

# BONNET SHORES NEWSLETTER



Summer 2015

A Publication of the Bonnet Shores Fire District Council

[www.bonnetshores.org](http://www.bonnetshores.org)

## Council Names New District Manager

The Fire District Council recently selected Charlestown resident Lisa A. DiBello to fill the position of District Manager, replacing Erin Rooney who served in that capacity for nearly seven years. The announcement comes after a lengthy and deliberative process spearheaded by a search



committee comprised of several Councilors and five members of the community at large.

DiBello, a New York native and graduate of the University of Rhode Island, brings a wealth of experience to her new position, having served as Director of Parks & Recreation for the town of

Charlestown for more than 22 years. She also served

two successive terms on the Charlestown Town Council between 2010 and 2014.

As she readies the beaches and the Community Center for the summer season, DiBello will be posting a fixed schedule of days each week when she will be available at the Center to meet residents and respond to their questions and concerns (see schedule on page 3). She can also be reached by dialing the office number at 789-4540.

In announcing DiBello's appointment, Council Chair Lenny Mercier commented that "Lisa was chosen for her expertise and came highly recommended for the job." He urges residents to stop in to the Community Center and to give Lisa a warm Bonnet welcome.

## More Than Just a Day at the Beach

After enduring a harsh and snowy winter in Bonnet, the good news is that our beaches will open for two weekends in June (13<sup>th</sup>/14<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>/21<sup>st</sup>) and then open daily beginning June 22<sup>nd</sup>. Here are a few items of interest regarding Kelly and Little beaches:

- Our neighbors at the Beach Club will again be cleaning Kelly Beach as they have in the past; however they've informed the District that the beach will not be raked on Tuesdays and Thursdays due to aging equipment. Please be tolerant of this situation.
- Remember that a Bonnet ordinance stipulates that no dogs are allowed on any of our beaches, day or night, between May 15<sup>th</sup> and September 15. Narragansett's Animal Control officers will be enforcing this rule –

your cooperation on this matter is very much appreciated.

- When dropping off beachgoers and unloading vehicles at Kelly Beach, please pull over so other vehicles can get by. And remember that there is no on-street parking on any streets in Bonnet Shores.
- Again this summer, a guard will be on duty on weekends at Kelly Beach ensuring that beachgoers are either a resident of Bonnet, a guest of a resident or a renter. The guard is  
*(Continued on page 2)*

### **Bonnet Shores Fire District Annual Meeting**

The Bonnet Shores Fire District Annual Meeting will be held June 25 at the Bonnet Shores Community Center, 130 Bonnet Shores Road. Check-in and ballot distribution will begin at 6:30 p.m. with the meeting following at 7:30 p.m. *Proxy votes must be given to the clerk prior to the clerk being seated at the start of the meeting.* Please see Page X for the list of candidates on the ballot.

Anyone needing transportation to the meeting should contact the District Manager at 789-4540 to make arrangements.

(Continued from Page 1) also helpful in controlling rowdy behavior and is able to respond in cases of emergency. Your patience is helping him / her do their job during busy weekends in July and August will help make “a day at the beach” better for all beachgoers.

A word of thanks goes out to Councilwoman Janice McClanahan and members of the Beach Committee – all volunteers – for their tireless work addressing issues related to our beaches. Anyone wishing to share their ideas or join the Committee should reach out to McClanahan or Lisa DiBello, District Manager.

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## ***A Letter From The Bonnet Shores Land Trust***

### ***WHO WE ARE...(a message from the trustees)***

Like you, we are Bonnet Shores residents who value the beauty and serenity of life in our community. And, like you, we want to make certain that our children and grandchildren have that same opportunity.

Bonnet Shores is rich in outstanding natural resources. Bounded by Narragansett Bay on two sides and facing Conanicut Island to the east, it offers spectacular views of the Atlantic Ocean and Narragansett Bay. With Wesquage Pond in its midst and open spaces in between, the existing natural features have collective value to residents.

By an act of the General Assembly of the State of Rhode Island in 1991, the Bonnet Shores Fire District Council was authorized to establish the **Bonnet Shores Land Trust**. The Land Trust has several missions, not the least of which is to preserve open space and to ensure continued access to water and water views by all Bonnet Shores residents. Since then over 50 parcels of land have been transferred to or acquired by the Land Trust.

When a property is transferred to the Land Trust, the donor is no longer responsible for town, Fire District taxes and liabilities. When the federal tax-deductible value is added, you can see that a donation to the Land Trust may well be a viable way for someone to handle property that may no longer be useful or fit into one’s future plans... while also benefiting everyone at Bonnet Shores.

You may also want to take advantage of the tax deductible status of Land Trust by making a cash contribution that will assist in pursuing our goals.

Visit our new informative web-site **Bonnetshoreslandtrust.org** - Log in and learn: About, Our Mission, Conserving Your Land By Donating, Land Trust Properties, Is Your Property In A Flood Zone, The Bonnet Shores Green Belt and Paper Roads, Land Trust Donors, and more!

You may be surprised at the extent of holdings that are protected as open space within the Bonnet Shores Green Belt (view this in our new website)... and consider how your contribution, large or small, could further our efforts and ensure the quality of life that is so much a part of Bonnet Shores.

Recently through the solicitation campaign by the Land Trust Trustees a donation of vacant land on Lot N/R 620 on Brooklyn Road, a “paper road,” was donated by the family of Edward J. Pascucci. This transfer was completed on 12/22/2014. As per the family's request, this donor information has now been added to the web-site's Land Trust Donors list. This family will forever be identified by a grateful community as someone very special.

### ***INTERESTED?***

Why not get in touch with us at: **info@bonnetshoreslandtrust.org**  
Thank You, Your Trustees

## ***Wesquage Pond Water Quality to be Monitored***

Through a collaborative arrangement with the University of Rhode Island, water samples will be taken from Wesquage Pond each week this summer and analyzed by staff in the university's Watershed Watch program. Jack Albert and Jay Zizza, both from Bonnet Shores and rising high school seniors at The Prout School and Bishop Hendricken High School, respectively, will be out on the pond weekly collecting samples that will be evaluated for clarity, temperature, contaminants and other criteria.

### ***New Land Trust Website Launched***

The Bonnet Shores Land Trust launched an informative new website in October, 2014. Under the creative direction of Trustee Brad Sellon, the site premiered with an overview of Land Trust activities and objectives while providing helpful guidance to those landowners interested in donating property to the Trust.

Go to [BonnetShoresFireDistrict.org/landtrust.html](http://BonnetShoresFireDistrict.org/landtrust.html) to learn more about Land trust activities and how they might benefit you.

According to Councilman Bill DelGizzo, who co-chairs the Fire District's Pond Committee, “as the Fire District Council maintains its focus on the health of the pond, results from this summer’s water quality monitoring will help inform discussions and the formulation of strategies that help preserve the sensitive ecosystem of the Wesquage watershed.” Look to future issues of the *Bonnet Shores Newsletter* for results of this year’s water quality testing.

## ***District Chairman's Message***

Summer will be a wonderful change after this past winter and the never ending snow and cold weather. Who knew how great it would be to see green grass again. Now that the grass is green looking forward to swimming in the warm water will be even better. Swimming, boating, fishing and sun bathing is what we all live for in Bonnet. That time of the year has arrived and let's enjoy it while it lasts.

I am happy to report that the beaches are ready, the harbor is filling up with boats and summer camp is ready for another great year. The security guards will be continuing at the beach and on evening patrols as this has proven to make a difference. Many thanks go to the security committee for monitoring this program, protecting our homes, areas and beaches, adding to the comforts we share.

The Social Committee did a great job this year planning social events that were well attended, bringing our community together. Look for upcoming social plans. Beautification continues around the district with flower barrels and other plantings under the hard work of the volunteers on the Beautification Committee. Bonnet Days is approaching with details in another article in this newsletter.

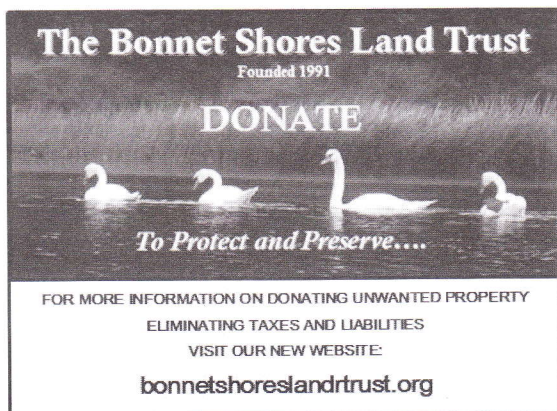
The Council is proud to be keeping our finances in line. When reviewing the approved budget please note that we have been able to maintain our expenses, with a minimal burden on the taxpayers, while keeping the services we need intact. Treasurer Mary McGinn is doing a great job with managing the funds.

Have you met the new District Manager, Lisa DiBello, who started the beginning of May. Lisa has been hard at work hiring lifeguards, camp counselors and others to run our programs for the summer. She brings great experience to our district. Stop in and give her a big welcome.

Bonnet Shores is full of wonderful people that volunteer their valuable time to keep us operating smoothly. A big thank you goes to these volunteers; Phil Smith continues working many hours operating the tractor, the Social Committee, Security Committee, Beach Committee, Pond Committee, Harbor Committee, Beautification Committee, Land Trust, Bylaw and Ordinance Committee, Bonnet Days Committee, Historical Committee, Traffic Calming Committee, Earth Day workers and the Council. Without these volunteers our district would never be what it is today. Again, it has been an honor to serve as Council Chair working with my fellow devoted Council Members. I encourage each of you to attend monthly Council meetings and get involved in committee work. Getting involved, meeting new friends, is all part of belonging. It is that belonging that makes our Bonnet Shores Fire District the best place on earth.

Now go out and enjoy the sun, go for a swim, fish and boat on the Bay. Summer is here!

**Lenny Mercier,**  
District Council Chair



## ***DISTRICT MANAGER SUMMER OFFICE HOURS***

District Manager Lisa DiBello will have regular office hours Monday through Thursday from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. at the Bonnet Shores Community Center.

Additional days and times are by appointment. Please call Lisa at the District Office at 789-4540 to set up an appointment or via email at [bonnetmgr@gmail.com](mailto:bonnetmgr@gmail.com).

## ***Bonnet Shores Community Center Available to Rent***

Rent the Bonnet Shores Community Center for your next party, meeting or event.

*For information or to check availability, please contact the District Manager at 789-4540 or via email: [bonnetmgr@gmail.com](mailto:bonnetmgr@gmail.com).*

### ***Bonnet Days 2015***

The ever-popular Bonnet Days event is back again and scheduled for Saturday, July 11<sup>th</sup>. Fire District Councilman Matthew Mannix, who has organized the all-volunteer effort for the past several years, urges residents to come out for the morning event and participate in either the 3-Mile "Run the Loop," "Walk the Loop" and Kids' Fun Runs. At the conclusion of the races and fun runs, there will be a late-morning cookout at the Bonnet Shores Community Center for the runners, walkers and Bonnet families.

Registration for runners (Run the Loop) and walkers (Walk the Loop) is \$25.

Registration for the Kids' Fun Runs is free. Kids' t-shirts are \$15. The first 100 registrants for the Walk the Loop & 3-Mile Run the Loop will receive a 2015 Bonnet Days t-shirt. Please join us for this fun Bonnet event. If you have questions, contact Mannix at 783-8027 or District Manager Lisa DiBello at 789-4540. Volunteers are welcome and needed, especially for the Kids' Fun Runs.

### ***Harbormaster Message***

Harbormaster Mike Totolani reminds boaters that all District mooring regulations must be followed (with prompt payment of mooring fees). Failure to follow any rules can result in the loss of mooring privileges. Boat registrations MUST match the name on the mooring & boat owners must supply a copy of their boat registration when paying mooring fees each year. Those under the age of 21 operating a vessel with a motor larger than 10 horsepower must be state certified. Anyone operating a personal watercraft (jet ski, wave runner) at any age, must be certified.

For further information please call (401) 333-7070 ([www.demri.gov](http://www.demri.gov)) or 783-0323 at [www.uscgaux.org](http://www.uscgaux.org).

For boat ramp access at the dock call Tortolani at 401-230-4813. All requests must be made at least 24 hours in advance of the requested time. Please limit calls to between 8am and 6pm except in the case of an emergency.

Harbormaster Mike Tortolani has vessel identification stickers for smaller boats (kayaks etc.) that are kept at Little Beach. The stickers have been provided by resident Donna Gunning, Flotilla Commander 7-8. These stickers will help boat owners to identify missing boats. Please call 401-230-4813 to request a sticker.

### ***Beach and Bus Schedule 2015***

Beaches open weekends beginning June 13 and will be open every day starting Monday, June 22. Bonnet Shores lifeguards are on duty at Kelly Beach Monday through Saturday, 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. and Sunday from 10:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. Little Beach will be staffed 7 days a week from noon – 5:00 p.m.

### ***Bonnet Day Camp***

The Bonnet Shores Summer Camp program will be held in (Two) 4 week sessions this summer. Session One will run from June 29-July 24 and Session Two from July 27-August 21. Both Sessions will run Monday-Friday from 9:00am-11:30am. Camp is open to Bonnet residents (and their guests) ages 5-14. Cost per session is \$100 per child. Daily cost per child is \$12. **PRE-REGISTRATION STRONGLY SUGGESTED.** Registration forms and additional camp information will be available at the Community Center and at [www.bonnetshores.org](http://www.bonnetshores.org) (after June 1). Please be sure to check the website for exciting new information about the camp program! The Day Camp is located at the Bonnet Shores Community Center, 130 Bonnet Shores Road.

The beach bus starts June 27 and runs through Labor Day, September 7, operating 1:00. – 5:00p.m. Saturdays and 1:00-5:30 p.m. on Sundays. No buses will run during inclement weather. *Please contact the District Manager at 789-4540 for the exact schedule and route.*

**SAVE THE DATE – Bonnet Holiday Party – Saturday, December 5<sup>th</sup> at Quonset "O" Club**  
Check [bonnetshores.org](http://bonnetshores.org) for details on this and other upcoming events

# DISTRICT BUSINESS 2015

## Fire District Nominating Committee Report

The Nominating Committee has submitted the following candidates for election at the June 28th annual meeting:

**Council Seats (2) Three-Year Terms** Janice McClanahan, Michael Vendetti  
**Land Trust (3) Three-Year Terms** Jean Albert, Nancy Cordy, David Stenmark

### Other Officers: One-Year Terms

**Treasurer:** Mary McGinn **Fire Wardens:** Donna Gunning, Denise McCooey, Natalie McDonald  
**Tax Collector:** Helen Patience **Tax Assessors:** Judy Colarulli, Roz Thomas, Maryanne Vine  
**Clerk:** Carole Duffy **Annual Meeting Moderator:** Ray LaBelle

## Bonnet Shores Resident Contact Information - ALERTS

In an effort to better serve you, to proactively inform our residents regarding important matters, and to enable the district to contact you in an emergency.

Please complete the following information and return to  
BSFD, 130 Bonnet Shores Rd, Narragansett, RI 02882,

Or include with your tax bill or send to [information@bonnetshores.org](mailto:information@bonnetshores.org).  
Your cooperation is appreciated.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Bonnet Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Contact phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact email: \_\_\_\_\_

## Yard Waste at Community Center

The yard waste dumpster is available on scheduled Saturdays at the Community Center from 7:30-10:30 a.m.

**The dumpster is for organic waste materials only**

The dumpster schedule for the remainder of 2014 is as follows: June 13 & 27, July 18 & 25, August 8 & 22, September 5.



## Bonnet Shores Neighborhood Yard Sale

The Bonnet Shores Community-wide Yard Sale will be held on Saturday, July 18th from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. - The event will be held RAIN OR SHINE.

The District Manager will advertise the event in local newspapers. Copies of maps listing yard sale locations in Bonnet Shores will be available at the Community Center. Anyone who wants their address on the map must contact the District Manager at 789-4540 no later than July 11th.

## Trash & Recycling Reminder



Trash and recycling is picked up on Wednesdays. Make sure containers are curbside by Tuesday night. Trash carts must be placed 3 feet away from other containers. If you need a new bin or cart please contact the District Manager at 789-4540.

## Bulky Trash Day Scheduled For July 22 in Bonnet

Oversized trash items will be picked up curbside on Wednesday, July 22. Please leave these items curbside by 6:00 a.m. that day. **Items that may not be disposed of are: refrigerators, air conditioners, car batteries, freezers, large appliances, televisions, dehumidifiers, building materials, construction debris, paint cans, oil cans, hazardous waste, lumber, computers & monitors.** Anyone wishing to discard a prohibited item or for additional information should contact Patriot Disposal directly at 401-647-3176.

Visit the BSFD website [www.bonnetshores.org](http://www.bonnetshores.org) for the latest in community news and events- Sign up for BSFD email notifications and stay informed!

# 2014-2015 Operating Budget &

## Bonnet Shores Fire District Profit & Loss Budget Overview May 2015 through April 2016

BSFD Bank Account Balances April 30, 2015

	<u>May '15 - Apr 16</u>
<b>Ordinary Income/Expense</b>	
<b>Income</b>	
Tax Revenue	256,175
Prior Yr Surplus (Deficit)	11,401
Rental Registration Fees (Net)	750
Hall Rental Fees	3,000
Hall Rental Fees-Cleaning (Net)	(750)
Interest Earned - Bank Accts	100
Newsletter Advertising	2,000
Permits/Plans Fees	200
Website Advertising	50
<b>Total Income</b>	<u>272,926</u>
<b>Gross Profit</b>	<u>272,926</u>
<b>Expense</b>	
<b>Administrative Expense</b>	
Administrative Postage	147
Advertising Expense	100
Annual Meeting Expense	2,000
Council Discretionary Expense	300
Insurance	6,850
Land Trust Operating Alloc'n	2,500
Historical Committee Expenses	200
Legal Fees	2,000
Monthly Meeting Expense	50
Newsletter Editor Comp	350
Newsletter Postage & Printing	3,000
Office Supplies	2,500
Payroll Services	450
Security	4,600
Tax Collection Costs	2,800
<b>Total Administrative Expense</b>	<u>27,847</u>
<b>Beach Expense</b>	
Beach Bus	5,000
Beach Raking & Maintenance	6,500
Beach Salaries	20,393
Beach Guard	2,800
Beach Supplies	600
<b>Total Beach Expense</b>	<u>35,293</u>
<b>Day Camp (Income) Expense</b>	
Camp Proceeds	(11,500)
Camp Salaries	10,500
Camp Supplies	1,000
<b>Total Day Camp (Income) Expense</b>	<u>0</u>
<b>Harbor (Income) Expense</b>	
Mooring Fees	(10,050)
Mooring Wait List Fees	(100)
Ramp Fees	(800)
Harbor Supplies & Maintenance	1,250
Harbormaster Expense Reimb.	4,400
Harbor Fund Tfr Designated Acct	3,500
<b>Total Harbor (Income) Expense</b>	<u>(1,800)</u>
<b>Admin Compensation &amp; Taxes</b>	
Manager's Salary	35,000
Clerk	3,750
Tax Collector	5,000
Treasurer	4,250
Payroll taxes	4,500
<b>Total Admin Compensation &amp; Taxes</b>	<u>52,500</u>
<b>Property Expense</b>	
Beautification	500

General Operating Fund Balances:			\$
Checking Account			4,284
Money Market Account			64,121
			68,405
Designated Fund Balances:			
Community Center Renovation			3
Social Activities			2,734
Bonnet Daze (Summer Camp Activities)			642
Community Ctr Equipment Replacement			3,030
Playground			6,602
Capital			24,323
Historical Committee			3,179
Land Trust			5,595
Harbor Improvement			<u>27,871</u>
			73,979
<b>Total Fund Balances</b>			<u>142,384</u>

## Bonnet Shores Fire District Profit & Loss Budget Overview May 2015 through April 2016

	<u>May '15 - Apr 16</u>
Electricity	2,000
Maintenance	1,500
Natural Gas	3,000
Pond	600
Telephone & Internet	2,000
Water	350
<b>Total Property Expense</b>	<u>9,950</u>
<b>Public Works</b>	
Clear Breachway	5,000
Equip. & Tools Maintenance	400
Landscaping	7,000
Public Works Salaries	3,900
Sanitation	130,000
Snow Removal	500
<b>Total Public Works</b>	<u>146,800</u>
<b>Total Expense</b>	<u>270,590</u>
<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>	2,336
<b>Other Income/Expense</b>	
<b>Other Expense</b>	
<b>Capital Expenditure</b>	
Appropriation from Harbor	(3,000)
Appropriation from Capital Acct	(9,164)
Capital Improvement	14,500
<b>Total Capital Expenditure</b>	<u>2,336</u>
<b>Total Other Expense</b>	<u>2,336</u>
<b>Net Other Income</b>	<u>(2,336)</u>
<b>Net Income</b>	<u>0</u>



**BONNET SHORES FIRE DISTRICT 2015 ANNUAL MEETING**

*Thursday, June 25 at 7:30 pm*

*(Voter Registration & Check-In Starts at 6:30 pm)*

**BONNET SHORES COMMUNITY CENTER**

130 Bonnet Shores Rd., Narragansett, Rhode Island

**AGENDA**

- I. Call to Order by District Moderator
  - A. Pledge of Allegiance
  - B. Reflection on Deceased Members of the Fire District
- II. Proper Notice and Quorum Attested to by the Clerk
- III. Ratification of 2014 Annual Meeting Minutes
- IV. Report of Nominating Committee
  - A. Council Candidates
  - B. Land Trust Candidates
  - C. Other Candidates for Fire District Officers
  - D. Nominations from the Floor
  - E. Introductions of Candidates (candidate remarks)
- V. Nomination of Taxpayers to Serve on Nominating Committee
- VI. VOTE BY BALLOT for District Officers and Nominating Committee Members
- VII. Report of the Tax Collector
- VIII. Report of the Treasurer
- IX. Pursuant to the Fire District's By-Laws, Vote to Approve Rates of Compensation for the following elected officials: (1) Tax Collector, (2) Clerk, (3) Treasurer
- X. Vote on Allocation to the BSFD Land Trust, pursuant to Land Trust Charter
- XI. State of the District by District Council Chairman
- XII. Old Business
- XIII. New Business
- XIV. Election Results
- XV. Adjournment

*Individuals requesting interpreter services for the hearing impaired must contact the Fire District Manager at least three (3) business days before the Annual Meeting date.*



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