

2019 Candidate Biographies

Bob Ackerman- At Large

I am a retiree from Northern NJ where I pursued a career in audio and video combinations for over 30 years, primarily heading up a production company I'd founded. My wife, Kathleen, and I settled in RBYCC in a home on Kingsbridge Road in January 2013. Many might know me as the inveterate walker seen traveling through our neighborhood's streets on a regular basis. As such, I have a great interest in maintaining the beautiful landscapes, well cared for homes, and friendliness of our community. Ours is a special place unlike the cookie cutter communities that abound in Sussex County. If I'm elected to the Board, I will work towards maintaining and enhancing our rich heritage.

I respectfully submit my nomination.

John Bator- At Large

I've had the pleasure of serving on the RBYCC POA Board of Directors since 2017 as an at-large member, and I am seeking re-election for a second term. During my first term I served on a committee tasked with negotiating a contract with a "preferred" trash and recycling provider for our community, with the goal of reducing fees and the number of trucks traveling our roads. We successfully accomplished this with Waste Industries, and I am proud of the committee's work in providing a valuable resource to RBYCC.

I purchased my home on Surrey Road in 2008 and spend most weekends throughout the year there with my partner Brian and our dog Ginger. We live and work in the DC area where we currently spend the majority of our time, but plan to retire to our beloved Rehoboth Beach as soon as we are able. In the meantime, I work in the corporate marketing department at Verisign. I spend my free time working in my yards, playing tennis and volleyball, and serving on the board of my community civic association in Virginia as secretary, transitioning soon to treasurer, in addition to serving on the RBYCC board.

For many reasons, I believe that RBYCC is one of the most desirable communities in the entire beach area. Besides its close proximity to the beach, the bay, and countless amenities, what I love most about our community is the diversity. The diversity of people, lifestyles, full-timers and part-timers, opinions, tastes, landscaping and architecture. I wish to continue serving on our board, especially during this pivotal time as we work to establish a new set of restrictive covenants, to help ensure our community retains its unique diversity while remaining one of the most desirable places for all of us to live for years to come.

Sheryl Bender- At Large

3 Sheffield Road

My name is Sheryl Bender and I have owned in RBYCC for the past 12 years. As of June, 2016, we have made Rehoboth Beach our full-time residence. I was born and lived in New Jersey most of my life; having gone to colleges in Washington, DC and NJ. Two years ago, after 31 years in my career, I retired from being a Special Education teacher and a K-12 School Counselor.

I was a Board Member of The Crystal Woods townhouse community for 2 years, where my wife Doreen and I lived our last 25 years in NJ.

For my next chapter, I earned my license as a Licensed Professional Counselor of Mental Health, in both New Jersey and Delaware. I am now working part-time as a therapist in an Elementary School in Georgetown, DE.

Some of my interests are traveling, photography, spending time with friends and our new puppy Sadie. I have learned to appreciate and respect our community and know it is the right time to help "give back" to it. Please allow me the opportunity to do so.

John Cikota- President

John Cikota has Served as President of the RBYCC POA for the past two years and a Board member for four additional years. Prior to that, he served as a Board member of the Lake Louise Horizontal Property Regime #7 in Crofton, Maryland for six years and as its President for three years.

Mr. Cikota is a retired Transportation Executive from the US Department of Transportation, Federal Railroad Administration. He holds a Master's Degree in Finance and Investments from George Washington University and an undergraduate degree in Accounting from Creighton University.

Mr. Cikota served in the US Army, is married to Kathy, has two grown children and one grandchild. He and his wife have lived in the RBYCC POA since 2007.

John believes in giving back to the community is important and he drives for and supports Meals On Wheels.

"I believe that we have a joint interest and a collective responsibility to follow and adhere to our covenants. The value of our homes and our community demands that everyone show respect for their neighbors and abide by our Covenants and restrictions. I am confident that you will help your Board of Directors in this effort as we fo forward."

Arlyce Dubbin- At Large

Arlyce Dubbin retired from the federal government after 38 years of service. She has served on the RBYCC board for 2 years and was instrumental in establishing the preferred provider waste management agreement. She has her master in Health Care Administration from George Washington University. And, she is an advocate for a strong and healthy RBYCC community.

Eddie Engles- At Large

Eddie has served the board for the last two years as an at large member and has chaired our covenant committee that has laid the strategy and communications with the community to sort out the covenant situation for 2021 and 2025. He is a business executive with operations and strategy consulting expertise and would like to continue to give of his time and talents for the years to come. He will strive to continue to listen and serve this wonderful community and its traditions and standards of re-elected.

Ellan Hylton- Secretary

Ellan Hylton 132 Kingsbridge Road
Property Owner since 1997 Full or Part-time RBYCC Resident Since 2010

For the past year I volunteered to complete the final period of a Board Member at large vacancy. During my year on the Board, I assisted on the Trash Committee. Our work now permits POA members who use or switch to Waste Industries to save up to 50% on their quarterly refuse service. I also headed the

search for a new attorney to more effectively balance the challenges of nonprofit, small communities such as ours. I have been an active participant in reforming some of the past practices of the Building Approval Committee, with my focus being to develop a welcoming, user friendly, transparent and expedient process while maintaining our beautiful community. I believe our new process, which is in the final stages of development, will enhance property values and eliminate some of the unfortunate experiences I know some POA members have experienced.

I enjoy golfing (but acknowledge that my clubs, including the putter, are my biggest handicap), kayaking, taking bicycle rides along the beautiful trails in the area and walking my shelter dog Princessa (who just loves beach front walks in those months when dogs are allowed!)

In my pre-retirement life, I was an Administrative Appeals Judge with the Social Security Administration (SSA) after serving for many years in management roles with SSA. I also developed, managed, and addressed legal issues in real estate investment properties and mediated contract and relationship disputes.

I believe both my past and current experiences can assist the RBYCCPOA as we navigate the challenging period while we develop new covenants and build an outstanding community atmosphere.

Mark Lane- At Large

My name is Mark Lane and I am 68 years old. I grew up in Bethesda, Maryland . I went to school at Landon School in Bethesda. I then attended Washington and Lee University. After college, I taught school at St Albans and Maret in Washington DC. I have been a resident of Rehoboth Beach since 1978. In 1987 my wife Carolyn and I built our home in RBYCC and have lived there since. I owned Rehoboth Seafood and was in the retail and wholesale seafood business for forty years. For the past eight months I have worked on the Building Approval Committee for our development. This is a work in progress as we try to work a process with only 1981 covenants to follow. I am now running for a position on the RBYCC Board of Directors to both continue this work as well as make our development the best it can be.

Jim Mease- Treasurer

My name is James Q. Mease and I am running for RBYCC POA Treasurer.

I have been a member of the Board for five years and am currently serving as the Treasurer. My spouse Philip Vehslage and I have lived at 1 Sheffield road since 2010. I retired as a Department of the Army Civilian from the Department of Defense, Assistant Secretary of the Army for Financial management and Comptroller, Pentagon, Washington DC in January 2012 after 42 years with the Department of the Army and the Defense Finance and Accounting Service, of which 2&1/2 years were military service with the US Army. I served in numerous capacities both in the United States and overseas in Kuwait, Iraq and Afghanistan. I have a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration and an Associates Degree in Accounting. During my tenure on the board I have assisted in updating our covenants as well as assisting the Architectural Review Board and most recently serving as our Treasurer. I believe it is important to have a vibrant active homeowners association in order to preserve and enhance property owner values. I am asking for your support to allow me to continue as your Treasurer. I can be reached by phone @ 202-257-4644 or E-mail @ james.mease@verizon.net

Kenneth Reuter- At Large

I would be pleased to serve on the board of RBYCC. Here is a summary of my background:

- United States Navy – Vietnam Era
- USN Scientific Education Program
 - USNA
 - Multiple Technical Certs
- BS University of Delaware – Economics
- MBA Northeastern University – Int'l Finance
- Held all 'C' level positions with mostly Global Corporations
 - Alstom
 - Areva
 - TYCO
 - Siemens
- Currently CEO Resilience Energy LLC
- Past President of HOA – Chapelcroft, Wilmington, DE

I purchased my home on Surrey Road in 2013 and moved here permanently June 2017. My prior permanent residence in Wilmington's Augustine Ridge along with a resort home in Long Beach Island, NJ are also important residences of mine. RBYCC is a terrific community with most property owners taking pride in their homes to affect a thriving and beautiful residential development within the Rehoboth Beach metro-area. I would work on the board to insure momentum is continued to keep it that way and advance improvements where necessary. It would be my pleasure to serve the community.

Andy Staton- Vice President

My name is Andy Staton and I am running for vice president of the RBYCC POA. I moved to RBYCC in 2002. I love the community so much that after living in my first home for 16 years, I'm now building a new home right here in RBYCC.

I want what most homeowners want for their community: a safe and clean community that is well-kept with continued low HOA fees. To that end, my focus will be on responsible financial management and a new set of covenants that balances the community with individual property rights.

I have previously served the POA as President, Secretary, and Member at Large. I'm proud of the work that has been done in the POA, but there is more to be done. I have also served on numerous boards and commissions: Board Member of the YMCA, Advisory Council Member for Beebe Hospital, Chairman of the Delaware Real Estate Commission, Board Member of the Delaware Community Foundation, and Board Member of the Delaware Economical and Financial Council.

I hope to bring this experience and my time living in the community with me to the role of Vice President if elected.