

MESSAGE FROM RANDY

Dear Members:

The contracts are signed!
Our plan to repair the rock armor is ready to go.
Read about it in more detail later
in this newsletter.

As we move from a challenging summer to an equally challenging fall and winter, I want to thank everyone for having been flexible with our programming. We:

- Held the Beach Cleanup, although it was more limited in scope than we had hoped. Our thanks to Danie Kinkade for chairing the event for the third year.
- Unfortunately had to cancel the Wheeler Lecture. In addition to the Annual Meeting of

Members, the Wheeler Lecture is a time for us to gather and socialize. It is always edifying to learn about the environmental issues facing Quissett. We had been looking forward to hearing Dr. Robert Max Holmes talk about “A River-Centric View of our Changing Planet,” and we thank him for his willingness to join us. And we thank Laura Morse for her work in coordinating this effort.

- Discovered the world of Zoom. See the story in this newsletter detailing how we held our Annual Meeting of Members virtually on June 27.

As I mentioned during the Annual Meeting, we will have to draw on our reserve fund to accomplish

the rock-armor work. At some point in the future, we will need to rebuild that fund and will seek your support at that time.

For now, like our families, neighbors and friends across the country and the world, we continue to adjust to this new reality, helping each other and looking forward to the day when we can gather more freely.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I wish you all a safe fall/winter season.

Sincerely,

Randy Evans, President



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QUISSETT HARBOR PRESERVATION TRUST

UPDATE ON HABITAT CONSERVATION & MANAGEMENT ROCK-ARMOR PROJECT TO BEGIN IN JANUARY

We are pleased to announce that the contracts have been signed to conduct the work of repairing the rock armor, and all permits and approvals have been obtained. Two contractors are involved. Briggs Landscaping and Construction will do the repair while Crawford Land Management will handle erosion control and the path-widening needed to bring in the equipment. The rock-armor project scope includes remediation of the Northwest Wedge, the Dumpstone Wedge and approximately 111 feet of the Causeway. Erosion control will take place in the area adjacent to the Inner Harbor steps. "The rock armor was first placed on the Knob in 1918 at the direction of Stephen Carey, Jr.," said Dana Rodin, QHPT Board Member who is part of the team managing the project. "The long, low part, or revetment, and Knob Promontory were repaired by his daughter, Cornelia Carey, in late 1973, just before her death, and later by us in 2004–2005. We are at it again in 2020–2021."

The equipment arrived on site October 19, and the widening of the access road began shortly after. Major work could begin as early as December but will definitely be underway in January. The total cost of the project is approximately \$1.1 million. We raised half of that amount through our capital campaign and are taking the other half from our reserve fund. This will all but deplete the reserve, reducing it to \$200,000.

Our partners, Salt Pond Areas Bird Sanctuaries and Quissett Harbor House Land Trust, will place signs to warn visitors which trails are open (but to proceed with caution as there are exposed rocks and sloped terrain) and which trails are closed, with construction access only.

Look for the signs to know where it is safe to tread.



Equipment arrives for rock-armor work.

The rock armor was first placed on the Knob in 1918.



FAMILIES AND TEENS TURN OUT FOR BEACH CLEANUP

Notwithstanding the pandemic, QHPT pressed forward with the work of preserving Quissett Harbor, holding our 10th Annual Harbor and Beach Cleanup on Saturday, June 20.

It was a sunny, breezy day, and 23 people, including families and teens, came out to clean up the beaches on the Harbor side and Buzzards Bay as well as the area along the sea wall, the path of the Knob and both parking lots. The crew, of course, practiced social distancing and were unfortunately not able to share in the event's traditional refreshments. But they filled their buckets with bottles, cans, plastic fishing line and even some fencing wire.

"We spent a lot of time planning how to have the cleanup while staying safe," said Danie Kinkade, who chaired the event. "Although we had hoped to have social activities for families and young people, the pandemic didn't allow for that. However, we were delighted to see families and teens attend this year and look forward to expanding the social events next year."

Thanks to everyone for coming out, and many thanks to Kate Davis, who assisted with debris removal from the site.



Thanks to our volunteers for helping out. Seated Meredith Kinkade; back l-r Kate Davis, Danie Kinkade, Annie Burleigh and Sarah Casey.



Our youngest cleanup volunteer, Jack Hirst, 18 months, with Mom, Annie Evans Hirst.

Traditionally, the Annual Meeting is the first social event of the summer in Quissett. Willett Hall has a long history of entertaining families as many stayed in the old Harbor House when it was a hotel in the early-to-middle part of the 20th century. "My great grandparents took my father to Quissett in the 1930s and stayed at the Harbor House," Randy Evans said. "And my parents took us there. Every family had a table in the dining room."

So it was perhaps not a surprise that Randy, as President of Quissett Harbor Preservation Trust, wanted to bring some of that tradition to the very untraditional 2020 Annual Meeting on June 27. He stationed himself in front of the fireplace in Willett Hall, filling one of the 34 computer screens, many showing multiple individuals, that made up the virtual gathering.

The social part of the meeting was first. A brief and cheery update revealed how people had spent the winter, whose daughter was now in college, which lucky family had a new grandchild. In short, it wasn't all that different from what would have taken place in person, except attendees had to provide their own cocktails!

During the business-meeting component, Randy thanked everyone who had participated in the June Beach Cleanup, expressed appreciation to retiring Board Member Todd Bourell and welcomed new Board Member Lisa Bernstein. Dana Rodin gave an update on the rock-armor project, details of which you will find in a separate article in this newsletter.

"We all missed the opportunity to be together in person," Randy said. "But we still managed to connect with one another over our love and stewardship of the area."