

**Town of South Bethany
Community Relations Committee Meeting
Wednesday, April 12, 2023**

**Due to construction at Town Hall, this meeting was conducted remotely via GoTo Meeting.*

In attendance (via phone): Edie Dondero, Chair; Lisi Biciocchi, Ingrid Moore.

Absent: Shelly Levey, Margaret Oliver

The meeting was called to order by Ms. Dondero at 10:02am.

1. Approval of minutes of 3.20.2023

The minutes of the last meeting were approved with no changes.

2. Public comment

There were no members of the public in attendance.

3. Miscellaneous updates and follow-ups

Ms. Dondero reported that the Committee's requested FY2024 budget was approved by Council with no changes. She also confirmed that the winning entries from last fall's photography contest will be displayed in the lobby of Town Hall when it re-opens.

4. Discussion of logistics for Earth Day events and lifeguard welcome

Ms. Dondero informed the Committee that she had to postpone the April 20th lecture until May 18th due to delays in the completion of the meeting room in Town Hall and the accessory audio-visual equipment. The May 2nd lecture on native plants is going forward as scheduled.

A discussion was held about the Earth Day bonfire scheduled for April 22nd. Ms. Dondero will work with Public Works staff to ensure the walkway over the dunes is safe and well-lit for the event. Ms. Biciocchi asked whether a Mobi-mat could be put down before the event to aid access to the beach.

The Committee will be providing pizza and drinks for the lifeguards at their kick-off meeting on the evening of Friday, May 26th. A discussion was held about where to purchase the pizza and if delivery was an option. Ms. Dondero will research options and will confirm numbers with Captain Dacey before the event. Ms. Biciocchi will attend; Ms. Moore may be able to attend but will confirm closer to the date.

5. Scheduling monthly Coffee & Conversation series

The Committee discussed resuming the monthly coffee events in May. It was agreed that it would be beneficial to pick a set day and time for the events. Ms. Dondero will check with staff about the possibility of reserving the meeting room for the third Friday of each month at 10am. Mayor Saxton will be invited to the first coffee in May and Ms. Dondero will line-up other Councilmembers as their schedules permit.

6. Discussion of Adopt-a-Canal Program

An email was sent to all current adopters encouraging spring clean-up and/or planting. In addition, Ms. Dondero worked with the town clerk to send letters to all property owners on W. 4th and W. 5th Streets soliciting new adopters for the canal end between the two streets. No response has been received to date. A discussion was held about what to do with the funds allocated to the program and remaining in this year's budget. It was decided to spend the funds to spruce up the un-adopted canal end between W. 4th and 5th in the hopes that someone will come forward and agree to maintain it.

7. Invitation to participate in SBPOA Summer Kickoff Party

Ms. Dondero reported that the SBPOA offered a display table to the CRC at the SKOP and she accepted. The Committee will promote its upcoming events and the monthly Coffee & Conversation series. Ms. Dondero suggested either a suggestion box or a survey to solicit feedback from residents on programs, events, communication, etc. The idea was discussed. Ms. Moore suggested a poster board where attendees could "vote" for events they would like to see. Details will be fine tuned at the next meeting.

8. Planning Movie on the Beach event

A list of available movies was reviewed and debated. It was agreed that a movie around 90 minutes in length would be preferred since there are no restroom facilities available. The list of choices was narrowed down. Ms. Dondero wanted to allow the missing members to voice their vote so she will send the shortened list of options out to all members by email and ask for votes.

The next meeting is scheduled for May 8th at 10am and will be held in person.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:11am.