

# Rehoboth Beach Homeowners' Association

Incorporated 1971

November 2018

## Officers

### *President*

Charlie Browne 302-227-4070

### *Vice-President*

Susan Gay 610-420-1192

### *Treasurer*

Steve Curson 302-727-5700

### *Secretary*

Le Roy Candelaria 302-470-0363

## Directors

Elise Burns 202-236-8320

Pam Baker 703-927-3584

Jon Worthington 703-593-0316

Mark Saunders 717-880-8066

Bob Lawrence 301-675-8597

The RBHA newsletter is published three times a year as an informational and educational tool for its members. Contributors include RBHA members and members of the community including City officials.

We welcome your comments and suggestions.

Editors —  
Charlie Browne and Susan Gay

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RBHA  
P.O. Box 41  
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19971

## President's Message

RBHA's Annual Picnic at Grove Park was held on Sunday, September 16th. Each year the picnic gets better and better - so please plan on joining us next year on Sunday, September 15, 2019. I know it's a while off, but you will be glad you came. We will start the picnic at 11:30 a.m. in 2019 to give football fans time to enjoy the picnic and still be home in time for the game.

On Saturday, September 22, RBHA was once again the sponsor for Coastal Clean Up for the part of our beach adjacent to the boardwalk. On October 24th another RBHA tradition took place - the Employee Appreciation Breakfast for our great city employees. Both Coastal Clean Up and the Employee Appreciation Breakfast have been coordinated for many years by the Jennifer Duncan - the best board member any organization could hope for. There is a huge amount of work and time that goes into the planning of these events. But year after year Jennifer made it look easy. Jennifer retired from the RBHA Board at the end of October, and we will miss her. Please give Jennifer a big thank you the next time you see her.

Jon Worthington, our Vice-President for the past several years, is stepping down from that position - but thank goodness - not departing from the Board. I want to thank Jon for all of the support and help he gave to me during his time as Vice President. I think he had to fill in for me at almost half of the spring and annual meetings while he was Vice President. Thanks Jon!

The RBHA Annual Meeting was held at CAMP Rehoboth on Saturday, October 20. Commissioner Stan Mills gave us an update on what going on with the City. Please look for his column, City Briefs, on pages 10 and 11. Karen Falk, the new Executive Director of Rehoboth Beach Main Street, previewed all of the exciting things the RB Main Street has planned such as the return of the Community Unity Dinner. It will be Sunday, December 2 from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. Our new Vice President Susan Gay, also a member of the Board of Directors of Country Club Estates Property Owners Association, told us about the creation of that neighborhood which turned 50 years old in 2018. In 1964, the developer who created CCE purchased the 65 acres that had been a golf course for the princely sum of \$360,000. Our featured speaker was the founder of Rehoboth Beach. - Rev. Todd - aka Roger Pruitt. He reminded us that in those days selling alcohol was not allowed. His advice - BYOB.

Enjoy our fall newsletter!

*Charlie Browne*

Charlie Browne, RBHA President

This year, Coastal Cleanup was postponed a week by DNREC because of Hurricane Florence. More than half of our volunteers couldn't attend due to the date change. However, we did have 33 volunteers who were able to make it and spend the morning in and around the dunes and on the beach picking up trash. While this year's final report does indicate we are doing a better job in disposing our trash in trash cans, and we surely hope that is true, the results may be clouded since we usually have 70 plus volunteers.

This is what they returned to us at our Coastal Cleanup headquarters site—the gazebo on Wilmington Avenue and the Boardwalk within a 3 hour time span.

- Cigarette butts down about 1,200 from last year ---1,239
- Food wrappers down from 1,002 last year to ---340
- Bottle caps continue to climb from 169 last year to --- 182
- Cigar tips down from 103 last year to ---26
- Straws/stirrers down from 169 last year to ---83
- Foam and plastic pieces combined were up from 845 last year to ---1,222

Nothing dangerous or unusual was found except for a very large round black plastic “water meter” cover!

We would like to thank all of the volunteers for participating in this important annual event! A special thanks to the Village Improvement Association (VIA) who sent a small army to volunteer and thanks to Charlie Browne, President of the RBHA, and Board member Mark Saunders who helped run this event.



**Bank of America Volunteers for Coastal Clean Up 2018**



**Coastal Clean Up 2018**

Every volunteer makes a difference! As the Ocean Conservancy, International Coastal Cleanup states:

“Many birds, dolphins, seals, turtles, and fish eat things they shouldn’t—like bottle caps and toothbrushes. Few can regurgitate unhealthy items, resulting in a false sense of fullness that causes them to stop eating and slowly starve to death. Ingested trash can also cause choking, blockage of the digestive system, or toxic poisoning.

Sea turtles, of which six out of seven species are threatened or endangered, may mistake waterborne plastic bags and balloons for jellyfish (a favorite food) and die when the plastic chokes them or clogs their digestive systems. Seabirds, attracted to any small bits of trash, commonly consume plastic pellets, bottle caps, string, and cigarette butts.”

This annual clean-up is sponsored and organized by as a part of the annual International Coastal Cleanup. They supply the trash bags, gloves, and collection forms. The area the covered was all of our beach, from one end of the Boardwalk to the other. Please mark your calendars to sign up for Coastal Cleanup 2019 on the DNREC website next August and meet us at the same place—gazebo on Wilmington Avenue and the Boardwalk in September!



VIA Volunteers for Coastal Clean Up 2018

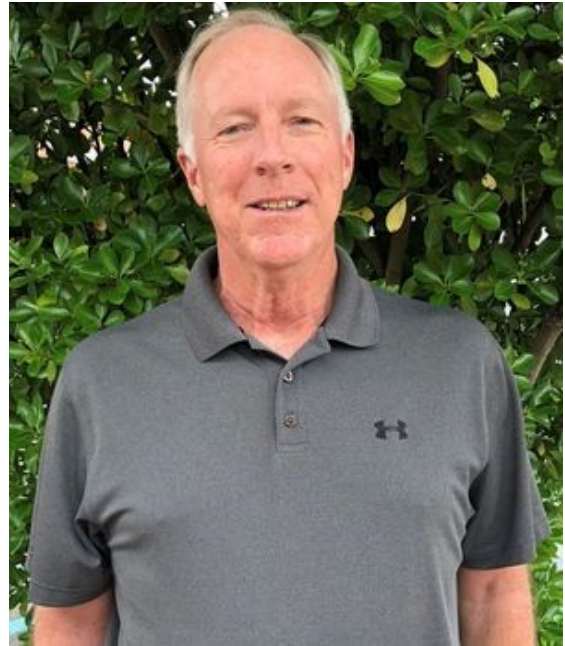
## Kevin Williams - Rehoboth's New Director of Public Works

By Susan Gay

Kevin Williams joined the City staff as Director of Public Works in late May 2018. He oversees the Water, Wastewater, Building and Grounds, and Streets Departments along with Capital Improvement Projects related to these departments. Previously Williams served as an engineering consultant with O'Brien & Gere in Washington D.C. working on large-scale municipal utility projects.

City Manager Sharon Lynn said: "Filling this position has been one of my top priorities since 2014. Kevin has hit the ground running and is already surpassing my expectations. We are fortunate to have someone of Kevin's professional skills, knowledge, abilities, and experience join the Public Works Department leadership team. Kevin's extensive experience in the public works field combined with his outstanding service will serve the city well."

Kevin has wasted no time in his new position! He is keeping a close eye on our aging infrastructure and has instituted regular cleanings of stormwater vaults, annual grease trap inspections for restaurants and is analyzing the city's stormwater system.



**Kevin Williams**  
**Director of Public Works**

Williams is a graduate of the United States Military Academy at West Point. He retired as a Colonel after 26 years in uniform. Following his military career, Williams joined the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers working on military construction and civil works planning projects. "I look forward to the new challenge the position offers, and I believe my experience and leadership approach will blend well within the department," Williams said. "Public Works is a strong group, and I'm excited to be part of the team and help the department continue on a successful path." Williams is married with two daughters and two grandchildren.

## Rehoboth Beach City Manager Sharon Lynn Named City Manager of the Year by the Delaware League of Local Governments

The RBHA thanked City Manager Sharon Lynn on being named City Manager of the Year with a surprise present in appreciation of her leadership in Rehoboth and her support of the homeowners' association. Pictured to the right are RBHA members Charlie Browne, Libby Stiff, Le Roy Candelaria, Jennifer Duncan, Susan Gay, and Mark Saunders presenting Sharon with a framed and signed print commemorating the Eagles victory in Super Bowl LII. In case you did not know, Sharon is a big Eagles fan. (Oh well, nobody's perfect.) Thanks for all you do Sharon.



## RBHA Annual Meeting - Saturday - October 20 - by Charlie Browne

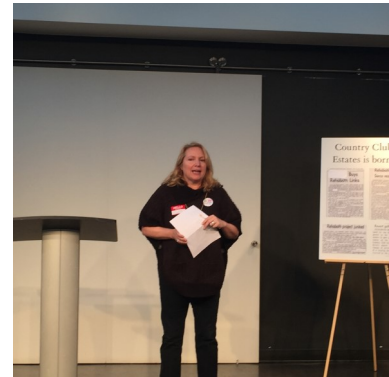
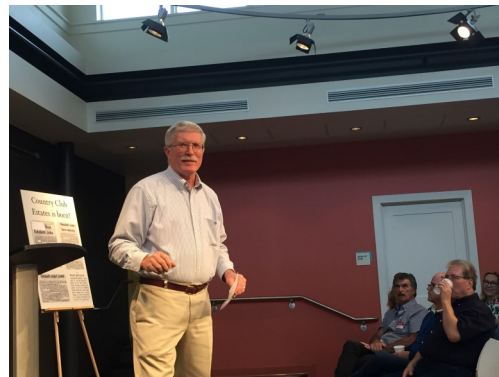
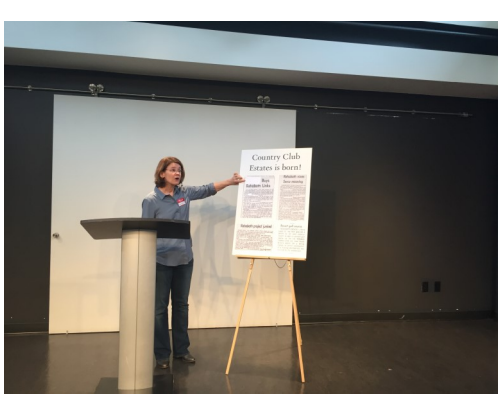
The RBHA Annual Meeting was held on Saturday, October 20, at the CAMP Rehoboth Community Center. Attendees included Mayor Paul Kuhns and Commissioners Mills, Byrne, Sharp, and Schlosser. The crowd came early to enjoy coffee, pastries, and each other's company and lingered quite a while afterwards for more of the same.

After the Treasurer's Report and the President's remarks, Commissioner Stan Mills gave an update on what has been going on and will be going on in Rehoboth. If you were not there, please see Stan's article "City Briefs" on pages 10 and 11. Next RB Main Street President Ed Chrzanowski introduced the new Executive Director of Main Street, Karen Falk, who discussed all the activities that Main Street is working on and planning. This was followed by Susan Gay who told us about the development of County Club Estates. CCE started 50 years ago when Rehoboth's 9-hole golf course moved across the highway to become Rehoboth Yacht and Country Club.

Our featured speaker, introduced by RB Historical Society President Paul Kuhns, was Rev. Todd - the founder of Rehoboth Beach Camp Meeting Association. Rev. Todd, as portrayed by Roger Truitt, makes regular appearances at the Museum's Anna Hazzard House. You should stop by the Anna Hazzard House and meet him.



Rev. Todd



Susan Gay - Stan Mills - Karen Falk

## Community Unity Dinner 2018

The Community Unity Dinner sponsored by Rehoboth Beach Main Street is returning.

When: Sunday - December 2, 2018

Time: 4:30 - 7:30 p.m.

Where: Rehoboth Beach Convention Center

Cost: \$15 with children under 10 free

For more information - [www.DowntownWRB.com](http://www.DowntownWRB.com)

# RBHA's Annual Employee Appreciation Breakfast

By Charlie Browne

On Wednesday, October 24, RBHA held its annual breakfast for the City employees at the Rehoboth Beach Convention Center. RBHA members arrived at "o'dark thirty" to decorate the tables with festive fall colors and flower center pieces made by Mark Saunders and set up a breakfast buffet for all City employees.

The buffet spread included fresh fruit platters, a variety of yogurts, bagels, pastries, coffee cakes, donuts, sausage and bacon egg and cheese sandwiches, orange juice and coffee.

Coming in shifts, the employees were able to take a much deserved break and enjoy conversations and laughs with fellow employees while dining at the RBHA sponsored breakfast.

Lt. Jaime Riddle of the Rehoboth Police Department noted that the RBHA breakfast is one of the few times a year that the staff of the police department have an opportunity to be in the same place at the same time.



# RBHA's Annual Employee Appreciation Breakfast

By Charlie Browne



Back by popular demand, each employee received an envelope that either contained a \$20 dollar bill or a \$1 or \$2 "scratch ticket" which brought extra smiles and laughter to the breakfast. In addition, eight employees went home with flower centerpieces that had been made by RBHA's "florist in residence" - Mark Saunders. Thank you Mark.

A special **thank you** to Jennifer Duncan who has coordinated the breakfast for the past several years and is leaving the RBHA board at the end of the month. Additional thanks go to the RBHA members who assisted with the breakfast: Steve Curson, Dick Byrne, Marcia Maldeis, Charlie Garlow, Joan, Flaherty, Bob Thoman, Le Roy Candelaria, and Jon Worthington.



## RBHA Holds its Sixth Annual Picnic - by Steve Curson

Despite the looming foul weather predicted for the weekend earlier in the week from the remnants of Hurricane Florence, sunny skies and a slight breeze was in the air for our 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Picnic on Sunday, September 16th.

Like last year's event, we had delicious treats from Frankie and Louie's Deli to enjoy. Over 8 types of subs were served including some vegetarian choices. Tomato pies and several trays of desserts were also on the menu. Like last year, RBHA provided all the refreshments and drinks. The only thing our members had to bring was an appetite and a willingness to meet and greet their neighbors.

With a crowd of over 60 in attendance, including the Representative Peter Schwartzkopf, Mayor, Paul Kuhns, several of the city's commissioners and Police Chief Banks, we declared this another successful picnic. Plans are already in place for next year's picnic, so stay tuned for the details.



Save the Date—RBHA's 2019 Picnic - Sunday September 15



# RBHA Holds its Sixth Annual Picnic - by Steve Curson



Save the Date—RBHA's 2019 Picnic - Sunday September 15

# City News Briefs

By Commissioner Stan Mills



## ELECTIONS PROVISIONS PROPOSED FOR AMENDMENT

The Commissioners have approved a set of amendments to the City Charter regarding elections. Some of the highlights:



A reduction in ownership requirement for non-resident freeholders for voter eligibility from 6 months to 30 days.

An allowance for voter registration up to 30 days prior to the Annual Municipal election (currently the second Friday in June – two months prior to the election)

A reduction in durational residency requirement for voter eligibility from 6 months to 30 days

Removal of any form of artificial entity voting from annexation, borrowing and bond issuance elections

Clarification that all voting provisions – municipal elections, annexation elections, borrowing and bond issuance elections – shall be construed in accordance with the principle “One person, one vote.” Currently certain referendum votes allow for multiple votes per person or entity depending upon number of properties owned

Because the proposed amendments are within the Charter (rather than city code) the changes desired will be forwarded to the State General Assembly to vote on authorizing the changes to the City Charter. (The first three bulleted items bring the Charter into conformance with state law.)

## PARKING PROGRAMS BEING SCRUTINIZED



The City’s Parking Committee has submitted recommendations to the Commissioners that include:

Extend meter and permit seasons to May 1 through Sept 30

Adjust meter enforcement from 10 a.m. through midnight to 9 a.m.-9 p.m.

Adjust permit enforcement from 10 a.m. through 5:00 p.m. to 9 a.m.-9 p.m.

Increase prime parking space fees in business district to \$3/hour (currently \$2/hr city wide) to create turnover

Re-evaluate quantity, placement, clustering of 30 min. meters

Limit number of free parking permits to property owners using a 2+2+2 formula: 2 transferable, 2 non-transferable and 2 scooter permits for vehicles that are registered in property owners’ name). Can purchase more if needed.

Change existing parallel parking spots on King Charles Ave. (New Castle to Queen) to diagonal parking spaces to gain more spaces

Install more directional parking signage including as part of a city-wide wayfinding signage being considered

Consider creating an employee satellite parking area with transportation to and from the business district (not a committee recommendation but part of the discussions)

Discussions are ongoing.

## SMILE! YOU MIGHT BE ON CAMERA

The Commissioners’ Room in City Hall was designed with the capability to shoot video of meetings. Multiple cameras capture different viewing angles with shots of those sitting at the Commissioners’ table, the front tables, the lectern and, yes, even of meeting attendees. Presentations visible on the TV monitors also can be recorded. A desire is to be able to record, archive and make the recordings accessible online; training to do so is ongoing. But first and soon the Commissioner’s meetings will be live streamed, accessible from the city website. In the future other commissions, committees and boards can be considered for live streaming and/or video recording. Audio recordings of all city commissions, committees and boards are being made and are available online.

## MEETING DATE/TIME CHANGE(S)?

Expected to be on the November Workshop agenda is a discussion of changing the date and/or starting time

of Commissioners’ meetings. A suggestion by one Commissioner

was to change the start time for the regular Commissioners’ Meetings from 7:00 p.m. to a start time of 3:00 p.m. No substantial discussion has taken place so stay tuned.



# City News Briefs

Continued

## STREET PAVING PROGRAM TO BEGIN SOON

City Manager Sharon Lynn has advised that roads set to be paved are Park Avenue from Fourth Street to Third Street; Hickman Street from Stockley

Street to Scarborough Avenue; Lee Street from State Road to School Lane; Second Street from Lake Avenue to Oak Avenue; Second Street from Oak Avenue to Henlopen Avenue; Second Street from Rehoboth Avenue to Maryland Avenue and School Lane from Old Bay Road to Lee Street. If your street is selected for maintenance, you will be notified by a letter providing the date, duration, and construction activity to be performed, as well as any specific information you might need including roadway parking restrictions or minor access restrictions. For more information, please contact the Communications Department at 302-227-6181 ext. 522.

## REHOBOTH AVE. STORMWATER PUMPS PUMP AGAIN

Two stormwater pumps inside a special catch basin at the end of Rehoboth Avenue, which have been inoperable for an unknown amount of time, have been replaced and again are operational. This is a unique catch basin that pumps the first inches of rainfall runoff from the streets and sidewalks, including any debris such as cigarette butts, to the sewer plant before then shutting off to allow cleaner runoff to discharge directly into the ocean.



## BUDGET PLANNING UNDERWAY

City Manager Sharon Lynn and staff have been working on updating the 5-year capital improvements project list as well as analyzing what other needs have to be funded in the next budget year. The next budget meeting is yet to be scheduled.

## CITY MANAGER OF THE YEAR

The Delaware League of Local Governments (DLLG), a statewide, non-profit, nonpartisan association of city, town, village, and county governments is comprised of 57 municipalities and three counties. The DLLG conferred the 2018 City Manager of the Year designation on our own Sharon Lynn. The application request to consider Sharon for this award was submitted by city staff. Congratulation to Sharon for recognition well earned.

## MORE ADA COMPLIANT SIDEWALKS IN THE WORKS

Ever since the Streetscape project improvements on Rehoboth Avenue (and even beforehand) the City has been attentive to making our sidewalk entries at street intersections compliant with the American with Disabilities Act. To do so involves ensuring the corners at street intersections provide easy access points from the street crossings to enter the sidewalks by providing marked entries, gentle slopes and tactile corners to indicate where the sidewalks join the streets. Almost annually, specific intersections have been selected for such improvements. Construction starts soon to rectify a particularly dangerous portion of out of compliance sidewalk because of its extreme slopes causing wheelchairs to



tilt and making it difficult for pedestrians to navigate. The project area is the intersection at Second Street and Baltimore Avenue including the abutting sidewalk sections (both in front of Mark Showell Interiors). Senator Lopez and Representative Schwartzkopf supported this project financially via a State Community Transportation Fund grant.

## DRUG TAKE BACK INITIATIVE 24/7/365

According to RB Police Chief Keith Banks the National (Prescription Drug) Take-Back Initiative provides an opportunity for the public to surrender expired, unwanted or unused pharmaceutical controlled substances and other medications to law enforcement officers for destruction. Improperly disposed of drugs can harm the environment. Here is a chance for you to safely dispose of drugs. Drugs to be disposed of can be taken to the lobby of the Rehoboth Beach Police Department, 229 Rehoboth Avenue at anytime year round. The collection is free and open to everyone, no appointments are necessary. For more information, please contact the Rehoboth Beach Police Department at 302-227-2577.



## BE INFORMED!

Check out the City website home page to access the City Legislative Portal which contains meeting agendas, minutes and support documents. You will also find a list of City commissions, committees and boards with information such as mission statements, meeting information and member lists. Application forms are available online if you would like to participate as a member; if not a member then your attendance or comments and opinions on committee matters are welcome.

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



## Rehoboth Beach Homeowners' Association Newsletter

**November  
2018**

### RBHA Calendar 2019

**Saturday, December 29, 2018**

9 AM Board Meeting  
CAMP Rehoboth

**Saturday, February 16**

9 AM Board Meeting  
CAMP Rehoboth

**March**  
No Meeting

**Saturday, April 20**

10 AM General Membership Meeting  
CAMP Rehoboth

**Saturday, May 18**

9 AM Board Meeting  
CAMP Rehoboth

**Saturday, June 15**

9 AM Board Meeting  
CAMP Rehoboth

**Saturday, July 20**

9 AM Board Meeting  
CAMP Rehoboth

**Friday, July 26**

Candidate Forum  
6:30 PM  
CAMP Rehoboth

**Saturday, August 31**

9 AM Board Meeting  
CAMP Rehoboth

**Sunday, September 15**

11:30 a.m.  
RBHA Picnic in Grove Park

**Saturday, October 19**

10 AM Annual Membership Meeting.  
CAMP Rehoboth

**November**  
No Meeting

**Saturday, December 28**

9 AM Board Meeting  
CAMP Rehoboth

**All meetings are open to the public. CAMP Rehoboth: 37 Baltimore.**