# Rehoboth Beach Homeowners' Association

Incorporated 1971

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This newsletter is published by the RBHA four times a year as an informational and educational tool for its members. Content is determined by the Communication Committee with guidance from the Board. Contributors include RBHA staff and other members of the community.

We welcome your comments and suggestions.

Editors -

— Charlie Browne, Editor

— Susan Gay, Asst.. Editor

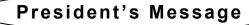
Email -

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RBHA P.O. Box 41

Rehoboth Beach, DE 19971





Welcome to RBHA's Spring Newsletter for 2017. I am sure that you are all looking forward to another great summer in our charming town by the sea.

We have an excellent newsletter for you thanks to the industrious literary efforts of your board of directors. Our Spring Membership Meeting featured three excellent speakers: Bob Blackman from Rehoboth's local NBC affiliate; Sharon Lynn, our City Manager; and Stan Mills, Rehoboth Beach City Commissioner. Bob shared with us how WRDE came to be. Sharon gave us an update on things going on in town, especially the completion of City Hall and approving a budget for the coming fiscal year. Stan reviewed the recent improvements to the boardwalk and beach. For those our you who were unable to attend, this newsletter contains a brief summary of their remarks. There are many other great articles in addition.

I would in particular call your attention to the article by Warren Jones of the Rehoboth Beach Volunteer Fire Company that includes ways in which you can get involved. There are many ways to support our fire company in addition to donations or being a firefighter. Please think about ways you can help out after reading the article.

RBHA member, Susan Gay, has provided us with on article on Rehoboth Beach's trees. This article is a follow up to the tree article by City Arborist Lingo which was in the fall newsletter. The regular features of our newsletter are also here including summaries of recent Board of Adjustment and Board of Commissioners meetings, RBHA Board meetings, and the excellent and informative City News Briefs that Stan Mills has provided us for many many years.

Enjoy the Spring Newsletter!

Sincerely,

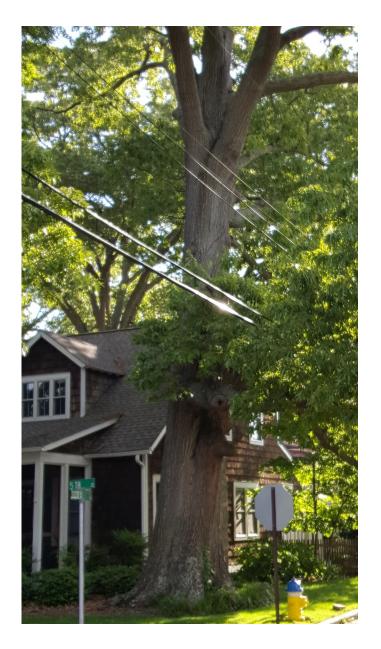
Charlie Browne, RBHA President

### Nominate a Rehoboth Beach Tree

"When people say, "Oh, what a beautiful town!" what they are often saying is, "Oh, what beautiful trees!" This quote from Ed McMahon, a TED talk speaker and urban planner, resonated with many of us when he shared his expertise at a well-attended public presentation at the Rehoboth Fire Hall this past Fall. His talk addressed the necessity of preserving the distinctive character of towns, especially those that are tourist destinations.

The premier Rehoboth Beach attraction is, of course, the Atlantic Ocean — a draw the City shares with many successful tourist locations on the East Coast. But what sets us apart from many other seaside resorts is our trees, and especially our tall canopy trees. As can easily be observed, most of our tall canopy trees are on private property, where they not only benefit the homeowner, but also provide shaded and beautiful walking and biking pathways for residents and visitors alike. The trees also help protect the quality of the water at our beaches and in our lakes.

In order to celebrate and honor the trees and those who preserve and care for them, the recently-formed City of Rehoboth Beach Mayor's Advisory Committee on Trees is proposing a self-guided tour, with a map and brochure that features outstanding high canopy trees throughout the City. While the committee has identified many trees that could be included, we are inviting homeowners to nominate their tree or other trees in town that bring them joy or have special meaning for them. To be considered for inclusion in the tour and brochure, please contact Krys Johnson, Rehoboth Beach Communications Officer, at kiohnson@cityofrehoboth.com or 302-227-2772.



Oak Tree at Corner of 5th and Sussex

The Rehoboth Beach Volunteer Fire Company Annual Fundraiser starts the end of June.

Please consider a donation.

For more information 227-8400 or rehobothbeachfire.com. Mailing address: 219 Rehoboth Avenue

All RBVFCo fundraising activities are conducted by mail. Be wary of anyone soliciting by phone.



# **Summary of RBHA Meetings**

#### By Le Roy Candelaria

All RBHA Meetings are Open to the Public

A full text of the minutes is available on the RBHA website.

### **December 31, 2016** – RBHA Board Meeting

The Treasurer's Report showed an account balance of The Treasurer's Report showed an account balance of \$2,158.34. The proofreading of all articles was final- \$8,667.83. There was discussion of the Tree Advisory ized, and the January Newsletter was sent out to Min- Group which the City Commissioners adopted. The uteman for printing and distribution. The job was well Mission Statement, facts on the primary focus of the done and will also be available on our website. The group, and some existing statistics were covered. The 2017 RBHA Annual Picnic was discussed as well as group was developed to provide awareness and to eduthe Coastal Cleanup with the Board reviewing some of cate citizens on the importance of a tree canopy. The the dates which will be determined in the near future. Board will keep members updated on this group. Is-The Sustainable Communities Discussion Group was sues with incorrect RBHA members addresses was discussed, and a past Board member Hoyte Decker discussed. The Board will be reviewing the list with volunteered to participate and represent RBHA. The our mailing list to make corrections. The Annual next Bay Mart hearing was discussed. We will contin- Spring Membership Meeting was finalized for April ue to keep members updated on our website with any 15<sup>th</sup> and invitations will be mailed out. Assignments new information. Discussion for review of requests for were made for articles to be included in the next donations took place with Steve Curson providing a Newsletter. A City Hall Fact Sheet was created by listing of past donations. The purpose was to deter- Board Member Susan Gay and reviewed by City Manmine a fair and consistent manner for providing dona- ager Sharon Lynn. This information on our new City tions. We have received a request from the Friends of Hall will be provided in the Newsletter as well as bethe Library to be a sponsor of a run which will take ing posted on the website. place in May. A decision on the sponsorship request. was deferred to the February meeting. The Board discussed a memorial for Chuck Donohoe with sugges- April 15, 2017 - RBHA Board Meeting. tions of a bench but no determination was made on the location.

# February 18, 2017 – RBHA Board Meeting

The Treasurer's Report showed an account balance of \$7,677.80. The Annual Picnic date was set for September 24, 2017, in Grove Park. The Spring Membership Meeting was discussed. We will invite Bob Backman from WRDE as well as City Manager, Sharon Lynn and Commissioner Stan Mills to speak. The Board reviewed and approved the request for \$500 for the Library Run. An update on Bay Mart was given, the latest update being a request from the Planning Commission for a reapplication within 60 days for a subdivision. Membership dues payments for 2017 are coming in. Thank You notes will be sent to members who made a donation in addition to their membership dues.

## March 18, 2017 - RBHA Board Meeting

The RBHA April Board Meeting was held immediately after the General Membership Meeting. An article on our General Membership Meeting is on the next page.

The Treasurer's Report was presented at the General Meeting. The RBHA membership form needs to be updated. Jon Worthington and Susan Gay will work on the revision. We are looking for a board member who lives in and could represent condo owners. The Board discussed the possibility of purchasing a bench to honor Chuck Donohoe and looking into the memorial brick program if Main Street discontinues this. Charlie will try to arrange a tour of the new city hall complex as part of our Annual Meeting in October.

# **RBHA Spring Membership Meeting**

April 15, 2017

The Rehoboth Beach Homeowners' Association held its City Manager Sharon Lynn – a frequent guest at WRDE; City Manager, Sharon Lynn; and Commis- May 15. sioner Stan Mills. A brief summary of their remarks follows.

Our Keynote Speaker was WRDE's Owner and GM, Bob Blackman. Steve Curson introduced Bob giving the audience a bit of his background which included being a native of Philadelphia, being in radio and television since the age of 12, and hosting a syndicated Doo Wop Shop radio show on Sirius XM.

Bob told the history of the station within a motivational talk explaining how everyone in the audience can become a superstar in 5 steps. How is this done - well with humor and inspiration. Starting with how he first became the owner of a low-power TV station based here in Rehoboth, every step of his story contained life lessons and professional hurdles that opening up a TV station on a budget requires. In relating his journey from operating out of a small utility shed (in which he was once trapped in for several days thanks to an un- City Commissioner Stan Mills gave an update on the expected heavy snow storm) to finally having a new boardwalk and beach nourishment. Rehoboth is fortustudio in Nassau Commons that has become Reho- nate to have a 50-year contract with the US Army both's own NBC Coast TV, Bob charmed the audi- Corps of Engineers which requires checking every ence.

business to get his own station, Bob declared as his mission: "local, local, local" and assembled a wonder- project included planting of beach grass and changing ful family of broadcasters to carry out and enhance the storm drain pipes from 32-inch plastic ones to 36that goal. He hopes you tune it and enjoy what he has inch cast iron ones. done.

Spring Meeting on Saturday, April 15, 2017, in the RBHA meetings - provided an update on what is go-Community Center at CAMP Rehoboth. A large num- ing on with the City of Rehoboth Beach. One major ber of RBHA members arrived early to visit one an- improvement is updating the City's financial software other and enjoy pastries from the Bake Shoppe. Eve- which will be phased in over the next 12 months. ryone had such a great time that the regular coffee was Payroll for employees begin in April. By this time completely consumed before the meeting started and next year the conversion will be completed and inthe decaf was gone shortly thereafter. RBHA Presi- clude property taxes, utilities, business licenses, and dent Charlie Browne promised to double the amount voter registration. The Lake Avenue improvement of coffee purchased for the Annual Meeting in Octo-project is on schedule to be completed by May 15. The ber. The meeting began with Steve Elkins, Executive ocean outfall project for waste treatment is awaiting Director of CAMP Rehoboth welcoming everyone to permits from the State and is expected to begin in Oc-CAMP's Community Center. Following the Treasur- tober and take 7 months to complete. The westside er's Report and the introduction of RBHA Board parking lot and the new City Hall will open in the fall. members, the program began. Our three speakers were The convention center will open early next year. There Rob Blackman from Rehoboth's local NBC affiliate, is a new umbrella/tent ordinance which takes effect on



three years for the need to replenish the beach; 65% of the cost is covered by the Feds and 35% is covered by When he got his chance after years in the broadcasting the State. This was year three, and we were conveniently replenished right after last year's storms. The

# **RBHA Spring Membership Meeting**

April 15, 2017



City Manager Sharon Lynn gives update on what is happening in the City.



Members await the beginning of an excellent program.



RBHA Members enjoy coffee and pasties and one another's company before meeting.





Steve Curson (above) gives Treasurer's report and Commissioner Stan Mils (right) discusses beach replenishment



RBHA President Charlie Browne with guest speakers Stan Mills, Bob Blackman, and Sharon Lynn

# **RB Volunteer Fire Company**

By Warren Jones, RBVFC

The name says it all. The Rehoboth Beach Volunteer of Route 1 to Route 24 and then west on Route 24 to Fire Company depends on your support to deliver and including the Angola Area and stops at Burtons emergency services to this community. That support Pond. comes in the form of donations and volunteer members to support their operations. Did you know that less than 50% of the fire company income comes from the State, County and Local Governments? The rest of the income the fire company has to raise from other sources, including their fund drives. Did you also know that all the fire and rescue services are provided by volunteers? In 2016 the Rehoboth Beach Volunteer Fire Company responded to over 4,000 fire, rescue and EMS calls. They are highly trained by the nationally recognized Delaware Fire Service Training Center. They are always looking for more volunteers to supplement their ranks. While the main reason for joining would be to be a firefighter there are many other jobs besides firefighting. Those other jobs are fund raising, public education, fire prevention, and the list goes on. They do have great group of career employees as well. The career staff operate two ambulances 24 hours a day, all year long.



Rehoboth Beach Firefighters at training class

The Rehoboth Beach Volunteer Fire Company has been providing emergency services since 1906. They protect an area of 24 square miles including the City of Rehoboth and the Towns of Dewey Beach and Henlopen Acres and a large unincorporated area. Their protection district starts at the north side of the Indian River Inlet goes all the way north on both sides



On duty at the Bandstand on July 4

They have always been a progressive and innovative fire company. In 1947 they began the EMS service with the purchase of their first ambulance. They were the first company in Delaware to purchase a Snorkel Aerial Truck, the first to use large diameter hose and a 2,000 GPM pumper. They were also the first one to incorporate the 3M system to help with traffic congestion. For more of their history, to make a donation or to make a difference in your community by joining the fire company, go to their website at rehobothbeachfire.com



Rehoboth Beach Fire Station

# **City News Briefs**

By Stan Mills

By now you should have received via mail the Spring 2017 issue of the city newsletter. It is full of so much useful information. *I will just share a few news briefs with some added tidbits.* 

# **City Hall Complex**

building to house the Parking and Communica- ter in the old train station at Grove Park will tions Departments - this building was occu- remain and continue to be operated by the pied last summer; 2) construction of new offic- RBDBCC. es for the city administrative functions including police and 911 center – with occupancy expected in the fall of this year; and 3) Convention Hall upgrades including new flooring, enlarged kitchen and new loading docks – with reopening in early 2018. Remember that police parking will be relocated from the east side lot to the west side of the building with the public parking lot relocated to the east side of the building. Some of the logistics for being able to move into the new buildings include relocation of personnel from the temporary offices, removal of the trailers, construction of a new parking lot and pedestrian way leading from the parking lot directly to Baltimore Avenue at Second Street.

The new Commissioners Room where commission, committee and board meetings will take place is designed with a new audio/visual package. The meeting room is being equipped to provide the ability to not only record audio of meetings, but also to record video to be accessed via the city web site. There will also be two large wall mounted TV type monitors and a document camera that can project hand- carried documents onto the screen for all to see.

#### 306 Rehoboth Avenue

When the new city administrative offices open the Building & Licensing and IT Departments will rejoin the other departments. Knowing that this would leave 306 Rehoboth Avenue vacant, the Mayor and Commissioners recently voted to approve leasing the "306" building to the Rehoboth Beach-Dewey Beach Chamber

of Commerce who would relocate their offices from their current location adjacent the Muse-This project includes 1) construction of a new um in Grove Park to "306." The Visitor Cen-

## Lake Ave. Streetscape Improvements

By the time you read this the Lake Avenue project should be wrapped up. Hidden from sight are improvements to the storm water drainage and regrading of the street, while above ground you will see for the first time ever sidewalks on both sides of Lake Avenue in the project zone from Rehoboth Avenue to Third Street. Brickwork to match the original Rehoboth Avenue Streetscape design, ADA compliant sidewalks and crosswalks, new LED lighting and three bumpouts to accommodate new trees are part of the design. Federal funds paid for most of this important project to address safety issues.

# Election 2017

The municipal election is scheduled for Saturday, August 12. Are you registered to vote? You may be qualified to vote even if your primary residence is outside of Delaware. Check with City Hall for details

# **City Administrative Office** Hours

## Year Round

Mon-Fri 8:30 — 4:30

# **May 28—Sept. 2**

Administrative Offices Open every Saturday 8:30 AM — Noon

Phone (302) 227-6181 www.cityofrehoboth.com

# City Hall Complex Q & A

RBHA compiled a Fact Sheet in May 2015 in preparation for the referendum vote on funding to construct a new City Hall. Now that the building is nearing completion, we have prepared an update based on questions asked by members and for the benefit of newcomers to our community.

#### Q: We voted in June 2015 to approve an \$18 million loan to build a new City Hall Complex, but we've heard there are cost over-runs. How will this affect us?

rowing funds to construct a new City Hall. Voters ap- was approved on March 17, 2017. proved the loan from the USDA with an expected interest rate of 3.5%, for a 25-year term. Full details of Q. Why do we need a new City Hall Complex now? the funding plan were the subject of a slide presenta- A. The old City Hall building was built in 1964 and, tion that addressed all aspects, including a breakdown although it had modest renovations several times over of annual payments. Slide #8 spells out payments on the years, it was simply inadequate to meet the needs the \$18M loan as follows: \$1,092,150 annual payment of the city today. Major issues included: for 25 years. See funding details here: http:// www.slideshare.net/rehobothbeachde/city-hallfunding-2015.

Increased costs are not a new development. More than a year ago, in January 2016, with only two bids received for construction the low bid from Whiting-Turner was already approximately \$1.5 - \$2M over budget At that time, Commissioners voted unanimously to move forward with the understanding that total costs associated with City Hall would exceed the original estimates and need to be accounted for in the next several budget cycles.

also added to the cost, with approximately \$1M ap- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SdUUrVe gvA proved and pending, well below a 10% average for A 14-member Task Force, including architects, busiexpenses mandated by the state.)

penses incurred in prior years for design and planning Commissioners to move forward in 2015. and those outside the scope of the original plan, such as landscaping.

#### **Savings**

ings on the loan financing, because in December 2016, and a regional 911 Dispatch Center, with over 14,000 the City was able to obtain a loan from USDA at square feet. 2.375%, lowering annual payments by about \$123,000 The remainder of the building contains the Adminisand saving \$3M over the life of the loan.

immediate additional costs without going back for an- partment, with over 7000 square feet left for future other referendum, but this step will not be necessary. expansion. Approximately \$1M will be used from City funding The complex also includes a 3500 square foot building reserves to cover the costs that have not already been that houses the Parking Department and allows for paid. This is not unprecedented, as the City has man-separate access. aged its finances quite conservatively and is fortunate A new lobby, restrooms, and exterior "skin" for the to have a surplus to be used for this purpose.

The City had promised that there would be no be tax increase needed to fund the City Hall project, and we are pleased that they have kept that promise. In addition, there are no increases in the fiscal 2018 budget A. The referendum set a maximum of \$18M for bor- for rental tax, licenses, and parking. The final budget

Infrastructure (including electrical, plumbing, HVAC, structural components and technology) was not adequate to support the functions of city government, especially the police department and 9-1-1 center.

The building had *no* handicap accessibility.

There was no security for employees in a building that houses the police department.

Cramped working spaces for both police and civil employees were not safe and provided no means of escape in the event of emergency.

If you did not get to tour the old building before it was As with any construction project, change orders have demolished, a video tour is still available on YouTube,

such changes. (In addition, the largest cost item total-ness leaders, financial advisors, citizens and city leading approximately \$150,000 is due to extra stormwater ers worked for several years to create a plan for the new buildings, which was also the subject of numer-In all, the cost of the new City Hall will include ex- ous public meetings and a unanimous vote by the

#### Q. What does new City Hall Complex consist of?

A. The largest spaces of the new City Hall Complex However, these costs are offset by a significant sav- are devoted to public safety - the police department

trative offices, Alderman's Court, Commissioners The City could borrow additional money to cover the Room, Building/Licensing Department, and IT De-

Convention Center, to match the new building, is also included.

# City Hall Complex Q & A,

continued

Q: What is the timing for this project?

A. The new Parking Dept. building was completed and opened on schedule in May 2016 for last season. City Hall is running a few months behind schedule, with employees expected to move into offices in early fall. Completion of the municipal complex, including the new parking lot on the east side and a pedestrian walk-thru from Second Street is scheduled to be complete by the end of 2017. The Convention Center is expected to reopen in January 2018. The City has devoted a section of its website to all phases of the project and its funding, with more extensive FAQs.



Monday

Tuesday 10am-8pm Wednesday 10am-8pm Thursday 10am-8pm Friday 10am-5pm Saturday 10am-5pm Sunday

10am-3pm

rehobothlibrary.org

227-8044



Check out CAMP Rehoboth happenings at camprehoboth.com

# **RB** Bandstand 54th Year Performances

Full schedule and more at rehobothbandstand.com

Please visit the city's website, https:// www.citvofrehoboth.com/government/currentcity-projects/city-hall-complex

regularly and often for information on this project. Additional timely information will be posted on the website as it becomes available.

# City Meeting News

Below is a summary of the approved minutes of meetings of the City Board of Commissioners and Board of Adjustment. The minutes are summarized by RBHA Members Susan Gay and Mark Saunders. For the full content of the minutes, please visit the City's website

# SUMMARY OF RECENT BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MEETINGS

#### **Board of Commissioners Meeting** November 18, 2016

dential additions, and 40 alterations/repairs.

Hearing no objections, a motion was made to approve The issue remains tabled. the request. Motion carried unanimously.

fying that no more than one single-family detached carried unanimously. dwelling may be constructed on a lot in all zoning dis- Motion made to approve a resolution to permit City ing Inspector. Motion carried unanimously.

ing ongoing and will continue through the winter. Up- projects at the City's wastewater treatment plant - total date on City Hall construction included electrical and cost expected to be approx. \$234,000 with a continplumbing, carpentry, and masonry. Updates also given gency of 10% included in that figure. on Lake Avenue streetscape, beach nourishment, City Manager's Report: Pre-bid conference held restorm water outfalls and ocean outfall.

### **Board of Commissioners Meeting December 16, 2016**

Police Report: Chief Banks reported for the month of November a total of 143 arrests, 136 adult and 7 juvenile. These included 137 traffic violations, criminal. The Chief also reported 935 vehicle patrol hours and 163 foot patrol hours, 1038 commercial door checks and 943 residential door checks, for total man-hours for police/dispatch of 4255 hours for No-

vember. Current staff is 14 officers, 5 administrative staff and 13 dispatch.

Fire Company Report: John Meng reported 41 crew calls and 6 alarms in November. A new ambulance is in service. The Fire Company is looking to replace a fire apparatus which will cost approx. \$500,000. Support will be needed from the public in purchasing this

Report of Building and Licensing Department: Six new construction permits were issued in November, 4 residential additions, and 54 alterations/repairs.

Police Report: Chief Banks reported for the month of Report of the Planning Commission: Chairman Mellen October a total of 187 arrests, 181 adult and 6 juve- reported on a partitioning request related to Park Place nile. These included 164 traffic violations, 8 civil, and at the Canal. Request made to subdivide Unit 15, aka 201 State Rd. Following a lengthy discussion of tech-Report of Building and Licensing Dept.: Four new nical and legal issues, the current application was construction permits were issued in October, 53 resi- withdrawn. The Planning Commission then had a lengthy discussion about the Beach Walk Site Plan Permit of Compliance Hearing: The 33 Groups Inc. review which had been tabled at the Oct. 21 meeting presented request to operate a new restaurant with pa-following a decision by the PC that the project would tio to be known as The Blue Hen, located at 33 Wil- be treated as a Major Subdivision. During these dismington Avenue. A discussion was held on the details cussions, the owner of the property stated that he of the application. There was no public comment. would not filing a Subdivision application at this time.

New Business: Motion made to accept recommenda-Old Business: A motion was made to adopt an ordi- tion of the Audit Committee in reference to City's aunance adding a new Section 270-23.1 related to claridit for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2016. Motion

tricts. A public hearing was previously held on Octo- officials to close on the USDA \$18M loan for City ber 21. There will be no significant impacts on non- Hall Complex project before the end of December conforming uses and nonconforming structures, and 2016 at an interest rate of 2.375% (down from estithe ordinance helps to clarify the Code for the Build- mate of 3.5% saving over \$3M over the life of the loan). Motion carried unanimously.

City Manager's Report: Phase 2 of fire hydrant paint- Update on the filter and pretreatment building roof

garding Boardwalk repairs from Grenoble Place to Surfside Place. City Hall update - electrical, mechanical, plumbing on schedule. Masonry/carpentry continues. Underground storm pipes are being laid in west side parking lot.

## **Board of Commissioners Meeting** January 20, 2017

Fire Company Report: Messrs. Mitchell and Snyder presented the 2016 report of the Rehoboth Beach

# City Meeting News

Volunteer Fire Company. For the year 2016, New Business: The property owners of a lot 63 there were 693 fire incidents and 3,454 ambu- Park Avenue requested a license agreement to lance calls. A new pump truck is being ordered allow an encroachment of the property into the for 2017 delivery.

Permit of Compliance Hearing: Arena's Deli unanimously. would like to modify their existing floor plan at A motion was made to approve formation of a 149 Rehoboth Avenue. Additional seating will be Mayors Advisory Committee on Trees. The misprovided. There were no objections or comments sion of the committee is to coordinate tree related from the public. After a review of the plan and activities within the City. Motion carried unaniinformation provided, a motion was made by mously. Commissioner Stan Mills, and seconded by Com- Fourth of July Fireworks: With Main Street missioner Toni Sharp, to approve the plan. Mo- transitioning, the City must decide whether to tion carried with Commissioner Kuhns recusing take over the fireworks display. A motion was himself due to conflict of interest.

comment discussion was held concerning tents, display. sun shelters, portable toilets and campfires fires on the beach. Almost all comments were in favor Board of Adjustment Meeting of imposing some restrictions, although some res- November 28, 2016 idents asked for exceptions for kiddie tents for small children. Umbrellas of a normal and typical Applicant appealed a decision of the Building view.

Streets.

### **Board of Commissioners Meeting February 17, 2017**

Fire Company Report: John Meng reported 28 crew calls and 10 alarms in the month of January. the report of Police activity for January. Old Business: Further discussion was held regarding a proposed ordinance to regulate tents, umbrellas, and camp fires on the beach. Several emails and correspondence were read with most in favor of the proposed ordinance, but others asked for exceptions or offered alternatives. It was proposed that violators be first warned, prior to any fine being levied. This item is expected to be finalized at the March meeting.

right of way. Motion was made, and approved

made, and passed unanimously, for the City to New Business; An in depth discussion and public assume the responsibly for the July 4<sup>th</sup> Fireworks

size are still to be allowed, provided they are se- Inspector in regard to a two-story garage apartcured for safety. The consensus of the commis- ment as a lawful structure or in the alternative sioners was that regulations are called for due to requested a variance to permit a garage apartment the recent proliferation of large shelters and in the R-1 Residential District. Property located at campsites on our beach. It was agreed that Com- 220 and 220A New Castle Street. Building Inmissioner Mills will work with Solicitor Man- spector argued that there is no proof that the delas to craft a proposed ordinance for board re- property owners availed themselves of the opportunity to register garage apartment used as a Items to be included in Future Meetings: Updates dwelling, pursuant to Section 19-59 of the Code. on trees, Commercial Trash, July 4 Fireworks, Review of property file did not reflect any buildand upgrades to Baltimore and Wilmington ing permit for garage apartment to exceed 51% of the floor area, resulting in an unlawful structure and invalidating building permit. The previous owner could have obtained permission to use as garage apartment if he had registered it as such in 1992, but there is no document associated with that process. The garage apartment has always been used as a long-term rental and seller's dis-Police Department Report: Chief Banks presented closures at the time of sale in 1999 indicate all necessary permits and licenses had been obtained. A motion was made to grant the appeal and allow the Appellant to continue to use the subject building known as a "garage apartment" in the same manner that owner has been using it for the time period he has owned it without making any additions inside or outside and continue to use Code restrictions that may be implied upon the garage apartments. Motion to grant appeal would overrule decision of the Building Inspector that this is an illegal use. Motion carried by a 3-2 vote.

REHOBOTH BEACH HOMEOWNERS' ASSOCIATION P.O. BOX 41 REHOBOTH BEACH, DE 19971





# Rehoboth Beach Homeowners' Association Newsletter

**MAY 2017** 

# **RBHA Calendar 2017**

Saturday, December 31 9 AM Board Meeting CAMP Rehoboth

Saturday, February 18 9 AM Board Meeting CAMP Rehoboth

Saturday, March 18 9AM Board Meeting CAMP Rehoboth

Saturday, April 15 General Membership Meeting CAMP Rehoboth

> **Saturday, May 20** 9AM Board Meeting CAMP Rehoboth

Saturday, June 17 9 AM Board Meeting CAMP Rehoboth

Saturday, July 15 9 AM Board Meeting CAMP Rehoboth

Friday, July 28 Candidate Forum 6:30 PM CAMP Rehoboth

Saturday, September 2

9 AM Board Meeting
CAMP Rehoboth

Sunday, September 24 Noon RBHA Picnic in Grove Park

Saturday, October 21

10 AM Annual Membership Meeting.
CAMP Rehoboth
(RBHA Board Meeting afterwards)

Saturday, November 18 9 AM Board Meeting CAMP Rehoboth

Saturday, December 30 9 AM Board Meeting CAMP Rehoboth

All meetings are open to the public and are held at CAMP Rehoboth: 37 Baltimore Avenue.