



West River Homeowners Association Inc.

Grand Island, New York



Summer Newsletter

AUGUST 7, 2019

West River...A place we all call HOME

President's Message:

The WRHOA has been very active in the past few years and we have tried to share information through email blasts sent to all residents for whom we have an address. Now that things have settled down a bit, the Board has agreed that future correspondence will be sent only to paid members unless there is an emergency that we feel needs the attention of all West River residents. If you are asked about this by a neighbor, please encourage them to contact Colleen Martin to register as a member and pay their fees so they are kept in the loop. In the meantime, if you are a paid member, you will receive the newsletter, email blasts, and invitations to all neighborhood WRHOA events.

In a continuing effort to work with the NYS Parks Department, we have met with the regional director, the local park manager, and the public relations officer several times. The grass cutting has happened as a result of our efforts and the recent support of the Town of Grand Island board members. Funding for the mowing has, however, meant that the clearing of brush, dead trees, and invasive species has been curtailed for much of this year. Future discussions will include the development of a plan where the residents of the West River can assist with the maintenance of the median and with the beautification of the area surrounding the path in front of our homes. We have invited Mark Mistretta to be our speaker at our annual meeting so everyone can hear about the landscape plan he wants to develop for the riverfront and the opportunity we have to become an organization that coordinates our efforts with the Parks Department so we can coexist and enjoy the benefits of our beautiful neighborhood. Please see the attached form so you can submit your questions. We want Mr. Mistretta to address our concerns in a thoughtful way and providing your questions in advance of the meeting will assist in that effort.

WRHOA would like to thank all those who contributed funds for the hiring of the attorney as we attempted to clarify the issue of the bike path and the closing of the parkway. We received the final reconciliation from the attorney this quarter. His report includes a discussion of the possible legal actions that might have been taken had we had the support of our local representatives in State government or that of our entire Town Board. He reviewed case law but determined that because of the absence of sufficient factual or legal basis for a claim, we would find it difficult to change the direction of the political powers in the Town and State and there was not sufficient financial support available to continue the action. He does feel that our efforts contributed to the delay of the project and a renewed interest on the part of the State Parks Department to recognize the

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necessity of working with the residents along the pathway. According to the attorney's report, he not only was paid for a portion of his efforts, but he contributed many additional hours to the effort. Despite the expense, the WRHOA has maintained its financial stability and we have not incurred any debt as a result of our actions. Once again, we wish to send a BIG thank you to those who contributed to the effort.

The Board meets every other month and continues to conduct business throughout the months through email. If you have questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at jjc1945@roadrunner.com. The passage of a new Master Plan for Grand Island will provide several opportunities for discussion about what people think the Island should look like in the future. The West River is a major residential area and any plans for waterfront development, development of commercial or manufacturing areas near us, or increase in housing and loss of vegetation on the Island will impact us and the value of our homes. We need to be part of the planning for the future. We are in need of residents to represent our neighborhood at Town Board and Advisory Board meetings. If you are interested in becoming more active in the public affairs of our town and want to help us with oversight of issues that would impact the West River, please contact me. As always, thanks for your support of the organization and for your assistance as we attempt to keep our neighborhood the place to be on Grand Island!

June Justice Crawford



Father's Day Lawn Mower Race: The show must go on....Although a wet and rainy season, the Father's Day lawn mower race still brought out true diehards that race their souped-up mowers! Thanks to the WRHOA members that showed support by volunteering and that attended as spectators.

2019 Directors

June Crawford	860-1445
Colleen Martin	775-5963
Frank Greco	773-1170
John Vogel	773-7324
Laura Prusinski	775-0005
Marilyn Mazza	773-9282
Meg Pietras	773-3747
Reg Schopp	773-1029
Richard Garlapow	773-2623
Rose Bugman	773-1862
Sandy Nelson	773-3930
Sharon Watkinson	773-6113

Parkway Grass & Dock Permit updates; As you have been aware the Parkway grass cutting has been revisited in late spring. Grass cutting of the parkway and median will be 80% cut and 20% meadow. However, we are in hopes they will continue to keep cutting, at least to meet the 12 times before the year is over. 50 Dock permits were issued this summer. Whether or not all 50 were actually installed, they did allow 50! Dock permit holders had to work with and appease the State and other Gov't with dock regulation and compliance. We did not receive much bad feedback from dock permit holders, besides trying to obtain permission or access the trail with a vehicle to install their docks. We are in hopes they will permit vehicles at the end of the boating season, to remove docks efficiently and in timely manner.



Join us for our 35th Annual Membership Dinner and Meeting

Sunday September 22, 2019

Ellden's Grill & Banquet at River Oaks Golf Club

201 Whitehaven Rd, Grand Island, NY 14072

6:00PM Cocktails (cash bar)

Complimentary hors d'oeuvres courtesy of:

West River Homeowners' Association

6:45PM Dinner will be served

RSVP with payment by Monday Sept. 15, 2019

RSVP form on page 3

Special Guest Speaker: Mark Mistretta

Western District Director New York State Parks

Topics of Discussion: Maintenance of Trail and Dock permits

Q&A with Mark (use RSVP form to write your questions)

Please be advised: Members must attend the dinner in order to participate in our meeting

Nominations for Directors for 2020-2022

If you would like to be nominated as a WRHOA Director, or know someone that would like to serve the association, please let us know and we will contact them and add the name our Nominee List.

Membership Renewal: (pg. 4) Thank you for your loyalty and participation with the Association. It is members like you that made this association a long term success. It's approaching the time of year to *RENEW* your membership. Memberships expire on December 31st. Your renewal form is enclosed. Please submit it along with your membership dues, the Dinner meeting RSVP slip and payment for meal.

Volunteer...Young or young at heart, is a great way to **NETWORK** with your association and your neighbors! Be part of WRHOA by volunteering and serve on a Volunteer Committee: By Volunteering, you get to network with a vast majority of people and experience new places. We are appreciative of volunteers that can set aside a few hours per month (as needed). Such Committees As: ** Mail Committee ** Membership Committee** Parkway Committee** Tourist Home Committee**Events Committee

West River Homeowners' Association
Come Celebrate Our 35th Anniversary

Annual Membership Dinner & Meeting

Sunday, September 22, 2019

Ellden's Grill @ River Oaks Restaurant, 201 Whitehaven Road, Grand Island, NY

6:00 PM Cocktails (cash bar)

Complimentary hors d'oeuvres courtesy of West River Homeowners' Association

6:45 PM Dinner

Special Guest Speaker – *Mark Mistretta*– Western District Director
New York State Parks

Short Meeting immediately following presentation

****Members must participate for the dinner in order to participate for the meeting****

MENU SELECTIONS:

Porterhouse Pork Chop with Bourbon Glaze

Panko Chicken Breast

Grilled Faroe Island Salmon

Choose from one of the following

\$30.00 **(A)**

\$26.00 **(B)**

\$30.00 **(C)**

Dinners include house salad, vegetable, potato, rolls and butter, coffee, tea and complimentary birthday cake.

Tax and gratuity are included in the price.

Lapsed membership renewals welcome. If you are not a current member for 2019, please add your dues for the year 2019 to your dinner reservation.

Dues are \$10 per year or \$25 for three years per household.

Dinner for members (non-members add \$10 to the above cost)

By Reservation Only

Please return this reservation no later than Monday, September 16, 2019

Enclose your check payable to W.R.H.O.A. and mail to:

Marilyn Mazza – 3819 West River Road – Grand Island, NY 14072

Name: _____ (A) (B) (C)
Name: _____ |_____| |_____| |_____|
Address: _____
Phone Number: _____

Membership Renewal: \$ _____

Dinner Payment: \$ _____

Total Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

Submit questions for Mark Mistretta regarding: *(please print clearly)*

1: Parkway/Maintenance: _____

2: Permits: Dock / Hunters: _____

3: Other: Misc.: _____

West River Homeowners Assoc., Inc.

Membership c/o Colleen Martin
3611 West River Road
Grand Island NY 14072



WRHOA MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL/NEW MEMBER MAIL BACK FORM

Dear West River Area Homeowner:

If your membership has either expired or you have never joined our Association, please fill out the membership form below and mail back to address on form. **NOTE: Membership expires on December 31st.**

A paid membership entitles you to be a voting member of WRHOA. You will receive four newsletters per year, be invited to a summer activity and a fall dinner meeting. Membership assists you in getting to know your neighbors and sustaining a sense of pride, cooperation, and safety along the West River. You will have the full cooperation of the organization and its 12-member board of directors to address individual concerns or problems that may arise. Our concerns are many and include West River dock permits, river bank brush clearing, parkway grass cutting and trash pickup, overlook maintenance, auto speed control, snowmobile activities, duck hunters, bikers, rollerbladers, picnickers, horseback riders, and walkers using the parkway. Living here is a great investment and a great way of life. Join us in keeping residents of the West River and its immediate neighborhoods safe and comfortable. Join us! Our annual dues are \$10 per family per year or \$25 for a three year membership. If you have never joined or are a new resident, we invite you to join free-of-charge for one year. Membership questions? Email: collmartin@yahoo.com;

Membership Form

WEST RIVER HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC.

"Promote and protect the welfare and interests of West River homeowners"

Name: _____ Spouse: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

E-mail: _____

Comments/Suggestions: _____

Date: _____ Member since _____

☐ I am a NEW member and I understand the first one year membership is free.

☐ I am enclosing my check for \$10 for one year membership.

OR

☐ I am enclosing my check for \$25 for three year membership

Make check payable to West River Homeowners Association, Inc. and mail to:

Colleen Martin
WRHOA Membership Chairperson
3811 West River Road
Grand Island, NY 14072