

Long Island Civic Association
Meeting Minutes
April 12, 2025

The meeting was convened by Michael Houlihan at 9:05 over Zoom

Attending: Jane Oldfield-Spearman, Michael Houlihan, Chris McDuffie, Kevin Murphy, Cyrus Hagge, John Lortie, Marty Bruno, Karen Simmons, Jono Morini, Ralph Sweet, Sue Sesto, Meredith Sweet, Linda McCann, Joel Greene, Catlin Byers, Jeff Greene, Gary Robinson, David Backman, Lorinda Valls, Tim Honey, Dennis McCann

Michael Houlihan explained that this meeting is being held to address new business concerning pickleball on the island and Friends of Fowlers work. Committee reports will be held until the June meeting.

Pickleball – Gary Robinson and Sue Sesto offered gratitude to LICA for agreeing to serve as the fiscal sponsor for the Pickleball Committee as it works to raise funds for a new court down front and a portable net (it was noted by Lorinda that LICA serves in this same capacity for the LI Community Garden). In the winter, Pickleball is played in the Community Center. So far \$34,800 has been donated and grant applications are pending approval. The project is likely to cost \$80,000.

A request was made for LICA to donate \$2,500 towards the appeal. Jono Morini made a motion to donate \$2,500 to the Pickleball Committee for the construction of the new court, Jeff Greene seconded the motion and all present voted in favor.

The question was raised by Gary about who would be empowered to sign contracts for the construction of the court. After discussion, it was agreed that it is not appropriate for LICA to become responsible for construction since the court is going to be an asset of the Town of Long Island. The Pickleball Committee has been granted permits for the construction. It was argued that the Pickleball Committee should be operated under the Recreation Committee of the Town – Sue will look into this.

LICA Logo: Jane Oldfield-Spearman's daughter Lily Spearsmith created a PDF of the LICA logo from our website. Jane offered to send the LICA logo to Karen Simmons, Chris McDuffie and Linda McCann - this logo can be used for stationary and other purposes. Michael and Jeff will look for the original artwork.

Fowlers Beach:

It has come to the attention of LICA that there is a large cable that has been uncovered by the tide on the beach. Michael offered to call Central Maine Power to ask them to address this.

Swim buoys need to be placed in the Fowlers Cove. Michael will contact the new Harbormaster to inquire about placing these again this summer.

Erosion mitigation in the dunes – Jane reported that a Maine DEP Coastal Sand Dune grant was submitted in February to complete an engineering assessment and nature-based solution plan to protect Jerry Point Road. This grant proposal was made in consultation with the Town and with Oceanside Conservation Trust. Brian Wilcensky, the Town's Resilience Fellow has conducted a literature review about erosion mitigation in coastal sand dunes and wrote an article for the LICA Newsletter in April. Jane proposed that Friends of Fowlers use some of the remaining ShoreUp grant funds to purchase more materials to maintain the exclusion fencing to protect the dunes. These funds were originally earmarked for this purpose. Cyrus Hagge agreed to be in charge of purchasing these supplies. The Christmas trees that were placed at the side of Jerry Point Road last December are still there (note that LICA voted in late December not to use these for erosion mitigation due to lack of a permit to do so and research that has shown this approach is counter-indicated on Fowlers Beach). Lorinda Valls agreed to contact Ed McAleney to remind him to dispose of these trees.

A work party will take place on Saturday, May 17, 8am to reinstall the exclusion fence and place the Mobi mats on the paths. Jane will publicize this Friends of Fowlers event. In the fall we should have another work party to take up the Mobi mats to protect them from storm damage over the winter months.

Chris McDuffie made a motion that LICA apply for a permit to reestablish the snow fencing that was placed along the dune perimeter in the past. Chris recalls that there are records in the library of LICA receiving a permit for this fencing back in the early 1990s. It was agreed that we should proceed with this application while also seeking longer term living shorelines mitigation solutions. The motion was seconded by Jono, all voted in favor of the motion. Jane, Chris and John Lortie agreed to work on the application.

CBIA gift: Jane reported that the Casco Bay Islands Alliance is dissolving and has made a \$11,000 gift to LICA. Everyone agreed that we should accept this gift and we will discuss how to use these funds at a future meeting.

Insurance: Jono reports that it is time for LICA to renew our Directors and Officers insurance policy. Jane made a motion to spend \$877 for the purchase the Directors and Officers insurance policy. Seconded and approved unanimously.

New Business: Tim Honey reported that Front Beach is experiencing dramatic erosion. GPCOG's Bluff Project was looking at Front Beach as a site for their demonstration project but unfortunately, they decided against this because the beach is not officially a public beach. The homeowners are considering a request to the Town to address this issue by taking ownership of

the beach somehow. Tim requested that LICA turn its attention to erosion on Front Beach. Chris suggested that Tim write an article about this for the Newsletter.

Announcement - There is a new Calling Your Bluff webinar on May 13, 4:00-6:00 about local Casco Bay Island erosion mitigation projects. John Lortie will be presenting about Fowlers Beach. Jane shared information about how to register for this event. There will be a follow-up session on July 15th on Long Island to discuss local resilience efforts. Tim Honey offered to get involved in this work.

Future meetings:

Zoom: June 21, 2025

Zoom: July 19, 2025

In Person: August 30, 2025