

WVS Annual Meeting 10/1/2021 at 7pm

Held via Zoom:

Present are : Lee and Doreen Tepper, Erin Brazill, Bill Knapp, Gary Quinton, Robert Finnell, Derek Di Orio, Thad Van Bueren, Rock Bush, Janelle Steele and Jay Hibler

1. Call to order – Bill @ 7 PM
2. Welcome and meeting protocol – Erin

Meeting norms presented by Erin Brazill and accepted:

- Step up/tep back, share the air, contribute and listen
- One person speaks at a time, please try to not interrupt
- Especially with Zoom meetings: please try to look up before speaking, you might miss a non-verbal signal
- Please mute when you are not speaking if it is a larger group
- Please assume best intentions, we are all on the same team and working for the same ultimate goals
- Try to be “hard on content, soft on people”
- Does anyone have any time restrictions?
- We will take a 5 minute break after an hour and please do not talk about content during the break.
- Also, anyone can call a break at any time for any important reason
- Review of how to raise hand using Zoom animation (or using a real hand signal works as well)

Introduction of Board Members and others present at the meeting

Bob Finnell suggested we move election results up sooner in the agenda (accepted)

3. Doreen Tepper Presented the election results. Candidates for the board (Rock Bush-Treasurer, Gary Quinton-Board Member) won by a landslide! (26 members voted via mail-in ballot)

4. Review of past year activities and a preview of coming year (Bill Knapp)

We are not sure if we are going to be able to do our usual WVS events per Covid.

Headlands and Community Garden are doing well. Bee pollination garden as well.

a) General Overview and Thoughts on the Future – Bill Knapp

We are motivated to preserve the headlands. Started as a grassroots organization.

People have asked us to look into local infrastructure such as water management.

b) Headlands Activity over the last 12 months

- Invasive Plant Remediation – Thad Van Bueren

Last year we started a remediation of the invasive species plant removal effort.

Thad Van Bueren shared a map of the invasive species and photos of the headlands work efforts. Thanks were given to all volunteers. One last workday will occur October 15th, then workdays will subside for the winter.

a) • Bee Garden – Dorine Tepper

A pollination garden was planted on the headlands through a bee pollination project. There is an idea of doing a fountain in the bee garden in order to attract bees.

b) • Maintenance – Gary Quinton

No problems with maintenance. Jim Korhummel passed away, but a new person is going to do it.

Thad Van Bueren thanked Gary Quinton for all his hard work on the headlands.

Rock Bush: Some poles on the headlands need to be replaced and signs need to be painted.

Gary Quinton: can donate some redwood trees to replace the poles.

Bob Finnell: Paint on the highway instead of safety cones. We need a permanent solution.

Erin Brazill: Maybe we should commission a sign shop to paint signs. Where did the bench by the stairs go?

Thad Van Beuran: Paint might work on road to enforce fire lane-instead of cones-we need to talk about it as a sub-committee.

c) Community Garden Development over the last 12 months – Derek Di Orio

It is going well and getting much admiration and enjoyment from the community.

Derek showed photos from the last year and shared the amazing progress of the community garden.

Bob Finnell suggested that we have a special line for donations to the community garden.

Rock Bush: Can we organize a work party to build a better gate for the garden?

The team took a 5 minute break.

5. Year end financial report – Rock Bush

Rock Bush shared the financial report for the WVS (please see financial report).

Rob Finnell: We need to look at insurance costs and make sure it makes sense-are we using the most cost effective insurance for our needs?

6. Open discussion about WVS activities and priorities – Lead by Bill Knapp

- a) Signature events and fundraisers – what would the community like to see?
- b) Headlands – for the community, for the general public, how to move forward?
- c) Impact on community well being and daily life – what could Westport 2030 look like?

Bob Finnell: Next Board meeting we should look at the upcoming vision. Take a look at the top three goals.

Dorine: Good to have goals, but also good to hear what the community wants. Various organizations should look at a joint goal in the community.

Rock: Outreach to recruit new members should be increased

Bill Knapp: Concept of fundraising has shifted-less about making money, more about community involvement.

A discussion ensued about fundraising/volunteer opportunities

Quarterly Board Business meeting at 6:30 on Oct 27, 2021

7. Adjourn – Bill Knapp at 8:50 pm