

Presidents Letter 04 26 2010

Linden Shore District

As standing president of The Linden District I am excited about the future of the district as we enter the second decade of the new century. We stand at the juncture of some projects that will combine technologies, both new and old, that will bring us into the future while preserving the past. First off the repair of the masonry jetty known as Mefferts Pier is scheduled to start in the coming months. The DEP permitting is in place, a contractor has been selected and the final details of the pier itself are being finalized. The permitting and applications were a lengthy process, spearheaded primarily by past president Jim Goggins. The application was delayed in part by the DEP's requirement to survey and record all of the District's waterfront property, from seawalls to swim ropes. Many of the features of our lovely shoreline that we so enjoy were required to have special permits from the DEP before the final permit was to be issued, as well as their requirement of a few repairs to existing non-compliant items such as the dislodged rip rap (stones) and the minor adjustment of the boat ramp at Montgomery Beach. That work has been completed, all the unpermitted items of the district have been approved and the final work permit for Mefferts has been issued. As a result of the DEP's requirements, the District now has a very detailed and graphic survey of its property that will be very helpful in the future for any additional work along the waterfront, and we can rest easy that the many special features we take for granted, such as the ladders, retaining walls, swim lines, rafts etc are fully compliant and in good standing with the DEP and shall remain in place to be used by future generations of the Linden District members. The actual repair of Mefferts Pier involves taking out all of the loose and unsecured base stones and enlarging and replacing the piers 'foundation' with much larger and fitted blocks of Stony Creek granite. We have worked hard at selecting a local contractor who will do 90% of the work from a barge with minimal disruption to the flow of traffic along Linden Avenue itself. The result will be a much stronger and longer lasting structure that should do its job of protecting the sandy areas of Montowese Beach well into the next millennium, while giving members a safe and attractive place to fish, sun bathe or use simply to enjoy the unique views it provides as it stretches out 100 feet into Long Island Sound.

While the above mentioned scope of work is basically a 'brick and mortar' project, using traditional materials and old fashioned work methods, the second item I would like to bring to your attention is the development of a more user friendly, interactive web site for the District (lindenshoredistrict.com). It is the intent of the updated website to provide a more readily accessible location to share the Linden Shores District's current information, meeting minutes and other announcements. Along with this it is hoped that the website will provide users with up to date weather/tide conditions, water temperature and other links that should provide useful information to all district members. We are excited about this new website, believing it can evolve into an exciting place to not only record and provide members with the more mundane tasks associated with running the district, but also give people a place to share pictures, announcements, and other resources for members to enjoy. The Board feels that having a more accessible and consolidated website is the best way to give the past, present and future inhabitants of this special place an opportunity to enjoy and share in its history and uniqueness while providing a database for future members use.

There were many more routine items discussed among the board members this past year; the increased awareness of preserving the beauty and privacy of the district, the success of the new doggie stations, the installation of new kayak storage racks, the vital repointing of some of the seawalls, routine landscaping issues...the list goes on. But I think primarily the biggest feeling among the current board members and officers is that The Linden District is a very beautiful, unique and special place that requires our attention and vigilance, the use of old and new technologies and just plain and simple appreciation to give back to it the things we all enjoy and benefit from as we walk, run and drive along its precious shores. Thank you and I look forward to more interaction with all the members in the

coming year.

Anthony Thompson

President: Linden Shores District