time and location to be determined.

- In order to spur attendance, we will not require a contribution to the PAC or to the candidates to attend.
- It is imperative that we encourage attendance in order to demonstrate just how important it is that the Town and the County cooperate in any future beach replenishment project.
- Alan Brodherson made a motion, which was seconded by Allan Baum, that the FIPPOA board approve the transfer of up to \$20,000 to the PAC so that we are able to make \$5,000 contributions to each of Foley, Romaine and Panico, along with a contribution to another candidate for office, and to pay expenses of the planned event.
- After further discussion, the Board unanimously approved the motion.

Foundation Discussion:

- Pines Party
 - Allan Baum informed the Board that the Pines Party was perhaps both the most difficult to produce, and the most successful, ever.
 - There were a number of potential roadblocks at the last minute which could have derailed the Party.
 - Thanks to the dedication of Allan, Guy and his team and the entire Committee, and the cooperation of the Fire Island National Seashore, each of these potential problems was resolved and the Party was able to proceed.
 - The financial results of the Party are still to be determined, but it appears that the Party results will be consistent with Allan's budgeting.
 - Next year's party has been moved to the weekend of August 9-11; this should provide greater flexibility in that the piping plovers are less likely to be an issue on the beach.
 - The entire Board thanked Allan, Guy and the Committee, who worked long and hard to bring the Party to fruition.
- Pines 70th
 - Nate Pinsley updated the Board as to ticket sales and other plans for the beach event.
 - Ticket sales are going well.
- Apparel Sales
 - Chris Mai made a presentation concerning t-shirts that he proposes that we sell.
 - The t-shirts have been designed with the FIPPOA/The Pines Foundation logo.
 - The hope is that the t-shirts will bring further visibility to us and our work within the Community.
 - Russell Saray made a motion, which was seconded by Gary Clinton, that we approve an expense of \$7,500, \$2,500 of which has already been allocated from the Membership Committee's budget, for the manufacture of 300 shirts to be sold.
 - After further discussion, the Board unanimously approved the motion.

Joint FIPPOA/Pines Foundation Topics:

- Report from the Nominations Chair
 - Justin Blake, the Nominations Chair, presented the Board with a slate of candidates for the upcoming elections.
 - There are four directors to be elected.
 - Three incumbent directors are running for re-election and four new candidates are running.
 - The seven individuals who are running for seats on the Board are as follows;

Bill	Hildebrandt
Scott	Kolb
Chris	Mai
Rich	Margolius
Jay	Pagano
Anthony	Pietrangolare
Ed	Schulhafer

- Gary Clinton made a motion, which was seconded by Russell Saray, that the Board approve the slate of candidates presented by Justin.
- There was no further discussion and the Board unanimously approved the slate, as presented by the Nominations Chair.
- Alan Brodherson reviewed relevant dates and tasks to be completed in advance of the election.
- Beach Update
 - Henry updated the Board as to ongoing efforts to repair the beach.
 - The Corps initially made a decision that our beach will not be included in the emergency repair work that is to be undertaken in the towns on the west end of Fire Island. After an appeal by Suffolk County and the DEC, we are told that decision is being re-evaluated.
 - There is concern that the Corps may determine that our beach is not eligible for a separate emergency repair project.
 - We are continuing to work with Suffolk County and the Town of Brookhaven in having the Town be designated as our “local sponsor” for routine beach maintenance so that we can then move forward with planning for “routine maintenance,” something that is allowed under FIMI/FIMP.
 - In the interim, we are moving forward with the installation of a new line of snow fencing in order to protect and nourish the dune.
 - The Town has agreed to allocate unspent funds from the Erosion Control District in order to pay for the new snow fencing.

Meeting adjourned at 12:16 PM.