

**Baldwin Civic Association
General Body Meeting
February 11, 2021
Via zoom**

The meeting opened at 7:34 by President Darien Ward.

Officer Reports

- Recording Secretary
 - Marguerite Keller sent out the minutes and asked they be adopted.
- Corresponding Secretary
 - Samantha Cools uploads the minutes onto the website and will email link in the monthly newsletter.
 - Any information that needs to be posted to the different social media accounts, just send her way and she will post.
- Treasurer Report
 - Treasurer Steven Greenfield reported that 2020 was a grim year, a year of deficits in the BCA budget. Budgeted for 2020 was income of a little over \$9,000 but only Membership was able to bring in a little over \$2,000. Expenses managed to stay close to budget. There were expanded activities on the website. Constant Contact was used more so more was spent than budgeted. Most of the committees could not function. BCA still has \$15489.56 cash on hand. 2021 Budget proposed anticipates \$3,000 in dues, 2 fundraisers and that would generate \$8200 in revenue which would keep us close to budget expenses. Funds were allocated to committees and if fundraising does better, it will bring in more money.
 - Treasurer moves to adopt budget. Kim seconds along with Claudia.
 - Rodney asked for a small amount of funds be allocated to Quality of Life.
 - Treasurer will add funds.
 - President Darien Ward asks if there are any objections to the budget passing. All on zoom gave the “thumbs up” approval with no nays.
 - Budget carries.
- President/Vice President Report
 - DRI: President Darien Ward emailed David Ashton. They have not come up with a strategic plan for the 15 projects submitted. It’s very disappointing. A timeline had been presented. They have not followed the timeline. Next step may be to have all participants ask Assemblywoman Judy Griffin to step in on their behalf with the Empire State Development.
 - Darien spoke with Franky Jorge who shares the title of President of the Baldwin Chamber. He is looking to make changes, help businesses and expand their presence up north to make Baldwin more business friendly. Franky had seen the Main Street Alliance and was intrigued. He would like to have more collaborative events.
 - Executive Order 203 Nassau County Police Dept: Reforms for the police department. There were community meetings that the community did not know about. There have been proposals presented.

Standing and Adhoc Committee Reports

- Economic Development
 - Economic Development Chair: Darien introduced Willy Zambrano as the new Chairperson. Willy gave a brief introduction to the members.
 - Willy told the members that they held a meeting to focus on bringing the Split the Bill back and will report back with more information.
 - Willy asked if anyone is interested in joining the committee, they will have a meeting on the first Wednesday of the month at 7:00. His email is Willy@Zambranoarchitects.com.
- Government Liaison
 - Karen Montalbano reported that she continues to work with the Main Street Alliance and will continue to push out information on services. If anyone is interested in more information, reach out to Karen.
 - Executive Order 203 was discussed and conversations are taking place, information is being reviewed and she is trying to get an appointment with Nassau County.
- Beautification
 - Elissa and Matt have been working on letters to be presented to the legislature for approvals for the food trucks set for April 23rd. Food trucks will be at the community garden parking lot. People can bring chairs. She is looking to add in local artists and wrap up the summer with the Oktoberfest. All pending pandemic.
 - Beautification/Earth Day: sending out information about “it starts in your own front yard” about people adopting blocks to clean.
 - Waiting to hear back on plant sale.
 - Diana Mann asked if something is happening with the Baldwin Harbor Club and Darien explained the BCA cannot do anything with that space as the BCA does not have authorization.
- Fundraising
 - Steve Greenfield spoke about the fundraising idea, he is trying to recruit 25 BCA members who would agree to raise \$100 or \$150 selling baked goods, skills, or other ideas sometime in the spring to help raise funds. If anyone is interested to please reach out to Steve. His email is Sgreenfield04@gmail.com
 - Elissa asked about doing a raffle.
 - Vice President Kimberly Malone spoke about doing a Popcorn fundraiser where multiple organizers leverage the power of social media to get enough people to participate. She hopes to do this in March. More to come.
 - Rob and Kim spoke about an idea to have people share on social media what they love about Baldwin in the hopes that people would join.
 - Sheree Lindsay spoke about the PTA looking to do the same fundraiser as the popcorn fundraiser and Darien said for that conversation to take place offline.
- Membership/Website

- Rob Weisser reported that last year we ended with 106 paid members, which is the highest so far. He explained that people can go to the website and pay with a subscription so that every year, your credit card is automatically billed.
- Trifold is being worked on. He is happy for people to give him ideas on what should be included.
- Sara Hill asked if there is any way to get an alert when membership dues are due. Sammy is working on Constant Contact to set that up so people will get a happy anniversary and a thank you for the membership dues.
- Quality of Life
 - Rodney Levi reported that last time we spoke he talked about doing a Best Practices of Baldwin. He said the next day a poll will be presented to the Executive Board to get it on to social media for people to take the poll and what they think are the best practices. Then when poll is over, he will look at the results.
 - All complaints have been handled. Any complaints should be emailed to QOL at: BaldwinCivicQOL@gmail.com.
 - Rodney is trying to be proactive and try to promote a better QOL to everyone so less complaints. The marketing campaign on QOL issues in Baldwin can be put out to the town, being repetitive and getting people to talk.

New Business

- Sam Cools spoke about Facebook Fundraising where virtual events can take place and people can pay to see or participate. 100% of the proceeds goes to the organization. Example would be a cooking class and people pay to watch and learn.
- Darien reported that the Chamber reached out to him about the Honor Our Vets banners. He sent back a counter proposal to do lawn signs so they can be used multiple times. Chamber has not gotten back yet.
- Claudia Rotondo announced that the Coalition is co-sponsoring yarn bombing workshops via zoom in April. You can learn how to knit a piece to give to the Library to yarn bomb.
- Sara reported that the first workshop was well attended. She will probably engage the youth from the 3D Community Center and on April 11th, they will wrap yarn around the bike racks. There are multiple opportunities for all levels.
- If anyone is interested, go to the Baldwin Library website to sign up. There will be workshops on 2/17 & 2/24 for knitting and 3/3 & 3/10 for crochet. When you sign up you can come pick up a bag of 3 skeins of yarn, knitting needles and crochet hook.
- Helena Hillian asked about a sign to be put up by the train station to let people know what is happening in Baldwin. Darien explained that the Chamber has been trying to get this funded through the DRI
- Kevin Cain had an idea about fundraising. He owns a brewery in Farmingdale and if the local bars sell the “Baldwin Beer”, a percentage raised will go towards BCA.

- The new members of the BCA who were present on the zoom introduced themselves.

Since no other announcements and nothing new to add, President Darien Ward asked for a motion to end the meeting. Motion to adjourn was made by Claudia and Marguerite seconded. Meeting adjourned at 8:47.