



CEDARHURST

**CEDARHURST ASSOCIATION INC**  
**67 MOHAWK TRAIL \* SANDY HOOK CT \* 06482**

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**May 20, 2021 Board Meeting Minutes**

**CALL TO ORDER**

In light of current COVID-19 social distancing measures, this meeting took place via telephone conference. Guidelines were set for a smooth conversation: members will yield the call to the leader of each topic, agenda items will be summarized, and questions or opinions will be asked for in a round robin, voting will take place by roll if required, and this protocol will be used for any future conference call Board meetings.

**ROLL CALL**

**Board Members present:**

Bruce Lafky - Tim Gibbons - Chris Pace - Lynn Wojcik - Wendy Brant - Tony D'Angelo - Matt Dickie - Denis Guay - Ashley Reaes- Carol Rowe - Jeff Schult - Denise Wiley

**Cedarhurst Members present:**

Jackie Poplaski

**MEMBER COMMENTS**

No comments

**MINUTES APPROVAL**

Tony D'Angelo moved to approve the minutes from the May 20 board meeting, and Wendy Brant seconded the motion. The Board approved the minutes.

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**NEW BUSINESS**

**TREASURER'S REPORT:**

Checking Account Balance at last meeting	\$44,649.82
Checking Account Balance on 5/20/2021	\$40,561.29

Chris Pace presented the Treasurer's report to the Board. An additional \$1950 in member dues brings the total to \$21,375 collected this year. Recent expenses of \$5168 included opening the water system, beach garbage/recycling bins, forklift rental for Docks In, mailbox improvements and insurance. This should be our biggest expense month besides any major capital improvements to come. To those boat owners who have not sent in proof of insurance, please do so before docking your boat in an Association slip.

Bruce remarked that this is one of the highest memberships in recent years, with perhaps another pending! Discussion circled to whether some newly converted properties will be joining. Tim will contact the bank that owns 8 Mohawk Trail to inquire about keeping the member dues current.

*48 households (of 59 houses in the neighborhood)*

*11 are water system users*

*11 are kayak rack renters*

*6 are boat slip renters (5 boats and 1 paddleboat).*

*Motion to accept the Treasurer's Report: Tony D'Angelo*

*Motion Seconded: Jeff Schult*

*Motion passed*

## **PROJECT COMMITTEE UPDATE:**

Tim Gibbons pointed out that most neighbors have already seen the work being done at the new mailbox site: area is prepped and footings are awaiting this weekend's delivery of concrete for the pad. Next, the Committee will plan the building of the new structure. Tim also said that we are well within the project budget and he is very excited to see the progress continue! Jamie Morris is receiving a delivery of concrete to his house shortly and graciously offered us the extra amount to use for our project, however it would require unavailable manpower to tend and watch while the concrete cures. Thanks for your support, Jamie!

Bruce agreed that it is beginning to take shape and extended his thanks to all who have helped in the planning and execution. Matt Dickie created a template for decorative arches for when we put up the structure. The Board will talk at length about financing the mailbox clusters at the next meeting. Bruce will follow up with Consumer Affairs though a spokesperson has told him there is no issue with CHA charging residents for use of the mailboxes.

## **BEACH and DOCKS UPDATE:**

Matt began by thanking the volunteers for the great team effort installing the docks last month. Carol thanked him for agreeing to move the usual date so that members could start enjoying the season a bit earlier.

Bruce reported that the beach cleanup was a success owing to many volunteers who worked hard weeding and created a bucket brigade to spread the large mulch pile on the hill in one day! At the request of the Garden Club, he has put out a garden hose again this year – if you would like to water the hill, simply email [lafkyb@gmail.com](mailto:lafkyb@gmail.com) and he will turn it on for you. Tim and Matt will arrange to have beach sand delivered in the next few weeks and will install the dock swim ladders this week.

Chris offered his movie projector screen so that we could have movie nights at the beach and asked what the procedure would be to do so (must it go on the meeting agenda, does it need

Board approval, etc). Bruce assured him that any members can use the beach as they like (being mindful of the rules in the Membership Guide) and such a gathering could involve the Social Committee to help spread the word. Members may invite whomever they like though it would be nice to invite other members too. Enjoy our lovely beach this season!

Another way to do so is by signing up to use the Association grill- Jill Chop has created a list for members to request a time. She will post or send it out with Board-approved rules to keep everyone on the same page. Don't forget to bring your own propane and leave the grill clean for next time! Thanks Jill! *Note that members will need to provide propane and grilling accessories.*

Carol Rowe also updated the Board that the 2021 beach tags and car passes are in and she will mail them to paid members this week! Wear them with pride Cedarhurst!

## **SOCIAL COMMITTEE:**

*Mark your calendars!* Wendy Brant had exciting news that our annual neighborhood picnic will be held this year on Saturday July 31! The Committee will meet to review previously planned details as last year's BBQ was cancelled due to COVID, so much of the work has already been done. The event will be free to all residents and sponsored by the Cedarhurst Association. The Committee will provide a tent, chairs and tables, music, games, beverages and hot entrees – a potluck sheet will be established for guests to bring side dishes and desserts. More details to come as they are decided.

Wendy and Chris reminded the group that there is a \$1000 budget for the Social Committee this year (plus a \$500 credit from last year which will pay for the tent rental). Tony then asked if there was a timeframe for the picnic to which Wendy replied that the Committee would decide details at their meeting however activities would be planned for that day into the evening. Bruce wanted to make sure to advertise the picnic date in the minutes and asked the Committee to discuss some additional summer activity suggestions by Lynn and Chris at their meetings.

## **GARDEN CLUB:**

Wendy Brant and the Committee members gave accounts of projects around the community which are being led by Raymond Deluca: the cedar tree stump has been removed from the island and many rocks were dug out so it is ready for planting, continued pruning and removal of trees on the beach hill will allow extra room for the Club to design, a plan to add creeping phlox to the rock wall and up the stairway. Any donations of plantings or time is greatly welcome – and weeding makes for a great cardio workout! Please consult with a club member or Anne Renner with any ideas for designing the downstream dockside or beach hill. Bruce asked for Raymond to be included if he is the defacto head of the Club. As always, the Garden Club and volunteers are doing a super job but the gardens need tending all season! Bruce and others offered their muscle anytime!

## **EMAIL DISTRIBUTION PROCESS UPDATE:**

Jeff Schult has been working on the CHA website and is adding member emails for a login feature. The site should be ready to go live next week! He and Bruce have taken photos of the lake, road, stairway – do you have any neighborhood shots to add to the website? Let us know!

## **WATER COMMITTEE UPDATE:**

Jackie Poplaski told the Board that it was a quiet month with no budgetary issues and only one leak on Mohawk that took Aaron Graves a few hours to fix, thanks!

**NOMINATING COMMITTEE:**

Bruce put the Nominating Committee on the agenda for tonight but no work has begun yet. There will be an update at the next meeting. Chris has a ballot used by his rowing club which is very easy to read; he would like the Nominating Committee to review and consider it as a guideline for the Cedarhurst election ballot this year.

**ROADS UPDATE:**

Tony D’Angelo reported on his attempts to have paving and pothole repairs finished by the Town. He put in a workorder in mid-April and the workmen came but did not complete anything. He followed with another workorder which had the same result. When he called the Public Works director, Fred let him know that patching the road cannot be done now without further treatment of the road. He said it is unlikely that any more road work will be done this year. Being said, the Town budget restarts in July so it is hopeful that Tony’s requests can be handled this summer. Bruce encouraged Tony to keep on it and will step in if his workorders get stonewalled; the road conditions will deteriorate and it will need to be addressed by the Town sometime.

Tim let us know that the American Legion reached out to him about allowing a trumpeter to be positioned at our beach for the Memorial Day *Taps Along the Housatonic* event. We said yes and it will be a lovely patriotic remembrance that all are welcome to attend. Please see further details below. Thanks Tim!

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**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**NEXT BOARD MEETING:**

**Friday July 16 at 6:00pm at the Jacob/Lafky home at 65 Mohawk Trail**

**All are welcome to attend!**

**“TAPS ALONG THE HOUSATONIC” MEMORIAL DAY EVENT:**

**Monday May 31 at 10:00am at Cedarhurst Beach**

*Please see the attached article from the Newtown Bee below for more information.*

Thank you to all who help around the neighborhood and participate in our Board conference calls. The community involvement is growing and welcome!

Bruce then adjourned the monthly Board meeting.

*Minutes respectfully submitted:  
Lynn Wojcik, Secretary*

# Schedule Set For Memorial Day 2021 ‘Taps Along The Housatonic’

Published in The Newtown Bee: May 24, 2021

American Legion Post 202 invites the public to a special “Taps Along The Housatonic” Memorial Day observance planned for Monday, May 31.

Musicians and post members will assemble at eight different locations along the Housatonic River in Sandy Hook beginning at 10:10 am. Past district commander Mike Kellett [initiated the event in 2020](#), since traditional celebrations were not possible due to COVID-19 restrictions. The post will commemorate again this year in similar fashion.

“Taps” will be played on one or two instruments at each location, with the ceremony lasting less than one minute. Most of the musicians are from Newtown, with a few special guests from neighboring towns. Saxophonists, trombonists, and trumpet players will be participating.

A father and son duo is among the musicians returning for this second annual observance. The father is a WWII Navy veteran who keeps up with his music, practicing every day.

“Taps,” a 24-note tune, is a distinctive melody traditionally played at US military funerals and memorials and as a lights-out signal to soldiers at night that dates from the American Civil War.

Those who wish to join may do so by putting their hand over their heart or rendering a hand salute to honor deceased veterans.

A short film by William Cafarelli will be available sometime after Memorial Day to include still photos and video footage of that day, as well as photos of veterans in uniform who have passed on, but who lived in Newtown at some time during their life. Military photos must be submitted prior to Memorial Day.

Last year’s film, “Taps Along the Housatonic, Newtown CT” also produced by Bill Cafarelli, is posted at [youtube.com/watch?v=gkozeqdlkk8](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gkozeqdlkk8).

“Taps” locations this year are:

10:10 am — Eichler’s Cove (limited capacity for parking);

10:11 am — end of Mohawk Trail;

10:12 am — end of Sweetbriar Lane;

10:13 am — Riverside Drive, near Center Street (near Lorenzo’s Restaurant);

10:14 am — Glen Road Silver Bridge (will be closed during observance);

10:15 am — river/tree line at Walnut Tree Baseball Field, 2 Bridge End Farm Lane;

10:16 am — Anthes Avenue; and

10:17 am — Shady Rest Community Beach.

Participants are asked to maintain appropriate social distancing from those not in their own households. Those who are not vaccinated should plan to wear a mask. Volunteers are welcome and should contact the post. To learn more about the American Legion Post 202 or this event contact Sr Vice Commander Donna A Monteleone at [americanlegionnewtown@gmail.com](mailto:americanlegionnewtown@gmail.com) or call or text 203-577-9568.