

**Minutes:  
BBLA Annual Meeting**

**(as approved by BBLA Membership on 6-26-21)**

**Saturday July 25, 2020  
10:00 am  
Virtual via Zoom Webinar**

The BBLA Board met on Saturday, July, 25, 2020.

In attendance were: Judy Bullis, Lee Bunting, Ron Dobes, Mary Louise Embrey, Diane Fogash, Susan Fried, Jerry Hardiman, Claire Loftus, Pat McGuire, Kathy Shorter, Kathy Sierra, and Chip Smith

The meeting was well-attended virtually by BBLA members.

**Meeting Opened by BBLA President Pat McGuire**

- Pat welcomed the participants, explained the virtual process, introduced the Board Members, and outlined the meeting agenda
- Pat recapped BBLA's progress and status of strategic efforts since the 2019 meeting
  - Discussed ***BBLA Beach News*** - cost effective and informative communications - Mary Louise Embrey was hired as the BBLA Communications Director (CD)
  - Effects of pandemic on BB - increased BBLA charitable donations to help businesses and other impacted community members (in and around BB) - Donations list is on the BBLA website
  - Advocacy with the Town: Provided examples - Acquisition of Walcek property; expansion of Town area for wearing facial coverings - letters on website

- Using reserves to handle necessary costs due to COVID-19 and increased communications - another tough year is anticipated - budget is still healthy
- Conclusion of his term as President; however, will remain on Board as an Officer
- Minutes, presented by Mary Louise Embrey (acting as Recording Secretary), from the June 15, 2019 Annual Meeting were **approved**
- Treasurer's Annual Report from 2019 was presented by Susan Fried and **approved**
  - Audience members were able to view the report via Zoom technology
  - Report also going to be available on the BBLA website
  - YTD 2020 report was presented:
    - “Money Out” is more than “Money In” - happens most years - more in 2020 due to increase in communications costs (CD hire, start of the *BBLA Beach News* through Constant Contact, revamping of the BBLA website, etc.)
    - Donations to BBLA by members in addition to annual dues are very much appreciated - enables BBLA to better serve the membership
    - Encouraged all members to go electronic for significant cost savings
- By-laws changes re BBLA's ability to hold virtual meetings as necessary were presented by Kathy Sierra and **approved**
  - Attorney Bill Scott was hired to incorporate the changes
  - Platform will always allow for voting, etc.
  - Other emergencies such as hurricanes, etc. are included
  - Will reach out to members about using both Zoom and in-person meetings in the future so that more members can be reached
- Nominating Committee Report presented by Diane Fogash: member up for renewal (Kathy Shorter) was announced; new Board members (Lee Bunting and Chip Smith) were officially installed; and the slate of officers was presented - all members and officers were **approved - no nominations from the floor**

- Susan Fried is continuing as Treasurer and Ron Dobes is holding 2 Officer positions (continuing as Membership Secretary & new VP)
- Interested members in serving on the Board should contact the Nominating Committee
- Pat mentioned and thanked Board Members who resigned during 2019/2020: Jim Sirkis, Jim Tippet, and Marty Decre (Marty still participates in the Donations Com.); an active long time BB resident and Board Member Margaret Young passed away in 2020 (Margaret and Dan Costello were responsible for producing “A Walk Through History - 1901-2014”)
- Q&A and Closing Remarks from new President Kathy Sierra
  - Committed to keeping BB the “best small town on the east coast”
  - Wants to build on work begun over the last few years
  - Thanked Pat for his accomplishments: e.g., brought in more members with needed talents - good communications with Town Manager - flexibility re BBLA response to pandemic - commitment to the environment and the safety of the community
  - Numerous positive remarks on BBLA’s work and communications were submitted by members through the “chat” vehicle
  - Question re assessing members for increased costs - no increased dues at this time - practices financial prudence with investment costs
  - Question re Town flooding - Jerry Hardiman talked about the Back Bay study and other Town day-to-day work on the issue; Chip Smith discussed informal survey on pervious/impervious surfaces related to nuisance flooding - Kathy mentioned the Environmental Corner on BBLA website keeping members informed through Chip’s various articles
  - Question re areas of concern - discussion within the Board and with Town leaders - environment and flooding issue; communication issues; Town zoning; safety of BB residents and homeowners re COVID-19 - wants to hear from members about other issues
  - Asked to repeat the quarantine rules in our communications
  - Encouraged members to use the “Contact Us” mechanism on our website

**The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 am.**