

Dear Wee Wah Beach Club Members and Friends,

We are writing to you at this time because there are some very important changes to the operation of the beach being proposed by the mayor and a committee he appointed this summer.

Essentially, the Mayor is looking to approve a third party management company and a new fee structure which, if approved, the WWBC believes will substantially increase the cost to join and substantially decrease the services being provided. Moreover, if passed, it will fundamentally change the WWBC mission and structure which has been in operation for over 80 years.

These changes are supposed to be voted on by the Village Board on Wednesday, November 17 despite the fact that we, the WWBC executive committee, were only informed of this plan two days ago. In an open letter to the WWBC Executive Committee published on the Village website, the mayor asked us for our comments yet gave us less than 4 days to respond. Here are some facts we want you all to be aware of:

1. In the spring, when the mayor first mentioned a co-management plan, we were told there would be a committee, headed by deputy mayor Tinka Shaw, to discuss the plan. The WWBC Executive Board met at that time to decide on which board members would join or meet with the mayor's committee and what our priorities were. We never heard anything back from the Village about the status of this committee, despite our having made numerous requests to meet with the committee.
2. Subsequently, in July, the Village formed another committee called the Wee Wah Park and Lake Committee. Denise Tavani was selected as its chair and the Village asked for other residents willing to participate. We know of at least three Village residents who are also members of the WWBC who volunteered to join yet never heard back. Instead, the two committee members selected by the mayor are not members of the WWBC and never reached out to the WWBC to engage in any conversation or to understand how the WWBC operates the beach.
3. At Village Board meetings held on August 18th and on October 25th Marc Citrin, who is a WWBC executive board member, offered to attend the Wee Wah Park and Lake Committee meetings. Neither Mr. Citrin nor any other member of the WWBC board was informed about or invited to participate in any such meetings.
4. Having been excluded from any co-management meetings the WWBC sent the Village Trustees a proposed draft of a license agreement in October for the 2022 season, as we are required to do as per our current license agreement.
5. When we received the mayor's letter on November 13th it said that the Village committee had done comparative research on three pool management companies and decided to recommend the proposal from NYS Pool Management to the trustees for their approval. A copy of their proposal was not forwarded to us at the time and, in fact, we had to file a FOIL request to get a copy late in the day on Monday. It has given us little time to comment and/or prepare a full comparison to the Board of Trustees.

Attached are the original letter we received from the mayor and the WWBC position statement that was sent to the Board of Trustees in response. We would greatly appreciate your support and input you are willing to provide. We encourage you to attend Wednesday's BOT meeting, either in person or via Zoom. If that is not possible, please consider sending an email. Thank you in advance for your continued support!

Wee Wah Beach Club Executive Board