

West Barnstable Civic Association

"Building a Better Community - Keeping the Village Character"



We pledge to represent the people of West Barnstable in working for the betterment of our community, to promote timely and informative communication and to perpetuate good relationships with town officials, other village and civic associations and all residents of the Town of Barnstable.



2020 Year in Review

Thank you for your continued loyalty and support of the WBCA this past year. Your membership enables us to serve our village and its residents in many important ways.

- ❖ Each year we continue to collaborate and be supportive with the promotion of events and town projects within our village such as the Village Festival, Meetinghouse Farm, the Whelden Memorial Library, Luke's Love Playground, the West Barnstable Historical Society, the West Barnstable Fire Department and the BWB Playground. Many events were cancelled or held virtually due to the COVID-19 pandemic, but include the following:
 - WBCA Fundraiser was held Friday, February 7th at The Dan'l Webster Inn & Spa
 - Coffee Social with representatives from the Prudential Committee scheduled for Saturday, March 14th was cancelled
 - Annual Spaghetti Supper scheduled for Saturday, April 4th at our Fire Station was cancelled
 - May 19th General Membership Meeting was cancelled
 - Flag Day Ceremony was virtual and video available June 14th (See Calendar of Events on the WBCA Website)
 - Barnstable-West Barnstable 4th of July Parade in Barnstable Village was cancelled
 - Annual Village Festival scheduled for Saturday, August 15th was cancelled
 - Annual Village Tree Lighting and caroling was held outdoors Sunday, December 6th at the Village Green
 - Publishing and mailing our *Cornerstone* Newsletter Spring and Summer/Fall would not be possible without the generous support of the Cape Cod Cooperative Bank and Sunderland Printing
- ❖ We identify and engage town and state officials in the exchange of ideas with the goal of promoting open forums aimed at influencing decisions and the discussion of matters of importance that affect our village and the town as a whole:
 - Board meetings were held the first Tuesday of each month at the Community Building until April, when it became necessary to switch to Zoom meetings. Matters of importance to the village were discussed. We learn about issues directly from the Town through our Precinct's Town Councilor Kris Clark, or as they develop.
 - The WBCA was fully engaged with the town's civic associations concerning a change to the zoning code for Short-Term Rental that would have a material effect on the character of our village, neighborhoods, and quality of life in our homes. The proposed zoning change allowed the use of properties as a business in zoning districts that permit single-family residential dwellings, including zoning districts where zoning does not permit owners to rent a single bedroom. The proposal was withdrawn by the Town Council in October and will be up for discussion at a future date.
 - The Town Council authorized \$169,266.00 from its Community Preservation Funds for the costs associated with the preservation, rehabilitation, and restoration of West Barnstable's Community Building on Meetinghouse Way.
 - Councilor Kris Clark informed the Directors at its February 4th Board meeting that the Town of Barnstable was exploring opportunities for new well sites throughout the Town for use by the Hyannis Water Department - including West Barnstable's future, potential well authorized by the legislature for West Barnstable use. The Town, however, has ownership of the land.
 - The Dan'l Webster Inn & Spa Fundraiser was held Friday, February 7th. 15% of food and beverage for the day amounted to \$362.00!
 - In lieu of a fundraising event, the WBCA Educational Scholarship Committee opted for a GoFundMe Page to accept donations. Nearly \$2,000 was raised. Chair Jane Manzelli and her committee reviewed applications, interviewed remotely, and awarded three Scholarships to Will Cogswell attending Penn State University, State College, PA; Kaleigh O'Donnell-Birch attending Quinnipiac University, Hamden, CT; and Owen Sullivan attending Lasell University, Newton, MA.
 - Plans were underway for Barnstable-West Barnstable 4th of July Parade and Festivities with funding from last year's successful drive that raised over \$5,000. These funds will be set aside for use next year when large public events are permitted.
 - Thanks to a generous donation from Bridge Creek Capital, we were able to fund a redesign of the www.westbarnstable.org website. You can keep up with the Calendar of Events, learn more about what we do, purchase WB merchandise, and renew your membership!

- o Rose DeCosta and Nate Mayo from Vineyard Wind joined the June Zoom Board of Directors meeting to share their plan and answer questions concerning the path their power line would follow from its wind turbines to its connection at the West Barnstable substation on Oak Street.
- o The Mercy Otis Warren Cape Cod Woman of the Year Selection Committee in partnership with the Barnstable County Commissioners selected the WBCA nominee, Marion “Mimi” McConnell of Cotuit, as the winner of the 19th Annual Mercy Otis Warren Cape Cod Woman of the Year.
- o Through donations the WBCA Board continued to support the 2020 Celebration Committee (BHS After Prom Party), the Cape Cod and Islands Major Crisis Relief Fund, and the Mercy Otis Warren Woman of the Year Award.
- o The scheduled project of restocking Mill Pond in April by the Division of Marine Fisheries was cancelled because of Covid-19 restrictions. We remain hopeful that the second stocking of 500 adult fish will resume in April 2021.
- o Funds are still needed to build a playground at Barnstable-West Barnstable Elementary School. We encourage the Town’s support of this endeavor.
- o The WBCA supported this year’s COASTSWEEP at Sandy Neck in October encouraging residents to help out. Trash bags and gloves were provided.

❖ Highlights at our General Meetings:

- o Following the election of officers and board members, the January 21st General Meeting included brief updates from Precinct 11 Councillor Kris Clark and State Senator Julian Cyr. Featured Guest speakers were (1) Shannon Hulst, Deputy Director, Floodplain Specialist at the Cape Cod Cooperative, on the basics behind coastal flooding, sea-level rise and coastal erosion and (2) Erin Perry, Deputy Director, Cape Cod Commission, who introduced a new tool (Cape Cod Coastal Planner Live Demo lap-top exercise) that provides data/information on climate change hazards, the adaptation strategies and its implications for infrastructure and ecosystem impact to Cape Cod’s coastline.
- o Due to Covid-19 public meeting restrictions, the May 19th General Membership Meeting at the Community Building was cancelled.
- o The October 20th General Membership *Meet the Candidates Night* was virtual. We honored State Representative Randy Hunt with a small gift and thanked him for his service. Senator Julian Cyr acknowledged Representative Hunt’s mentorship, competence, and bipartisanship. State Representative candidates Steve Xiarhos of West Barnstable and James Dever of Sandwich introduced themselves, presented a brief description of their platforms, and engaged in a question and answer session.

❖ The WBCA appreciates our ongoing dialogue with Town officials and the WB Fire Department on a number of projects, including:

- o The approved funding for the upkeep of the Community Building, its landscaping, lighting, drainage and the greatly improved parking provisions for the Community Building, playground and adjacent ball field.
- o The ongoing maintenance/upkeep to the Community Building (painting, new historically accurate windows, hanging of large wreath for the holidays).

❖ With your support, we will continue our advocacy and commitment to our village and:

- o Continue our collaboration with Judge Joseph Reardon in his role as Trustee of the Lombard Trust.
- o Fund and award scholarships to college bound students who reside in West Barnstable.
- o Produce and fund printing of the *Cornerstone* Newsletter to West Barnstable residents, and to cover the cost of Association insurance.
- o Keep members informed of activities and issues vital to the village through postings on our website (www.westbarnstable.org), through email notifications, and the *Cornerstone* Newsletters.

We welcome your support and participation! Please join today!

WBCA Membership Application

Calendar Year 2021

Membership to the Association is open to all voters, residents, and taxpayers of West Barnstable, as defined by the boundaries of the West Barnstable Fire District or 02668 ZIP. Associate membership is available to non-residents.

Please return your application and check to:

West Barnstable Civic Association

P.O. Box 243, West Barnstable, MA 02668

Or by **PayPal** at the www.westbarnstable.org membership website.

\$15—Individual 2021 Membership Dues

Member _____

Associate Member (nonresident) _____

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Telephone: _____ E-Mail : _____