

ACBC 2017 Winter Newsletter

Annual Members Meeting News

The Annual Members' Meeting was held Saturday 1/28. There was a good turnout, with 65 members in good standing attending. Minutes were kept by a recording secretary and a three person committee. As soon as that committee finalizes and approves the minutes, they will be posted on the website.

New Board Members: The recent ballot results were announced by the Chairperson of the Tellers Committee. Please welcome our three new Board members: Karen D'Ewart, Marty Lull, and Jennifer Rose Wilder. Our thanks to the three outgoing Board members, Ed Delahanty, Steve Morrow, and Suzy Palmer for their countless hours of service to the Community.

New Board Officers: the new Board met immediately after the annual meeting and elected the following officers for 2017:

President: Kurt Blankenship
Treasurer: Karen D'Ewart

Vice-President: Dennis Egan
Secretary: Mike Tenore

Contact information for the Board members will soon be posted on the ACBC website.

Bylaws Changes: all of the proposed bylaw changes passed by very strong margins with the exception of the proposed combination of the two existing pool committees. That proposal was withdrawn and the second ballot for same was not counted because of the conflict with the existing by law provision prohibiting combination of committees. The 2017 Bylaws Committee will revisit that issue and hopefully recommend to the Board that a new ballot be issued to remove that conflict and again propose the combination of the two pool committees.

Reserve Account and 2017 Dues: the ballot to approve funding of a reserve account failed by a narrow margin: 114 against, 107 for. Based on comments received from some of the members who attended the annual meeting, the 2017 Board may revisit the reserve account concept with more input from members about how it should be structured and funded. Because the reserve study funding did not pass, the 2017 dues will be \$201, which is an increase of slightly under 10%, as authorized by the Bylaws.

Assessment Status and New Statements

The lawsuit over the pool continues. The Court of Appeals (COA) overturned the Superior Court's Summary Judgment in the case and remanded the case to the Superior Court for further proceedings. The COA did not mandate that the 2013 vote be reinstated, nor was there any ruling on whether the 2016 ballot supersedes it. The COA did say that the Board had the right to go out for a membership vote on assessments at any time and your Board continues to believe that the 2016 ballot voting to refurbish the pool should stand as the most recent expression of the will of the community. We plan to move forward with refurbishing the pool and resuming collection of the assessment as soon as we have clarity on this issue from the courts.

On a separate note, we have made changes to how you will be billed. Special Assessments are now on separate Statements from Dues and Fees. Any members who have not yet paid, or only partially paid, the pool assessment will receive a statement showing their assessment balance. This is because the pool assessment is still on the books, although as indicated previously, the Board is not enforcing collection of the assessment pending further rulings from the Courts. We have also consolidated lots owned by one member onto a single statement instead of one per lot. We hope these changes bring clarity.

Have Fun Together! - Social Committee Events and Activities

Here are some of the events the Social Committee is planning for 2017. Mark your calendar and join us for some fun, food, and social time with your neighbors.

Tuesday Morning coffee (Every Tuesday morning at 10am in the shelter)
Thursday Game Night (1st and 3rd Thursday at 7pm in the shelter)
Friday Night Movies (2nd and 4th Friday at 7pm in the shelter)

Memorial Day BBQ and Swim (Sunday May 28th)
4th of July BBQ and Swim (Tuesday July 4th)
Labor Day BBQ and swim (Sunday Sep 3rd)
Post-Thanksgiving potluck (Saturday Oct 25th)
Christmas potluck / Party (Saturday Dec 16th)
New Year's Eve potluck / party (Sunday Dec 31st)
CPR/ First Aid Class (To be scheduled in April)
AED Class (To be scheduled)

Watch the official website ACBC-Whidbey.org for more information.

Work Together! – Work Parties for Community Betterment:

We'll be looking forward to having another spring work party, probably late April or sometime in May. This information will be posted on the club's web site when it becomes available. Some of the things we'll be addressing will be cleaning and painting the playground equipment, cutting and clearing brush and trees along lower Byrd, and the playground area. The Shelter also needs some exterior repairs and painting. We are also looking for recommendations for mowing services for the lower Byrd roadway. We will be looking for bids for this upcoming season. We are always looking for volunteers!

Pool Maintenance and Improvement Committee:

Until the issue with the pool status is resolved, most of the work for 2017 will be on the pool building. Most of the maintenance items approved in this year's budget are to be done by volunteers. Work parties will be scheduled for this spring to complete these items: replace shower room door closers; rebuild pump room wall; caulk and paint pool building; paint pool fence; replace some of outside benches; install floating lane rope @ 5' marker; and replace foam pipe rail covers

Joint Lake Outfall & Ecology Update:

Phosphorus levels remained high over a 12 month period, aiding a large and sustained blue green algae bloom summer of '16. Testing on one occasion indicated toxins from the algae. Appropriate signs were posted cautioning people about that. Members are reminded of the importance of minimizing or eliminating the use of phosphorus containing fertilizers and having regular septic tank inspections. This will greatly help in eliminating contaminants in the Lake that foster the growth of algae.

Outside consultants recommended that we consider allowing a regular exchange of Puget Sound salt water with the Lake to dilute the phosphorus and other contaminants from local runoff. The Board agreed and requested that we meet with Island County staff to understand which permits would be required. The two Lake Committee Chairs and two additional Board members met with Island County Planning staff mid-January to understand how to proceed in evaluating and potentially implementing a system capable of adjusting exchange of water between the Lake and Puget Sound to enhance lake ecology and minimize shoreline erosion.

Since Admiral's Lake has the requisite salinity level to remain classified as a coastal salt water lagoon, Class A wetland, a permit would probably not be required to let salt water in and lake water out in a controlled manner. They also made it clear to us that permits would be required to make any changes in the height of the tide gate and its invert, especially if we lowered the lake level to the point that current shoreline marine vegetation would be left dry. They also suggested that we have a biological site assessment done before submitting any applications for any changes to the tide gate system. We also discussed the potential need to line the 50 year old 300 foot long corrugated steel outfall pipe that runs from the tidegate to the Sound. The pipe appears to be damaged in places and there is concern that it might collapse suddenly, which would block the flow of water from the lake to the Sound and significantly raise the level of the lake.

**PLEASE SUPPORT EFFORTS TO MAKE OUR COMMUNITY A BETTER PLACE
TO LIVE, PLAY AND SOCIALIZE!**