

Siasconset Civic Association Membership Meeting
July 11, 2022

Introduction by Lynn Filipski

The Annual Meeting of the Siasconset Civic Association, now in its 91st year, began at 6pm following a reception. The Civic Association is the largest member organization of the Nantucket Civic League and works with town boards, committees and departments to address village issues. Libby Gibson is the featured speaker and in attendance is Select Board member Brooke Mohr and the new Director of Culture and Tourism Shantow Bloise-Murphy.

Lynn Filipski, President, mentioned that whether you are a first- time attendee or a longstanding member, we welcome your ideas, support and volunteer hours to keep the Village of Sconset the unique and historic place we all treasure. She thanked the Casino for hosting us and setting up the meeting, the volunteers who assisted with check-in, and the Sconset Market for the delicious desserts.

As is tradition, we observed a moment of silence for those friends and neighbors whom we have lost this year but are with us always in spirit.

Lynn introduced the board: Gail Walker (Vice President/dark sky chairman/ webmaster), Wendy Holding (treasurer), Maggie Boone (secretary), David Bailey (assistant treasurer and clerk), Karel Greenberg (scholarship and bike safety), Robert Franklin (membership and bike safety), Bill Druckemiller (noise issues and infrastructure) Tom Loughlin (clean team), Cindy Nelson (events and infrastructure), Holly Pagon (communications), John Shea (traffic safety and infrastructure), and Maxwell Mundy (nominating and events).

A motion to waive the reading of the minutes from the annual meeting of July 2021 was made, seconded and passed.

President's Report by Lynn Filipski

The quiet of spring has become the bustle of summer and we all realize the pluses and minuses of living in a very popular resort community. The advantages of Sconset are easy to name: the beautiful beach; the lovely children's playground; the walking trails that thread around the village; places to bike, fish, play tennis or golf; a strong village core with wonderful restaurants and shops; and charming historic homes and structures including the iconic lighthouse, chapel, Casino and post office. The Nantucket Hospital thrift shop arrives every Tuesday at 8am to pick up your donations, Bartlett's truck is here six days a week, and Island Kitchen and Millie's food trucks are eagerly awaited at night. Even the Sconset errand boys are back for another season. How lucky that we rarely have to venture out of town if we don't want to!

The Civic Association strives to keep the Village a pleasant and safe place to live. None of this work could happen without the financial support of our members. Thank you. k

-We serve as an **education** resource with our newly updated website with abundant information on our projects, zoning and the town code, traffic safety, area master plan and so much more.

-With our new, awesome logo designed by Holly Pagon, we have a new brand identity that highlights our biking and pedestrian culture. We **communicate** regularly by email and the rotary bulletin board about relevant news and events but also ask for feedback through surveys.

-Some of our work focuses on **beautification**: picking up trash with our volunteer Clean Team every month and maintaining lovely garden spaces at the Rotary, Pump Square and Larsen Park with the help of Amy Manning Landscaping.

-We emphasize **safety** at our yearly children's Bike and Scooter Safety Day with Nantucket Police Officer Cassie Thompson and reinforce awareness for homeowners of the danger of encroachments including stakes or rocks that block pedestrian safe passage on grass strips by roads, especially on heavily trafficked roads such as New Street, Main Street, Morey Lane, Coffin Street, Sankaty Road and Low Beach. We are strong advocates for "20 is plenty" and ask yearly for more speed monitoring.

-We treasure our **dark sky** by encouraging homeowners to turn off their outside lights at bedtime, use outdoor lighting at lower color temperatures that minimize harmful blue spectrum light and eliminate upward directed lights.

-We appreciate the quiet sounds of summer by educating our members on ways to reduce overall **noise** by adopting electric landscape tools and adhering to the town code for construction hours. Sconset has approximately 845 homes on town water, a majority of which are seasonally occupied. They all need maintenance whether it is landscaping or house upkeep that requires a variety of equipment. According to the building department, there are 392 permits outstanding for work (and 38 more under review) ranging from new shingles or roofs, new sheds, small renovations and brand new houses. That's a lot of hammers, saws and drills working year round. Separately, there are 39 pool permits which will increase our total pool population to over 120 pools. What if we all voluntarily restrict our noise footprint to the hours of 8am-6pm like the Sconset Historic District, search for electric options to replace pollution from loud gas-powered machines or keep pool equipment from becoming a noise nuisance to neighbors? You don't have to wait for a warrant article to improve our Village noise levels and the environment.

-The Civic Association follows discussions at town meetings and stays focused on warrant articles with potential impact on the Village. This year, short term rental restrictions again are an important topic affecting a sizable number of Sconset full time and seasonal residents. By using tools such as Survey Monkey, we can gather your input and share it with the short term rental working group as they search for reasonable solutions.

-We are keenly aware of coastal resilience issues and have participated in discussions with Arcadis on bluff erosion on Baxter Road and with Vince Murphy of the Coastal Resiliency Committee on monitoring Sconset Beach dune and sand levels. We are concerned with the fragility of the bluff walk and look forward to finding ways to

manage the approximately 500-600 people a day that traverse the narrow path with better education on rules and responsible times for use.

-The Department of Public Works is a key partner and they provide essential services including trash collection, public bathrooms, roadway repair and painting, street sign replacement, lawn maintenance of town properties, tree trimming, street light repair, pedestrian path repairs including North and Middle Gully and the footbridge, hedge heights and encroachments enforcement, and stormwater management. They are understaffed but Director Stephen Arceneaux is working hard to be responsive to problems. Please be patient.

Looking back on decades of annual meeting minutes housed at the NHA, it is safe to say that the issues and concerns from the 20th Century are still headlining the list for the Civic Association in the 21st century. Although early residents might be astonished at the size and activity of our village today—especially from tourism-- they would share our deep desire to act as responsible stewards for such a magical spot. Let's do our part to keep our community a place where we honor our history and architecture but strive to improve the village by collective and individual efforts.

Treasurer's Report by Wendy Holding

See attached

Membership Report by Robert Franklin

Robert reported that we've been working hard to get people current with their 2022 dues. Since early 2021, when we started our membership drive, we have had 77 new households join, 14 of which joined in this membership year.

As of today, we have approximately **284** paid households. At our peak, at the end of the 2021, we were at approximately 345. So we still have a little ways to go to reach that number but he is hopeful we will. We have the rest of the summer and the fall to work on it.

Robert encourages people to become informal ambassadors. He asks that people help in growing awareness of, and membership in, the Civic Association. He mentioned that we will likely peak at about 345 households later this year. For context there are approximately 832 houses hooked up for town water in Sconset. That leaves 487 potential households. The majority of these 487 households have been solicited by mail. However, word of mouth, and member endorsement of what we do, is more effective than our mail solicitations. He asks the membership to invite neighbors to join and attend future meetings. Robert also announced that our newly designed t-shirt was for sale at the meeting.

In closing Robert made mention that various neighborhood associations on the island, like the SCA, contribute money to the Nantucket Civic League. The League spearheads initiatives that benefit the whole island, and the SCA liaises with them

and has input into those initiatives. The contribution each civic association makes is based on the number of household memberships in an association. In March, the Sconset Civic Association sent a payment that was the largest single dues payment that the Nantucket Civic League has ever received in its 119 year history.

Robert also mentioned that our popular Bike and Scooter Safety Day, sponsored by the Nantucket Police Department and the Civic Association, will be happening on July 20th at 9:30 in front of the Casino.

There will be a helmet check, a review of safety rules and an obstacle course. Cassie from the police department does an excellent job with the children and she always comes with swag. We have other swag too including coupons for ice cream cones, courtesy of the Sconset Market as well as free t-shirts for participants. It is always a fun day.

Scholarship by Karel Greenberg

Karel thanked the scholarship committee, Martha Polachi and Mary Will. Together the committee reviews and meets the students who apply for the Scholarship program(s), and updates and creates new policies as the needs change. This year a new scholarship was added specifically for Summer Study Programs. This Summer Scholarship will be awarded to a Nantucket High School student who is in the 9th, 10th or 11th grade who lives in Sconset. The amount to award is \$1000. Unfortunately, we do not have an applicant this year but hope this gift will be well applied next summer.

Karel then went on to announce the recipient of the Sconset Civic Association Scholarship Award in the amount of \$2500. It is given each year to a qualified Nantucket High School student or a recent graduate who resides in Sconset. The purpose of this scholarship is to encourage and support the enrichment of the applicant's education.

Caiden Shea is the recipient of the award. Caiden is attending Villanova University in the fall and is currently working this summer, his 3rd I believe, at the Nantucket Boat Basin.

Karel shared an excerpt of a recommendation letter from a former math teacher written on behalf of Caiden..

"Outside of the classroom, Caiden is an outstanding student athlete and class member. He is a captain on the football team, as well as a prominent member of the lacrosse team. Caiden is a member of the debate club, artist association, Nantucket Community television, and a volunteer at the Historical Arts Association. Caiden also stays busy with internships, as well as acting credits in a multitude of films (that's surprising). Despite all this extracurricular, Caiden still manages to be one of the top students academically in his class. Among all else, Caiden is kind, polite, respectful and friendly to both his classmates and teachers."

Karel asked Caiden's father, John Shea, for his thoughts.

John wrote "I can only add this, that when Melissa and I were married at the Sconset chapel and celebrated at the Summer House pool, that we never dreamed we'd have a boy who would grow up here in the Village.

Like generations of Nantucket men before him he has Sconset in his blood. While it's clear that like a tree he's growing tall and strong, he was nourished, not just by the sea and the pure country air, but by the good people here, molded by their friendship, care and love.

The Civic Association scholarship is further proof of the generosity that beats at the heart of our village and is deeply appreciated by Caiden and by us."

Nominating Report by Maxwell Mundy

Per the by-laws, the committee has 6 members, three members from the board and two non-board members from the membership. The committee included Karel Greenberg, Holly Pagon, Martha Polachi, Mary Will and Lynn Filipski, ex officio.

There are (ideally) three classes of four members each and thus we were tasked with nominating the FOUR members to serve from 2022-2025. Two members, Wendy Holding and Cindy Nelson, are completing their first term and have agreed to be nominated for a second term ending in 2025.

In addition, Gail Walker, our excellent and active VP, asked to rotate off a year early and the committee asked Lynn Filipski to serve a one-year unexpired term (class of 2023). Since an interim appointment to fill "a (board) vacancy, serving the remainder of an unexpired term shall not count for purposes of the term limits...", Lynn is eligible.

New Board members nominated are Betsy Boe and Matthew Fremont-Smith for the class of 2025.

Betsy Boe has been coming to Nantucket since 1993 (her parents were in Monomoy) and settled into Sconset, on Emily Street, in 2002. Since then, she has served on the Siasconset Casino, On the Isle, and the Chapel. She graduated Smith in 1981, American University's Washington College of Law in 1984 and practiced in Washington, DC where she lives in the winter. She has two children: Kate, married to Sam Heuck and living in Boston; and Matthew, married to the U.S. Navy and living on the high seas as a Surface Warfare Officer.

Matthew Fremont-Smith has been a Sconseter since before 1999 when he married Samantha Lourie who grew up in Atlantic House (Main Street), which they took over from Sherrie in 2009. Matt graduated Hamilton College, received his M.B.A. from Dartmouth, and following 30 years at Goldman Sachs (as partner and managing director), he founded the investment and venture capital fund 25 Madison. Matt and Samantha, with children Maddie, Lila and Teo split time among Manhattan, Providence and Sconset. He rounds out exceptional board service with service to Hamilton College and his recent stint on the Sconset Trust. Matt is such an avid sailor that he's not with us tonight, competing off of Newport.

Maxwell presented the slate and asked for a second. There were no nominations from the floor. The nominations were approved by the membership.

Remarks for Board Member Retirement

Lynn thanked Gail Walker, a 5 year member of the board who has served in more capacities than any other board member perhaps in history. Creator of the website in 2016, she has assisted in updating and adding material that members should find essential. She has tallied missing street signs, compiled a list of house names, chaired the Clean Team, analyzed road and safety conditions for a traffic safety proposal, coordinated emails and membership renewal notices and educated the Board as well as the community on the Dark Sky movement. Luckily for us, she will stay on as a volunteer webmaster and she will remain as an adviser to the Nantucket Civic League Board. The Nantucket Lights organization is lucky to have her.

Next Lynn thanked Maxwell Mundy, a 6 year member and co-leader of the covid response team that organized physicians to hand out masks and answer questions in that frightening first year of covid. He worked with Nantucket hospital on evaluating covid testing ideas and led the financial support we provided for the Food Bank. He always helps with member meetings, and served as the nominating chair for 2021-2022. His perspective and advice is always thoughtful and meaningful.

Speaker

Lynn introduced Libby Gibson, the Nantucket town manager.

Libby was a summer visitor before moving here with her family at the age of ten from California. No stranger to Sconset, Libby can remember the ice cream counter at what is now the Bookstore and frequently rides on her family's antique fire truck to the Village. Her brother is still driving the fire truck for the Daffodil Parade.

A Nantucket high school graduate and Wheaton College alumna, Libby has worked for the Town for her entire professional career. Promoted to Town administrator in 1995

(which was later renamed "Town Manager" in 2007), Libby's role is unique in Massachusetts. Borrowing from her excellent video on the town website, no community of our size oversees a nursing home, an airport, a solid waste facility, a water department, a sewer department, a k-12 school system, fire and police department and more. Nantucket is both a town and a county which creates its own responsibilities.

Ms. Gibson gave an update on the Veranda fire, warrant articles, town budget and capital expenditures, fire station status, stormwater issues, encroachments on grass strips, overhead wires, and noise complaints.

QUESTIONS

Questions included what the town could do with street repairs, coastal resiliency plans, Baxter Road status, traffic concerns with Morey Lane due to the development of the Cannonbury Lane properties, and the number of streets whose addresses do not register with UPS/Fedex.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Bike Safety July 20 new street 9:30-11/special prizes.

Clean Team this Saturday July 16 at 8am at the post office.

Next member meeting Monday August 8 .

Baxter Road house tour benefiting SBPF July 13 11-3pm \$50

Curtis Institute of Music concert July 13 at 6pm here at the Casino

Sconset Trust's Jog in the Fog July 23

On the Isle production Titanic July 29,30,31

Sconset History Night/Codfish Park August 9

Respectfully Submitted,

Maggie Boone
Secretary

SIASCONSET CIVIC ASSOCIATION BUDGET

7/11/2022

	2020 Actual	2021 Actual	2022 Budget	7/11/22 2022 YTD	2023 Budget Forecast
INCOME:					
Dues	\$10,920.00	\$13,760.00	\$14,000.00	\$11,040.00	\$14,000.00
-- Bank		\$5,480.00		\$2,840.00	
-- Web (PayPal)		\$8,280.00		\$8,200.00	
Donations	\$12,045.00 1)	\$16,050.00	\$16,000.00	\$7,710.00	\$16,000.00
-- Bank		\$12,690.00		\$6,240.00	
-- Web (PayPal)		\$3,360.00		\$1,470.00	
Interest Earned	\$9.64	\$10.91	\$11.00	\$5.24	\$11.00
Total Income	\$22,974.64	\$29,820.91	\$30,011.00	\$18,755.24	\$30,011.00
EXPENSES					
Accounting	\$0.00	\$750.00	\$375.00	\$575.00	\$600.00
Civic League Dues	\$1,360.00	\$1,380.00	\$1,750.00	\$1,720.00	\$1,750.00
Clean Team	\$161.50	\$602.93	\$750.00		\$750.00
Communications/Office Supplies	\$922.79	\$919.94	\$2,000.00		\$2,000.00
Donations/Gifts	\$2,870.00	\$0.00	\$2,870.00	\$1,560.00 1)	\$2,870.00
Event Insurance + Permits	\$0.00	\$416.00	\$450.00	\$635.00	\$450.00
Landscaping/Beautification	\$627.60	\$15,810.16	\$19,000.00	\$294.41 2)	\$20,000.00 7)
Meetings/Refreshments	\$0.00	\$168.00	\$4,000.00 3)	\$1,520.00	\$4,000.00
Miscellaneous	\$40.00				
Merchandise			\$2,000.00 4)	\$1,750.16	
PayPal Fees	\$303.51	\$418.61	\$450.00	\$442.54	\$450.00
Postage	\$49.95	\$295.85	\$375.00	\$1.10	\$375.00
Safety Programs	\$0.00	\$486.29	\$1,750.00 5)	\$642.16	\$1,750.00
Scholarships	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00	\$3,500.00 6)	\$2,500.00	\$4,000.00
Tax Filing Fee	\$45.00	\$70.00	\$35.00	\$35.00	\$35.00
<u>Web-Related</u>	<u>\$1,624.30</u>	<u>\$3,480.10</u>	<u>\$3,500.00</u>	<u>\$143.87</u>	<u>\$4,000.00</u>
Total Expenses	\$10,504.65	\$27,297.88	\$42,805.00	\$11,819.24	\$43,030.00
NET INCOME	\$12,469.99	\$2,523.03	(\$12,794.00)	\$6,936.00	(\$13,019.00)
Rockland Trust Balance	\$102,581.64	\$105,636.89		\$111,507.70	
Sconset Civic Assn Fund @ CFN	\$30,620.03	\$35,088.40		\$33,327.35 8)	
Total Cash Balance	\$133,201.67	\$140,725.29		\$144,835.05	

Notes:

- 1) Donations/Gifts: \$1,560 = 2021 gifts of \$360 for heaters @ December party + \$1,200 to Pip & Anchor "send it" boxes.
- 2) Landscaping 2022: WaterWorks Larsen Park service agreement.
- 3) Refreshments 2022: Increased budget to reflect more in-person activities.
- 4) Merchandise: SCA new logo t-shirts - sales should help cover expenses.
- 5) Safety Programs 2022: Increased for more activity.
- 6) Scholarships includes \$1,000 for high school summer programs.
- 7) Landscaping 2023: replacement of the tables/benches at Larsen Park to teak or long-lasting material
- 8) CFN: change in market value due to unrealized losses and admin fee.