



REHOBOTH BEACH HOMEOWNERS' ASSOCIATION

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Howard Menaker

The Rehoboth Beach Homeowner's Association (RBHA) newsletter is an informational and educational tool published three times a year for its members and members of the community including City Officials.

We welcome your comments and suggestions.

Editors - Sharon Sherwood & Susan Gay

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RBHA is a 501c(3) tax exempt organization. Membership and donations to RBHA are tax deductible in accordance with applicable IRS regulations.



Letter from the President

Wow! A lot has happened in 2023. We've all definitely have grown a year older and hopefully, a little wiser.

Regrettably, our September Annual Picnic in Grove Park was a weather disaster. However, not willing to forgo this enjoyable event, the Board decided to combine the picnic with our Annual Meeting in October. We started the event with the most important thing, food, and lots of it! Not just any food but the consistently delicious subs and desserts from Frank & Louie's! In all the years we have been hosting the picnic they have never failed us. Our event speakers were also impressive. Richard Byrne & Cindy Lovett started us off with updates on the activities of RB Main Street & Rehoboth in Bloom. Kay Wheatley, President of the RB Library Board of Trustees, spoke and willingly answered questions concerning the anticipated changes to and relocation of the RB library. Mayor Stan Mills provided renderings of the newly approved Beach Patrol Station on Baltimore Avenue and addressed some of the City's staffing changes. We had a great crowd and everyone left full and better informed.

November was highlighted by the City Employee Appreciation event. Each year we try to thank our hard working city

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**“History of South
Rehoboth and Rehoboth
Beach Country Club”
Rehoboth Beach History
Lecture**

**Thursday, January 11th
from 7:15 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.**

The Thompson farm first appeared on a regional map in 1869. During the 1920s, the property was transitioned into the Rehoboth Heights housing area of south Rehoboth, with the remainder of the property made into a nine hole golf course. The homestead became RB Country Club’s first clubhouse. Several locals remember walking across that course to get to school, some even caddied for the golfers!

**Call Paul Lovett at
302-893-9391 to reserve your
spot. Cost: \$25 Location:
Sussex Room, Boardwalk
Plaza**

All proceeds support the "Railroad Era Rehoboth Avenue" diorama."

Enjoy dinner in the beautiful Victoria's Restaurant (not included in lecture fee)
Call Victoria's at 302-227-0615 to make a 5:00 to 5:30 dinner reservation.

**Upcoming Lectures
March 14 - Recession Era Rehoboth
May 9 - Horns Pavilion**

employees for all they do throughout the year. In addition to having the opportunity to share a cup of coffee and a few breakfast treats, RBHA presented every employee with a Sunny Bay Cafe gift card.

The RBHA Board continues to meet monthly, providing you with an overview of the Minutes & routinely publishing City Issue Updates through Constant Contact and on our website. We asked you earlier this year for your feedback on the possible relocation of the Rehoboth Beach Library, and forwarded the information to both you and the Library Task Force. We hope to use surveys more effectively in the coming year as we continue to work on rebuilding our webpage to improve our communication.

This has also been a year of goodbyes & hellos for the RBHA Board. Steve Curson was our Treasurer for three terms, which is the maximum our bylaws allow. It is difficult to say goodbye to a trusted and dedicated volunteer. We sure will miss him looking after the monies. The Board has now elected Patrisha Davis to be the new Treasurer. Clif Hilderley was also a dedicated RBHA Director for many years but chose not to continue for another term. He led a subgroup to revise our bylaws, developed and published our Safety Brochure, took the lead on Code Enforcement and was our “tech guy” who independently developed the website which has been our backbone of communication for years. We’ll miss his questions and insight on issues that often made us stop and think. With Steve & Clif now enjoying their extra free time, we welcome Howard Menaker & Mary Good. We hope you will get to know them at our Spring Meeting, scheduled for Saturday, April 20th. Until then, wishing you all the best for the new year!

Pamela Baker
President, RBHA



Don't forget to renew your membership in January. Membership Forms will be mailed in the next couple of weeks or you can renew on the website by clicking Membership and Pay.



Meet Your New Board Members

Mary Good has a down-to-earth style and has spent her career guiding organizations, Board members, and senior leaders through change. Mary frames her role as helping organizations and employees to succeed, which is supported by her broad and varied expertise. She has held the top C-suite human capital roles in five public and two private companies in the enterprise and consumer technology spaces. Most recently as Chief People Officer at Squarespace, Mary worked to establish the building blocks for an effective people organization in support of the company's growth transformation. Additionally, She led the company's COVID-19 response and subsequent return to office strategy. She was also instrumental in preparing the company for its IPO in 2021. Mary holds an MBA from Syracuse University and a BS in Human Development & Family Studies from The Pennsylvania State University. Among other prestigious accolades Mary received the Alumni Fellow Award given to less than 1% of Penn State alumnae.



Mary E. Good



Howard Menaker

Howard Menaker is a member of the Rehoboth Beach Boardwalk and Beach Committee, and the Baltimore-Wilmington Avenue Streetscape Task Force and has previously served on the Boards of CAMP Rehoboth and Seaside Jewish Community. Howard and his husband Patrick Gossett began spending summers in Rehoboth Beach in 1993, and have owned their home in The Pines since 1996. In 2014, Howard suffered a spinal cord injury and ever since has been working hard on his recovery at the Kennedy Krieger Institute's International Center for Spinal Cord injury. At Kennedy Krieger, Howard serves as a voice to their community of donors, patients, and the public, and plays a role in fundraising - helping them advance their mission of improving the lives of countless children and adults with autism, spinal cord injuries or rare genetic diseases. Professionally, Howard worked for 18 years as a Senior Communications and Public Affairs Manager with Bechtel, the world's largest construction and engineering company. Before joining Bechtel, Howard was a general counsel and lobbyist for numerous national trade associations and was an attorney in private practice.



Commissioner's Corner

By Commissioner Patrick Gossett

The end of a calendar year always feels like a time of change. It is a time to look back at the year just ending and forward to the one beginning. Many of us make new resolutions, and plan how we will improve in the coming year. The City of Rehoboth Beach is no different.

As the City prepares for the year to come, there have been, and will be, changes in City staff. Starting at the top, former City Manager Laurence Christian resigned from his position in November due to personal family reasons, and the City has embarked on a nationwide search for his replacement. Laurence leaves a legacy of professionalism, conscientious management and improvement of many city functions. Working with the same excellent search firm who previously brought us Laurence and former City Manager Sharon Lynn, we are in the process of candidate interviews.

As you will read elsewhere in this newsletter, in November, the Mayor and Commissioners appointed Alexander "Alex" Burns, of the law firm Baird, Mandalas Brockstedt and Federico, LLC as the new City Solicitor, succeeding Glenn Mandalas who had served as City Solicitor since 2006. You will also read in this newsletter about our new Planning and Community Director, Mary Ellen Gray.

The issue of code enforcement is a top priority for both RBHA members and the Mayor and Commissioners. Scot Cantalupo has joined the City of Rehoboth Beach's Building and Licensing Department as the city's Code Enforcement Officer. However, our other code enforcement officer, Howard Rothstein, recently resigned his position. The City is currently advertising to fill this position. Our goal is to have two full-time code enforcement officers.

But it is important to see the big picture beyond individual staff positions. We must invest in our staff as we do in capital projects. It is well-recognized that the greatest return on investment an organization can make is the investment they make in their people. Training and development, the creation of a positive work environment, and adequate compensation and benefits all contribute to hiring and retaining the best talent. We have a Capital Improvement Budget (CIP) for physical projects and equipment, which provides the tools for staff to perform their work, but we don't have a CIP for our most important asset, our people.

The City's FY'24 budget provided for the funding of a staff classification and compensation study, which will provide information about the salary levels of municipal employees in similar communities in the mid-Atlantic region. In order to be properly resourced to serve the needs of property owners, residents and visitors, the city must continuously adequately invest in our full-time staff of 105, part-time staff of 19 and seasonal staff of 143. To assure our salaries and benefits are competitive, and to attract and retain the very best City employees, we will use the study results in the development of the FY '25 budget (April 1, 2024 – March 31, 2025). The Mayor and Commissioners will begin work on this budget in January 2024.

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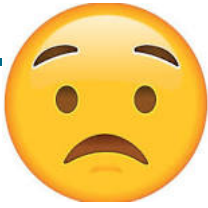
Homes and Rentals with Non-Permitted Basements Get City's Attention

By John Dewey

Residential basements in the City of Rehoboth Beach have become a topic of much discussion as homeowners have become more interested and concerned with maximizing the value and utility of the investment in their homes. Living space in basements must be built to meet our codes and have appropriate building permits on file. An investigation by city officials has confirmed what many already knew to be the case: there are a number of homes in the city that have significant living areas in basements that were finished without permits, include sleeping areas or bedrooms without safety escapes and, in some cases, are being used to increase the advertised square footage available to generate higher rental and sale price returns. A recent informal investigation by the City using public real estate information indicated that, after a very simple and fast review of the internet, there were six homes with illegal living spaces in basements listed on those public sites. Of that number, two were rentals and four were listed for sale. Given the number of homes built annually in the city with basements permitted as non-habitable space, the City believes the problem of non-permitted and illegal basement conversions to be much larger than had been anticipated.

How did we get here? Some years ago, the City responded to homeowner demands by allowing homes to have basements with ceiling heights at or below 6'6" and not count that space towards the allowed square footage of the home. Basements at this ceiling height were intended to provide clean space for storage, laundry, and household utilities such as water heaters and air handlers. To make a complex question even more opaque, the city also decided to allow up to 1,000 square feet of permitted normal height living space in basements in return for a smaller footprint above ground. It was hoped that this provision would encourage smaller profile homes more in keeping with the scale of many of our neighborhoods.

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Non-Permitted Basements

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What is happening is that homes are being built with an approved 6'6" ceiling height basement. The building inspector completes the appropriate inspections and provides the homeowner/investor with a Certificate of Occupancy. Then, some homeowners/investors move forward to convert the non-habitable basement the city approved into non-permitted and illegal living space. Some of these homes are then either put on the rental market with stated occupancies that exceed what the city allows or are sold to unsuspecting buyers who may not ever be informed that the basement living space is, in fact, non-permitted and illegal. Many of these illegal spaces, used both for rental or owner-occupancy, lack the most basic life safety measures in the basement living areas including the fire alarms and exits that would have been needed to get a building permit or a Certificate of Occupancy.

This situation presents the City with many challenges. Our builder community and our home buyers need transparent and understandable codes governing the construction of basement space and clear definitions of when such space is or is not included in the calculation of the approved square footage of the home. This problem also presents a basic issue of fair play as homeowners and investors who follow the rules are being punished because their home is, by definition, smaller or equipped with fewer bedrooms. Data shows that there are several homes for sale and rent with illegal and unsafe basements. It is reasonable to assume that the actual number is much larger. The City will be considering possible means of better defining the size and scope of the problem as well as possible means of assuring and enforcing compliance with our codes. RBHA has been, and will continue to be, following this topic on behalf of our membership to support the City Administration in its efforts to address this serious legal and life safety issue.



Commissioner's Corner

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In other news, the boardwalk between Baltimore Avenue and Wilmington Avenue will be completely transformed over the next few years, beginning with the construction of a new Beach Patrol Headquarters and public restroom at Baltimore Avenue. Keep an eye on the progress of this project via "Lines in the Sand", the City's periodic electronic newsletter.

This project will be followed by the construction of two new hotel projects, currently under review by the Planning Commission. During these multi-year projects, the City will work hard with our contractors and coordinate with private developers to keep the disruption of the Boardwalk to a minimum.

These are just a few of the changes coming in 2024 which will make our City stronger and better serve our residents, property owners and visitors. The Mayor and Commissioners appreciate the active involvement of the RBHA, and wish you a very happy, healthy, and successful 2024!



City Issues

 Reach Out REHOBOTH

Welcome to Reach Out
Rehoboth

reachout.cityofrehoboth.com

Updated information about the City's ongoing and anticipated capital improvement and maintenance projects can be found at Reach Out Rehoboth.

Examples include:

- * Traffic & Parking Study
- * New Beach Patrol HQ
- * Baltimore & Wilmington Avenue Streetscape



In September Scot Cantalupo joined the City of Rehoboth Beach's Building and Licensing Department as the City's Code Enforcement Officer. A Lewes resident since 2019 Cantalupo says he "was interested in this position as a way to get to the nuts and bolts of people's problems and to try to make the city a better place."

The RBHA Board of Directors has adopted an ongoing monthly agenda item to review and discuss major topics coming before City boards and commissions, in particular the Board of Commissioners, Planning Commission, Board of Adjustment, and the Stormwater Task Force. As the City takes on other major project areas that the RBHA Board of Directors believes should be followed on behalf of our members, these project areas will be added to our ongoing topics. Our members can look forward to receiving periodic updates from the RBHA Board of Directors through email outreach via Constant Contact as well as updating information on the RBHA website (RBhome.org). Examples of topics or issues the directors are monitoring on your behalf include, but are not limited to, the following.

Board of Commissioners

Backflow Prevention Devices (BPDs). This topic is most relevant to homeowners who have fire suppression sprinkler systems, home pools and spas, and/or landscape irrigation. BPD devices prevent contaminated water from entering the City's water supply system and are required in certain installations by State regulations and City Code. The City has passed a new law that will require that identified homeowners be responsible to have their BPDs inspected annually by a professional, usually a plumber, who has been certified for this purpose. RBHA is continuing to monitor City actions to implement the new requirements. The latest information available through the City Water Department was that the City would be notifying affected homeowners in writing. A specific timeline for notifying affected homeowners has not been shared as of this writing. The annual cost to homeowners is anticipated to be approximately \$100.00. Homeowners who also have properties in other Delaware municipalities may want to check what, if any, similar requirement will be faced at their second Delaware address. For example, the City of New Castle took a different

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City Issues

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approach and installed BPDs on the city side of residential water meters. This results in the City of New Castle being responsible for the maintenance of the BPDs. No fees will be charged to the City of New Castle water customers as a result of how this requirement was operationalized.

Basement Heights. The Board of Commissioners continues to consider the issues of basement heights and illegal basement conversions (Completed without approved building permits). Please see the separate article in this newsletter on this topic for more information.

Cannabis. The Board of Commissioners has approved changes to City Code that outlaw sales of cannabis products, as defined by the recently passed state laws, within City limits. The City of Rehoboth Beach also adopted a new law that specifies that cannabis may not be consumed in public settings, using language and restrictions that mirror the recently passed Delaware law regarding the same.

Parking. The Board of Commissioners contracted with a vendor to conduct a stakeholder survey regarding view points on traffic, parking alternative modes of transportation, and bicycle use within the corporate limits of the City of Rehoboth Beach. This was a “stakeholder” survey, and that term was broadly defined. Specifically, there were a few controls in place as participants were able to self-identify whether they were Rehoboth residents or had other connections to the city. It is also important to keep in mind that many who live outside the corporate limits of the City identify as Rehoboth residents although, in fact, they are not. This creates specific concerns for the interpretations of the data. The survey did not address traffic issues on Route 1, nor did it address variables that have contributed to our parking, traffic, and related concerns and needs. A preliminary report is available and can be accessed at: <https://files.constantcontact.com/c04d1b4b001/064b1522-2fca-4153-a6dc-e96e16b8e78f.pdf>

The survey had 665 participants, of whom 333 self-identified as residents, business owners or property owners. One open-ended item seeking parking and traffic variables not reflected in the previous question, had 291 respondents. Of that number, 99 suggested that the city needed a parking garage. RBHA members will remember prior consideration of a parking garage to be located behind City Hall and the convention center using the current area of the parking lot. The city received a proposal from a commercial parking provider. Analysis of that proposal discovered a provision whereby the city (tax and fee payers) would be responsible for any debts should the venture fail. Appropriately, City Administration walked away from this proposal and there has not been serious consideration of a parking garage since.

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City Issues

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Planning Commission

330 Rehoboth Avenue Hotel Proposal. The City had rejected the developers' request to rezone a R-1 parcel that is part of the property of C-3, some time ago. The developer filed suit as a result. There is no information regarding the status of the court case at this time. Updates will be provided to our members as new information becomes available.

Atlantic Crowne Hotel Proposal. This proposed hotel would be located in the beach block of Baltimore Avenue across from the Admiral Hotel and just west of the Atlantic Sands Hotel. The project is still in the review stages and no new information is available as of our print deadline.

One Rehoboth Avenue Hotel Proposal. This proposed hotel would be located on the northeast corner of Rehoboth Avenue and the Boardwalk and extend to the Baltimore Avenue corner. This project will be going for Preliminary Site Plan review on January 12th.

Belhaven Hotel. This proposed hotel would be located on the southeast corner of Rehoboth Avenue and the Boardwalk, and will extend through to Wilmington Avenue. This project is in the Site Plan Review stage of the application process.



Introducing the New City Solicitor Alexander "Alex" Burns

Alex Burns was appointed by the City of Rehoboth Beach Commissioners on November 6th at a special meeting. He is an associate attorney with the law firm Baird, Mandalas Brockstedt and Federico, LLC, with offices in Lewes, Dover, Wilmington, and Maryland.

Burns is licensed to practice law in Delaware and Pennsylvania; his focus areas include administrative and government law, land use and real estate law, and civil litigation. His previous experience includes serving as judicial law clerk to the Hon. Mark H. Conner of the Superior Court of the State of Delaware as well as a clerkship at the Delaware Office of Defense Services, an internship with the City of Philadelphia legal department, a part-time clerkship with the Hon. Karen Simmons of the Municipal Court of the First Judicial District of Pennsylvania, and a legal internship in the Office of Governor John Carney.

A native Delawarean and Lewes resident, Burns has a bachelor's degree in political science from the University of Pennsylvania, a master of public administration degree from the University of Delaware, and a law degree from Temple University Beasley School of Law. "Alex has worked on city issues for some time now," says Mayor Stan Mills. "We felt that having legal continuity and a historical knowledge base with our legal firm was important at this time. Alex has demonstrated good legal acumen and attention to detail."

Burns replaces Glenn Mandalas, managing partner with the same firm, who had served as city solicitor since 2006.

Q & A with Mary Ellen Gray, Director, Planning & Community Development

By Patrisha Davis



Mary Ellen Gray assumed the role of the very first Director of Planning & Community Development for the City of Rehoboth Beach on October 23, 2023. Mary Ellen brings 25 years of experience working in the public planning sector, most recently as the Director, Department of Planning, Inspections and Community Development in Dover, DE. Gray, a member of the American Institute of Certified Planners, also has worked in planning for the City of Newark, Kent County Levy Court, as well as in Indiana and for the City of Salisbury, MD.

Over the course of her five years with the City of Newark as Director, Department of Planning & Development, Gray worked with staff and the development community to create more transparent policies and procedures for the development review process. She also created and managed a citywide group to make policy recommendations to city council regarding issues related to the rental community to include; affordable housing, senior housing and student housing.

Recently, the RBHA met with Mary Ellen to learn more about the vision and goals she plans to bring to the new role of Director, of Planning & Community Development. Reporting to Mary Ellen will be the Building & Licensing Department, the Code Enforcement Department, the City Arborist and the Parks Department.

What is the primary role of the Planning & Community Development (PCD) Director?

Under the direction of the Assistant City Manager, the Director of Planning & Community Development (PCD) supervises the work of professional, technical, and support staff in the development and implementation of the City's land use and community development regulations and policies, including planning, zoning, building, permitting, code enforcement, general grant administration and other initiatives aimed at creating a vibrant and inclusive community. The PCD also assists with the administration and implementation of the comprehensive planning program for the City including the City's Comprehensive Development Plan and advises on City planning activities, acting as one of the technical advisors to the City's Planning Commission and Board of Adjustment. This includes working closely with local government officials, community members and other stakeholders to identify needs, set goals, and establish strategies to enhance the overall well-being and quality of life within the community. The Director's role can also include facilitating collaboration, and ensuring effective communication among various community groups. As mentioned previously, I will also be responsible for Code Enforcement for the city.

What strategies would you employ to balance the needs of the local community and tourists in terms of infrastructure, development and economic growth?

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Q & A with Mary Ellen Gray

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The Rehoboth Beach 2020 Comprehensive Development Plan (CDP) provides excellent guiding principles on moving the city forward on multiple levels. As a reminder, per the CDP “Rehoboth Beach is now and will remain a multi-function city – or a town within a town. It is a stable and inclusive residential community as well as an active seaside resort with a vibrant commercial district. Its challenge is to maintain a balance among these local and regional identities, which requires managing its water resources, protecting its environment, promoting local business opportunities and viability, addressing its traffic and parking problems, providing municipal services, and ensuring its fundamental residential and pedestrian character.”

How will you involve the local Rehoboth Community in the decision making process for city planning initiatives?

Involving the local Rehoboth community in the decision-making process for city planning initiatives is vital to good decision making. It was Shakespeare who said, “What is the city but the people?” An essential element is through building and establishing a relationship with organizations such as the Rehoboth Beach Homeowners’ Association (RBHA) so that communication and information can be shared as well as ideas and input regarding ongoing issues. In addition, there are several ways to involve the local community. One way to be involved is to participate through its many boards and commissions as well as attend city meetings and stay informed by accessing the city’s various social media platforms.

Rehoboth is both a one square mile city and an increasingly densely developed coastal resort zip code. As you consider the competing visions for our future held by in-town compared to zip code area stakeholders how would you address or approach the conflicting visions?

My approach to address any conflicting vision of Rehoboth’s future is to see it through the lens of the 2020 CDP and working with the City staff, Planning Commission, Board of Adjustment, applicable Boards and Commissions, the Mayor & Commissioners, stakeholders and the residents of Rehoboth to realize this vision.

As I mentioned, the vision for the future of Rehoboth is articulated in the 2020 CDP which together with related goals and actions provides the basis for the City’s policy making decision and a roadmap for future planning decisions. The CDP includes a vision statement for 5 key areas and they are the heart of the CDP. They express the balanced approach to development that the City should maintain, with priority accorded to maintaining existing scale, density, and pedestrian orientation of its commercial districts and residential neighborhoods. These 5 key areas and their respective visions include:

WATER RESOURCES: Rehoboth Beach’s careful use and preservation of its ocean, beach, canal, lakes and adjacent waterways is at the heart of its social and economic vitality.

CITY CHARACTER: Rehoboth Beach has a unique character, history, small-town charm and architectural design, pedestrian-oriented scale, and sense of place.

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Q & A with Mary Ellen Gray

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COMMUNITY SERVICES: Rehoboth Beach is a year-round community with seasonal tourism as its major industry. It maintains a significant City infrastructure to serve all its community interests – its natural environment, its residences, its businesses, its tourists, and its regional functions.

NEIGHBORHOODS: Rehoboth Beach’s residential areas continue to reflect its small-town character and architectural design, and its neighborliness, embodied by its diverse, inclusive, and forward-looking citizenry.

BUSINESSES: Rehoboth Beach’s downtown is a balanced mix of year-round and seasonal businesses with a residential scale, distinctive architectural design, and pedestrian-oriented character.

I believe establishing strong policies and procedures is a cornerstone of good governance. When everyone is aware of the processes and procedures then everyone – even if they don’t like the outcome – can understand how decisions are made. In developing those policies and procedures I believe it is critical to understand the problems and issues in the community to find appropriate solutions which requires more listening than talking. I look forward to listening to all stakeholders in order to build a strong, sustainable and prosperous city.

Gray earned a bachelor’s degree in geology from the University of Rochester and a master’s in planning from the University of Virginia. She received an academic/athletic scholarship to college as a basketball player. Today, she practices yoga and is midway to her second-degree black belt in taekwondo. She lives in Camden with her husband and two teenage sons.

NOTE: Mary Ellen will be a guest speaker at the RBHA Annual meeting on April 20, 2024. The meeting will be held at 10AM at the RB Firehouse on Rehoboth Avenue. We invite you to come and meet Mary Ellen at this meeting. She welcomes your questions and comments.



RBHA President, Pam Baker said a fond farewell to Steve Curson at the Annual Meeting, October 21st. Steve has been a pillar of RBHA for at least a decade and has held the Treasurer’s position for nine years. He has always been the quiet instrumental hand that insured our meetings were scheduled, tables and equipment were setup and food was ordered. He has been the face behind the large poster donation checks that have been happily delivered to so many deserving Rehoboth organizations throughout the years. Steve also proudly helped organize the first Wreaths Across America Ceremony in Rehoboth and continues to ensure its success. He has also been the liaison between the RBHA Board and the City, the Rehoboth Farmers’ Market, the Fire Hall and RB Main Street. There is no one person that could replace Steve Curson so we can only hope that he will continue to be an active member. Thank you Steve, for all you have done!

Update



By Howard Menaker

About nine months ago, Rehoboth Beach Public Library officials informed the City they were in the early stages of planning for a second location outside city limits. They stated they were committed to keeping a library downtown, but details of the size and feature of that library had yet to be determined. Now, plans are becoming clearer.

The current plan for the downtown facility, recommended by a task force of local citizens, library representatives, and city officials and approved by the Library Board of Trustees, calls for the Library to continue to use the eastern two-thirds of the current library building, with options being considered for the library to lease the remaining portion. The downtown renovation project is estimated to cost \$5 million to \$6 million, and the library has \$4 million to \$5 million on hand. A capital campaign will be created to fund the remaining amount.

Years ago, the City donated the western-most part of the land that is currently home to the library, but placed a restriction on it, requiring that it would always be used for a library. The new plan requires the city to lift that restriction and transfer it to the eastern-most lot. At their November workshop, commissioners tasked attorneys from the city and library to work out specific details of that transfer for the commission to review in December.

What Are Sharrows?



According to the National Association of City Transportation Officials, "Shared Lane Markings (SLMs), or "sharrows," are road markings used to indicate a shared lane environment for bicycles and automobiles. Among other benefits shared lane markings reinforce the legitimacy of bicycle traffic on the street, recommend proper bicyclist positioning, and may be configured to offer directional and way finding guidance."

Shared Lane Marking Benefits:

- * Encourages bicyclists to position themselves safely in lanes too narrow for a motor vehicle and a bicycle to comfortably travel side by side within the same traffic lane.
- * Alerts motor vehicle drivers to the potential presence of bicyclists.
- * Demonstrated to increase the distance between bicyclists and parked cars keeping bicyclists out of the "door zone."
- * Encourages safe passing by motorists.
- * Reduces the incidence of sidewalk riding.

The City has placed sharrows on our major streets. So, be on the look out for them, and please be safe and share the road.



October - RBHA Annual Fall Mtg., November - RB Employee Appreciation Event, & December - Wreaths Across America



Looking for a Great List of Local Restaurant
Seasonal Specials? This is it!

Click or Copy & Paste the URL to your Browser

[https://www.visitreboth.com/things-to-do/seasonal-specials-2023-2024?](https://www.visitreboth.com/things-to-do/seasonal-specials-2023-2024?fbclid=IwAR2QGQCTdsKyQx16svkpVP1fvO3uOkYAGmqm04NI_u8VD2gq5HFgp7RIBgM_aem_AUvulIF2D1B0UX3PbWhd47OAZ7iYEH_hk1diE-SeJfIKaZ2mrCWODUt9eXfRXqNLEU0)

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2024 Board Meetings

All board meetings are open to the public. The meetings are held in the Rehoboth Beach Main Street office conference room, at Grove Park, but are also available via Zoom, if requested at least one week in advance.

Saturday, January 13 at 9 a.m.

Saturday, February 10 at 9 a.m.

Saturday, March 09 at 9 a.m.

Saturday, April 13 at 9 a.m.

Saturday, May 11 at 9 a.m.

Saturday, June 08 at 9 a.m. (via Zoom)

Saturday, July 13 at 9 a.m. (via Zoom)

Saturday, August 10 at 9 a.m. (via Zoom)

Saturday, September 14, at 9 a.m.

Saturday, October 05, at 9 a.m.

Saturday, November 09 at 9 a.m.

Saturday, December 14, at 9 a.m.

2024 RBHA Special Events

Spring Meeting.

Saturday, April 20 at 10 a.m.

Rehoboth Beach Volunteer Fire Company, Upstairs Mtg. Room - Elevator Access Available

Candidate Forum

Saturday, July 20 at 10 a.m.

Rehoboth Beach Volunteer Fire company, Upstairs Mtg. Room - Elevator Access Available

Annual Picnic in Grove Park

Sunday, September 22 at 11:30 a.m.

(Rain Date - Saturday, Oct. 19 at RB Volunteer Fire Company)

Annual Fall Meeting

Saturday, October 19 at 10 a.m.

Rehoboth Beach Volunteer Fire Company Upstairs Mtg. Room - Elevator Access Available

RB Employee Appreciation Breakfast

Tuesday, November 19 at 8 a.m.

RB Convention Center