



ANNUAL NEWSLETTER

April 2017

Message from the Mayor and Council

It's that time again, where we all anticipate the "start of the season" and the weather is changing in our favor. The fall and winter of 2016/2017 was a welcome mild one and we really didn't see significant storm issues throughout the town.

We have several interesting developments to report that are very positive toward our long term resiliency and flood issues:

- 1) The Mispillion harbor work being directed by DNREC and financed by Hurricane Sandy money has raised the north/south section of the breakwater by over 3 feet and closed the breach where it segued into the north end of town. A lot of rock and sand were brought in and the initial results seem very positive. We are seeing less flooding on Lighthouse road, less flooding on route 36 and a lessening of water pushing up the Mispillion and Cedar Creek during those nasty Nor'easters.
- 2) The breach closure at Fowler beach has been completed and the results seem to be as anticipated. Primehook marsh appears to be holding less water which allows for absorption of flood waters when we do get the bigger storms and extreme tidal activities. This keeps Slaughter Beach Road from flooding in the manner we were seeing prior to the breach closure.
- 3) The town purchased a significant amount of beach grass which we planted in many areas along the beach in late March. This was a volunteer effort and has significant impact on beach sand retention, especially south of the firehall where it was most needed.
- 4) Our partnership with DNREC continues to pay dividends. Please refer to the Resiliency Community Partnership note below.

We're pleased to report that our Code Enforcement Official and Floodplain Manager, Bob Clendaniel, passed a rigorous

exam to become a Certified Floodplain Manager. Bob joins a highly selective group of professionals and we are exceptionally proud of him! We believe that only two other towns in Delaware have a CFM on staff. Bob has been instrumental in resolving all FEMA compliance issues and we know that his new title will be of great benefit in any future dealings with FEMA. Thank you Bob for all of your hard work on behalf of the town and for agreeing to take on this challenge!

We would also like to thank Amy Parker for her many contributions to the Town. Amy served our town as Mayor, Vice Mayor, Treasurer, and most recently as Councilperson-at-large. Unfortunately, she resigned from the Town Council this past year after she and Pres sold their properties and moved to Milton. Thank you Amy and we wish you and Pres much happiness in your new home.

Fortunately for the town, we enlisted the services of Ken Lewis to fill Amy's seat on the Council. Ken is a fulltime resident and is recently retired from the State of Pennsylvania. We're very fortunate that Ken agreed to serve with us and we are grateful for his many contributions to date! Welcome Ken!

We'd also like to thank the many volunteers and staff that contribute to the welfare of the Town.

We encourage all residents to provide the Town office with an accurate email address. The Town employs email as a vehicle to keep our residents informed about emergency notifications, to get real-time safety information to residents before, during and after a storm event, or to disseminate information about town events. Please sign up at slaughterbeachsignup@comcast.net.

Please be aware that the Delaware Emergency Notification System (DENS) is a State-wide system designed to notify Delaware residents of an emergency in their area. The Sussex County Emergency Operations Center, along with the Delaware Emergency Management Agency, encourages residents who exclusively use mobile telephones to

Page 2

register their numbers in this state-wide database. To register your mobile telephone or VOIP phone, log onto <http://public.coderedweb.com/CNE/BF1D885328BF>. We also encourage local residents to tune into DELDOT's radio notification system at 1380 AM for current State-wide storm and traffic conditions.

Resilient Community Partnership – DNREC and The Town of Slaughter Beach entered into a partnership last year to work on long term resiliency issues after the Town was awarded a Grant from DNREC for this purpose. We have had many committee meetings, some focus group meetings and two general town hall meetings on this topic. We plan on one more "general conclusion" meeting this summer with the community at large. So far we are anticipating several positive outcomes, including:

- Continued pressure on state and federal agencies for support of beach replenishment,
- Expanding 1380 AM reception throughout the town,
- Live flood monitoring systems with the support of DELDOT,
- Live signage at the intersection of 36 and highway 1 that informs when Route 36 is flooded ahead,
- Live signage at the intersection of Slaughter Beach Road and highway 1 that informs when Slaughter Beach Road is flooded ahead.
- Possible live cameras located so that DELDOT may monitor bay levels and relate in real time that data to road flooding.
- University of Delaware flood monitoring sensors. UD installed over 20 monitors throughout the town to assist in predicting flood issues in storm and flood event conditions.

It has been a very positive experience for the town council to see a consortium of agencies all working together on these issues. DNREC, DELDOT, USGS, UD and the town have all pooled resources and knowledge to move this program forward.

July 4th Regatta – The Slaughter Beach Sail Club is holding its 9th annual Regatta on Tuesday, July 4th at

3:00 PM. It will be held between Maryland and West Virginia Avenues, and both access roads are available to put your boat in if you don't bring it in by water.

Yard Sale – The annual Memorial Day town yard sale is scheduled for Friday, May 26th through Monday, May 29, 2017. The event will be advertised in a local newspaper and on the Town website.

Annual Large Item Pickup – Large Item Pick-up is scheduled for Tuesday, May 30, 2017. Place items next to your regular trash. Any items containing refrigerant (refrigerators, freezers, A/Cs) must bear an official tag stating that the refrigerant has been removed.

DuPont Nature Center (DNC) – The Nature Center is a wonderful place to visit, especially with children or grandchildren. Saturday, May 20th they will host the 8th Annual Peace, Love and Horseshoe Crab Festival from 10 AM to 3 PM. Mark your calendars for some fun! You can sign up to volunteer by calling (302) 422-1329. Starting on May 1st until September 1st, DNC's regular operating hours are Tuesdays through Sundays from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM.

Delaware Nature Society (DNS) – DNS provides educational programs at the Marvel Salt Marsh Preserve to educate schoolchildren about the diverse environments and wildlife habitats in our town. The town is partnering with DNS to design and build a boardwalk and observation deck for these educational programs.

Council Meetings – We welcome and encourage all town residents to attend our Town Council meetings, held the 2nd Monday of every month at 7:00 PM on the 2nd floor of the Memorial Volunteer Fire Company. The access door is on the south side of the building. The Annual Town meeting will be held on Saturday, June 3rd at the fire hall at 12 noon.

Election Information – The Town Council seats held by Harry Ward and Bill Krause expire this year. Each seat is for a term of two years. If you are interested in running for office please file a Notice of Intent with accompanying affidavit that you meet the qualifications for office. This form must be filed at the town office located at 357 Bay Ave. Please request a form by either calling (302) 424-7659 or by emailing townofsllaughterbeach@comcast.net. The deadline for

Page 3

filing is June 2nd at 5:00 p.m. If more than one person files for each open seat, an election will take place on July 1st at the fire hall. Polls will be open from 8:00 AM to 12 noon.

Qualifications for office:

- be at least 21 years of age
- not have been convicted of a felony or crime of moral turpitude
- be a citizen of the United States as of July 2, 2017
- have been either domiciled in Slaughter Beach or a freeholder (property owner) in Slaughter Beach since January 1, 2017

Voter Qualifications:

Any person shall be qualified to vote who, on the date of the election:

- Is a United States citizen
- Is eighteen (18) years of age or older
- Has for not less than thirty (30) consecutive days preceding the date of the election, been either
 - (a) a freeholder in the town (defined as a natural person* who holds title to or a life estate, in and real property located within the Town boundaries)

OR

 - (b) has been domiciled in the Town (defined as physically residing in town and has his/her true, fixed, and permanent home and principal establishment in the town of Slaughter Beach)

*Please note that if property ownership is held by an LLC, corporation, or other similar artificial entity, the

property is not held by a “natural person” and individuals with an ownership interest in the LLC, corporation, or other similar entity would not qualify to vote as freeholders. However, those individuals might qualify to vote if they are domiciled in town.

The most recent Sussex County Property Tax records available as of May 1st shall be considered proof of address for all individuals identified in those records as Slaughter Beach property owners (FREEHOLDERS.) A Supplemental List of Property Owners will be created for those property owners not on the Sussex County Property Tax records who can provide the Town with proof of address. Both lists shall be available for review by Slaughter Beach property owners. Property owners may submit a request to the Town via telephone or electronic mail to ascertain whether or not they are listed on the Sussex County Property Tax records or the Supplemental List of Property Owners. All individuals will be required to provide proof of identity to vote OR personal recognition by a majority of election officers in the polling place can attest to a voter’s identity and address. Please refer to the Town website for additional information regarding voting and for a list of the documents that will serve to identify each voter.

Absentee Ballots:

Any individual wishing to vote by absentee ballot must request a ballot by filing an affidavit of qualifications with the Town no later than 12:00 PM (noon) June 30th. Absentee ballots may be requested through the town website, or by writing to the Town at 357 Bay Ave, Slaughter Beach, DE 19963-4909, or by telephone at (302) 424-7659, or by sending an email to townofslughterbeach@comcast.net. Individuals who have requested an absentee ballot will not be permitted to vote by machine on the day of the election.

Town Officials

<i>Mayor</i>	Harry Ward	(302) 422-0894	<i>Councilperson</i>	Ken Lewis	(302) 491-4156
<i>Vice Mayor</i>	Bill Krause	(610) 812-2306	<i>Tax Collector</i>	Angela Tibbitt	(302) 424-1127
<i>Secretary</i>	Bob Wood	(302) 228-2374	<i>Code Enforcement</i>	Bob Clendaniel	(302) 270-0687
<i>Treasurer</i>	Kathy Lock	(302) 422-5234	<i>Town Clerk</i>	Kathy McFadden	(302) 424-3925