

Rocky Point Civic Association

General Membership Meeting Minutes

Monday, April 6, 2026 • 7:00 PM • VFW Hall, King Rd

Opening

- The meeting was called to order and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by a moment of silence.

Roll Call

The following officers were recorded:

Name	Title	Status
Jennifer Hald	President	Present
Thomas Buttacavoli	Vice President / Acting Secretary	Present
Dean Gandlely	Treasurer	Present
Tina Bogart	Sergeant-at-Arms	Present
Kathy Weber	Membership Secretary	Excused
Leah Buttacavoli	Trustee	Present
Alicia Palifka	Trustee	Present
Quentin Palifka	Trustee	Present

- Quorum was established.

Approval of Minutes

- A motion was made to approve the minutes for January, February, and March 2026, as quorum had not been established at the March meeting and the February minutes approval had been tabled.
- Motion seconded. Motion carried.

Officers' Reports

Treasurer's Report - Dean Gandlely

- Current M&T Bank balance: \$8,628.05.
- Deposits made since the last report (covering January and February activity):
 - \$250 in checks (memberships and planters)
 - \$100 in cash (memberships and one planter)
 - February 2: \$15 deposit (memberships); \$420, \$550, and \$420 cash deposits (planter and membership funds from Kathy Weber)
- Spring flowers (tulips) have been ordered through Landcraft; delivery is scheduled for the last week of May; payment of \$39 per planter is due at time of delivery.
 - 20 planters at \$39 each; total estimated: \$780 plus any applicable tax
 - Tax-exempt status to be clarified; Treasurer will review past Landcraft invoices

- Action: Officers to provide Treasurer with a planter list showing amounts paid, current deficit, and projected needs for the remainder of the year.

Website & Online Dues

- RockyPointCivic.com is live and operational.
- Members can pay dues or sign up for membership directly on the site; a prominent banner button is displayed at the top of the homepage.
- The association is seeking photos and community content to build out the site as a community portal.
- PayPal and Venmo are now active for electronic payments.

Membership Report

- No membership count available for this meeting; the Membership Secretary's spreadsheet was not on hand.
- Active member totals will be reported at the May meeting.
- All board members have paid their dues as of this meeting.

Old Business

Bypass Sign Project

- The project has moved past the grant stage and is now in the permitting and insurance phase.
- As of the Tuesday prior to this meeting, the permit was resubmitted in the correct name: Town of Brookhaven.
- Sign design has been revised: the original concept included trellising and local business references, which were not permitted. The sign may only read "Welcome to Rocky Point" and optionally "Historic Community."
- A new sketch may be required to reflect the simplified design; President Hald will follow up with the relevant contacts.
- Existing adjacent signs (e.g., Rotary) were not permitted on state DOT land; their disposition is to be determined by the state.

E-Bikes / Rails to Trails

- Information was posted to the community earlier in the week and generated significant discussion.
- The association is working to invite legislators to participate in a public forum so residents can get clear, consistent information.
- Forum date is to be determined.

Organizational Banner

- The association's new table banner arrived. It is visually strong and ready for use at events such as the farmer's market and Rocky Point Day.
- A small nick/fray was noted; the vendor will be contacted about a replacement.

Beautification / Garden Club

- The Garden Club will take a gap year in 2026 and will not hold the garden tour this season.
- The planter project continues as planned and is not affected by the pause.

Farmer's Market

- Emory's Farm is confirmed to return this season.
- The market will continue on Sundays, 2:00-10:00 PM, opening the Sunday after Memorial Day and running through October.
- Vendor fee remains \$20 per Sunday.

- A motion was made and carried to adopt a new vendor commitment structure:
 - Vendors must commit to a minimum of five Sundays
 - Vendors must pay in advance electronically (PayPal or Venmo) rather than cash on the day
- A town board resolution will be needed to authorize the market; the next town board meetings are April 16 and the first week of May, providing time ahead of the late-May opening.
- Action: Compile market details for submission to the town board by the next general meeting.
- Advertising improvements discussed, including:
 - Flyers at local churches (St. Anthony, Trinity, St. Anselm) and school faculty rooms - suggested by member Susan Winter
 - Signage packages placed around the bypass on market days
 - Promotion via RockyPointCivic.com and social media
- Live music is planned for each week of the market; interested musicians (including students and youth groups) are encouraged to reach out.
- All legal vendors are welcome; food vendors must meet applicable NYS and Suffolk County DHS requirements. No homemade alcohol may be sold; commercial winery/vineyard tastings are permitted.
- A few vendors from last season have already confirmed their return; nonprofit tables are also welcome.

Volunteer Recognition - Egg Hunt

- Member Violet was recognized for representing the Civic Association at the recent Easter egg hunt, staffing the association's table solo for the full duration of the event despite cold and windy conditions.
- The board extended its appreciation to Violet for her dedication.

Reports from Legislators' Office

- Senior Health Seminar - Longwood Library, April 27, 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM:
 - Health screenings, nonprofit organizations, county veterans services agency, and an audiologist on site
- Prom Dress Program - Dress for Success / Women's Services, 2nd Floor, Town Hall:
 - Free prom dresses, fittings, and accessories; appointments available through approximately mid-June; all appointments kept confidential
- Great Brookhaven Cleanup - May 16:
 - Sign up with the Recycling and Sustainable Materials Management Department, 3rd Floor, Town Hall
 - Free shirts, pickers, supplies, and garbage bags provided to participants
- Special Recycling Event - May 31, Rose Caracappa (Mount Sinai), 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM:
 - Accepts banker-sized box of paper (shredded on site), cardboard, electronics, and old medications (collected by the Sheriff's Department)
- Annual Health Fair - May 16, 2nd Floor Auditorium, Town Hall:
 - Free for residents; vendor tables available for \$75
- Free mulch is available at approximately 15 town sites including Rose Caracappa, Town Hall (Holtzville), and the Ruppert Center.
- Arbor Day event at Town Hall: free saplings available in a variety of species; the town is also planting 250 trees around Brookhaven as part of the 250th anniversary celebration.
- FIOS update: the town has made an announcement regarding FIOS availability; details were circulated; residents were encouraged to respond by April 25.

New Business

Historical Society

- Monthly meeting: Thursday, same location, 7:00 PM. Presentation: "The British Port at the Manor of St. George" by re-enactor Bob Winowich (3rd Regiment).
- Country Dance: Friday, April 17, 7:00 PM, North Shore Beach Clubhouse. 18th century-style dancing; music and calling by Chart Guthrie. \$25 per person; coffee and dessert served. Pay via QR code or at the door.
- History Hunt (Long Island-wide, beginning in May): Hallock House is one of 24 participating sites. Attendees visit sites, take selfies, scan QR codes, and collect discounts and prize entries.

North Shore Beach Property Owners Association

- Still accepting new members; early bird membership special has been extended.

Library Budget Vote - April 14

- Vote takes place at the library on April 14; absentee ballot requests must be submitted approximately one week in advance.
- Proposed budget includes a \$12 per household increase - the first increase in five years, necessitated by expiring staff contracts.
- One trustee is running unopposed; biographical information was distributed at the meeting.

250th Anniversary - County / Arbor Day

- The county is distributing free trees as part of a "Planting It Forward" initiative for the 250th anniversary. Trees can be registered with the County Clerk; a QR code was available at the meeting.
- Free July 3rd concert at Ball Hill featuring Greg Young; tickets are free and will be released soon.

VFW Post - 4th of July Block Party

- VFW Post officers Stephanie and Virgie presented plans for a 4th of July community block party as part of the 250th anniversary celebration.
- Proposed scope: Close Broadway from Route 25A to King Road (and portions of Prince) for a full community event; approximately 2,500 attendees anticipated.
- The VFW Post is the only post in New York State with its own museum; an extension of the museum is set to open next month.
- Entertainment and event elements under consideration:
 - Drone show (fireworks are unavailable as venues are fully booked)
 - Stage with entertainment; food trucks; vendor booths; possible colonial reenactment component
 - Outreach underway to the PTA, CERC at the high school, and local businesses
- Volunteers are needed for a safety committee, emcee role, and general support. Anyone interested should contact Stephanie or Virgie directly (business cards available).
- The Civic Association offered to assist with permitting guidance, publicity, and connections to other organizations.
- Action: President Hald to contact Jane Bonner's office regarding permitting feasibility and logistics for closing Broadway.
- Farmer's market vendors from last season were invited to participate as event vendors.

Girl Scouts - Birthday Smiles Drive

- Member Violet announced that the annual Birthday Smiles Drive will be discussed in full at the May meeting.
- Younger Girl Scouts are preparing to take over the initiative as Violet approaches graduation.

Recognition - Kathy Weber

- Kathy Weber was honored by the Town of Brookhaven for her volunteer contributions through the Civic Association; the commendation was facilitated by Legislator Jane Bonner.

- A ceremony was held recently, attended by Kathy, her daughter, and two members of the Historical Society.
- The recognition was featured in The Beacon newspaper.
- Action: Obtain a copy of the photograph for posting on RockyPointCivic.com.

Artemis Mission

- A member requested that the minutes reflect that the Artemis crew is currently traveling around the moon, marking a significant milestone for the United States and for humanity. The association extends congratulations and wishes the crew a safe return.

Adjournment

- A motion to adjourn was made and seconded by Quentin Palifka.
- Meeting adjourned at 8:01 PM.

Respectfully submitted by:

Thomas Buttacavoli

Vice President / Acting Secretary, Rocky Point Civic Association