

From: [Denice Kronau](#)
To: [Christopher Glowacki](#); [Jill Vieth](#); [Denice Kronau](#); [Jeremy Bloomer](#); [Joanna E. Roche](#); [Joseph Grause](#); [Peter McEachern](#); [Peter Schaeffer](#); [Stephen Maury](#)
Cc: [Mariya Basheva](#); [Brian Turbitt](#); [Libby Gibson](#)
Subject: Fw: Support for Proposed ATM Warrant Article 9 - Noise.
Date: Tuesday, January 17, 2023 11:45:18 AM

Dear FinCom,

FYI,

Denice

From: Peter Halle <peter@halle-lamm.com>
Sent: Monday, January 16, 2023 3:12 PM
To: Brian Turbitt <bturbitt@nantucket-ma.gov>
Cc: Denice Kronau <dkronau@nantucket-ma.gov>
Subject: Support for Proposed ATM Warrant Article 9 - Noise.

Dear FinCom Members:

I am a Summer Resident. I support Proposed Article 9. I hope the FinCom will too. The issue is whether Nantucket residents should be able to enjoy peace and quiet on their properties without having to shout at each other to be heard? Pool and HVAC equipment should make less noise than a normal conversation between humans. Article 9 brings that closer to reality.

Citizen Warrant Article 9 proposes the amendment of Nantucket Bylaw 101-2 (Noise), Section A. (1), by changing the distance from which noise from HVAC and Pool equipment is measured from 40' to 30'. Under the existing Bylaw, such equipment may not generate more than 55 dBA of sound pressure more than 40 feet from the source or property line. The 55 dBA requirement is unchanged by Article 9. But, Article 9 would provide that the measurement be made at a 30' distance. The result will be to lower HVAC and Pool Equipment noise on neighboring properties by at least 50%.

According to the US CDC, The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the World Health Organization (WHO) recommend maintaining environmental noises below 75 dBA to prevent noise-induced hearing loss. Pool and HVAC equipment operate around the

clock. ***The EPA specifies limits for speech interference and annoyance at 55 dBA for outdoors activities*** More details about this topic can be found on the NIOSH Science Blog — [Understanding Noise Exposure Limits: Occupational vs. General Environmental Noise](#).

Nantucket's current 55 dBA standard is consistent with national and international standards. The objective of the Amendment is to keep noise from HVAC and Pool equipment at or below 55dBA on neighboring properties.

A typical swimming pool pump is noisy, in the range of 65-90 decibels, almost as loud as riding in a subway car. This can be a detriment to a pool's outdoor pleasure. (Source: Noisypoolpump.com).

Pool pumps are by definition a potential problem because they are noisy enough to be a health hazard or a nuisance when in prolonged operation. **BUT, noise attenuates with distance.**

One can estimate how noise attenuates by using a standard sound attenuation calculator. Under the current Bylaw, a noisy (90 dBA) pool pump (at the top of the average noise spectrum) would produce 58.2 decibels of noise pressure 40' away. That is more than three decibels above the EPA standard for outdoor noise. Too noisy.

For reference, here are three calculations using a sound attenuation calculator showing how much noise a noisy unit will make on a neighbor's property under the existing 40' measurement rule, and the proposed 30' measurement rule:

To pass the 55 dBA standard at 30', a pool pump would have to be rated 84 dBA, or lower, only 6 dBA lower than the noisiest average pumps. A reduction of 6 dBA makes an 84 dBA pump more than 50% quieter than a 90 dBA pump, a significant reduction in noise. Every 3db decrease is the equivalent of a 50% reduction of the sound. "A 3 dB change yields a 100% increase in sound energy" (Source Logison.com)

Sound Attenuation Calculator **90** db at **40'** = 58.2 db

Sound Attenuation Calculator **90**db at **30'** = 60.8 db.

Sound Attenuation Calculator **84**db at **30'** = 54.8 db.

<https://www.wkcgroupp.com/tools-room/inverse-square-law-sound-calculator/>

To put this in perspective, think about noise levels in general, and where people put their (1) pool equipment and (2) HVAC condensers. Property owners tend to place this equipment where *they* experience the least noise from these sources, but often do not think about the next door neighbor.

This is problematic in most Nantucket Zoning Districts where side yard setbacks are 10' or less. Noise travels. Pool and HVAC equipment placed just inside the setback lines on one property will project noise on to the adjacent property. Consequently it is important that the noise be below 55 dBA 30 feet away so that equipment on one property is not an unhealthy nuisance on another.

Here is a noise chart that will help to translate decibel ratings into what you hear: . [https://audiology-](https://audiology-web.s3.amazonaws.com/migrated/NoiseChart_Poster-%208.5x11.pdf_5399b289427535.32730330.pdf)

[web.s3.amazonaws.com/migrated/NoiseChart_Poster-%208.5x11.pdf_5399b289427535.32730330.pdf](https://audiology-web.s3.amazonaws.com/migrated/NoiseChart_Poster-%208.5x11.pdf_5399b289427535.32730330.pdf)

60 db is the sound of a normal conversation.

80 db is the sound of traffic or a vacuum cleaner.

90 db is characterized as very loud, the sound of Lawnmowers , Power tools , Blenders , Hair dryers (and a very noisy pool pump).

Prolonged exposure to sound over 85 db either at one time, or cumulatively, can cause hearing damage.

An average home dishwasher is 60 db. The quietest machines on the market are 42 dBA. The sound of a quiet library.

The 55 dBA level is approximately half the level of a conversation so that you do not have to shout over the noise from a neighboring property to be heard! Quite reasonable.

Quiet equipment is readily available in the market, as are sound barriers.

The following video shows, quiet pool pumps are available.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k_GKilvXC_4.

The same is true of quiet HVAC units:

The Top 8 quietest central air conditioners

Variable Speed Model tend to be quietest

- Ruud EcoNet Ultra Series UA20 – 54 decibels
- Daikin Fit DX17VSS – 55 decibels
- Heil QuietComfort® Deluxe 19 HVA9 – 56 decibels
- Carrier Infinity 19VS 24VNA9 – 56 decibels

Two-stage models

- Goodman GSXC18 – 68 decibels
- Coleman AC19 – 68 decibels

Single-stage models

- Lennox Signature Series SL18XC1 – 65 decibels
- Heil QuietComfort 16 HSA6 Central Air Conditioner – 69 decibels

All of these, and others will easily pass the 55 dBA at 30' requirement.

Accordingly, I submit that the FinCom should recommend that the ATM adopt proposed Article 9. Great benefit at low cost.

Effective Date Issue

As submitted, Article 9 would be Effective immediately if adopted at the ATM. That might be amended to provide a phase in by requiring (1) that all new installations pass the 55 dBA at 30' standard, and (2) that within 6 months after a valid complaint, any existing installation not meeting the standard would need to have a sound barrier placed on the neighbor's (abutting land owner's) side of the offending unit to bring it into compliance until it is replaced by a compliant unit. Consequently, a property owner should not need to buy a new pool pump or new HVAC

equipment if he/she can bring their existing equipment into compliance by erecting a sound barrier on their property which keeps the noise reaching the neighbor's yard at a compliant level.

Respectfully submitted.

Peter Halle
24 Pilgrim Rd.

This email was scanned by Bitdefender

From: [Denice Kronau](#)
To: kpknise@aol.com
Cc: [Joseph Grause](#); [Mariya Basheva](#)
Subject: Re: Attached letter in support of Citizen Warrant Article-Bylaw Amendment Outdoor Lighting
Date: Wednesday, January 25, 2023 11:25:22 AM

Dear Kathi and Dan:

Many thanks for your thoughtful and well considered letter about the proposed outdoor lighting bylaw.

We appreciate that you not only described the problem, but also put thought behind a solution.

We will take your comments into consideration when we have our first discussion on 1/26/23.

Kind regards,
Denice

From: kpknise@aol.com <kpknise@aol.com>
Sent: Sunday, January 22, 2023 12:40 PM
To: Denice Kronau <dkronau@nantucket-ma.gov>; Joseph Grause <jgrause@nantucket-ma.gov>; Jeremy Bloomer <jbloomer@nantucket-ma.gov>; Christopher Glowacki <cglowacki@nantucket-ma.gov>; Stephen Maury <smaury@nantucket-ma.gov>; Peter McEachern <pmceachern@nantucket-ma.gov>; Joanna E. Roche <jeroche@nantucket-ma.gov>; Peter Schaeffer <pschaeffer@nantucket-ma.gov>; Jill Vieth <jvieth@nantucket-ma.gov>
Cc: Jason M. Bridges <jmbridges@nantucket-ma.gov>; Dawn Hill Holdgate <dhillholdgate@nantucket-ma.gov>; Matt Fee <mfee@nantucket-ma.gov>; Malcolm MacNab <mmacnab@nantucket-ma.gov>; Brooke Mohr <bmohr@nantucket-ma.gov>
Subject: Attached letter in support of Citizen Warrant Article-Bylaw Amendment Outdoor Lighting

Thank you for your consideration of the attached letter in support of the Citizen Warrant Article Bylaw Amendment-Outdoor Lighting.

This email was scanned by Bitdefender

From: [Denice Kronau](#)
To: [Paul Noble](#)
Cc: [Joseph Grause](#); [Mariya Basheva](#)
Subject: Re: Bright Night Lights
Date: Wednesday, January 25, 2023 11:48:42 AM

Dear Paul:

Many thanks for your letter and we will take your thoughts into consideration when we have our first discussion on the article on 1/26/23.

Kind regards,
Denice

From: Paul Noble <paul.noble@comcast.net>
Sent: Sunday, January 22, 2023 9:30 AM
To: Denice Kronau <dkronau@nantucket-ma.gov>; Joseph Grause <jgrause@nantucket-ma.gov>; Jeremy Bloomer <jbloomer@nantucket-ma.gov>; Christopher Glowacki <cglowacki@nantucket-ma.gov>; Stephen Maury <smaury@nantucket-ma.gov>; Peter McEachern <pmceachern@nantucket-ma.gov>; Joanna E. Roche <jeroche@nantucket-ma.gov>; Peter Schaeffer <pschaeffer@nantucket-ma.gov>; Jill Vieth <jvieth@nantucket-ma.gov>
Cc: Jason M. Bridges <jmbridges@nantucket-ma.gov>; Dawn Hill Holdgate <dhillholdgate@nantucket-ma.gov>; Matt Fee <mfee@nantucket-ma.gov>; Malcolm MacNab <mmacnab@nantucket-ma.gov>; Brooke Mohr <bmohr@nantucket-ma.gov>; Tom Szydowski <surfsideassociationbeach@gmail.com>
Subject: Bright Night Lights

Dear Sir/Madam,

When I built my home on the island in Surfside 25 years ago, we'd sit out on the deck at night in the summer and watch the stars and the occasional satellite. If we looked lower, we could see the hundreds of fireflies flitting around the foliage.

Today, not so much. The horizon has become populated by newer and larger homes that the owners have decided need to be seen 24x7 and they have lit them up accordingly. The result: Fewer visible stars, and almost no fireflies. It's not that it's too bright to see the fireflies, it's that they are not there. Is the light responsible for their inability to mate? Maybe. In any case, I deeply regret losing some of the beauty and charm of the island to ostentatious exhibitionism. It's my hope that you will act favorably on the Citizen Warrant Article entitled "Bylaw Amendment - Outdoor Lighting."

Sincerely,

Paul Noble
42 Weweeder Ave.
Nantucket, MA 02554

Sent from my iPad

This email was scanned by Bitdefender

From: [Denice Kronau](#)
To: jim.love13@outlook.com
Cc: [Joseph Grause](#); [Mariya Basheva](#)
Subject: Re: Citizen Warrant Article - Bylaw Amendment-Outdoor Lighting
Date: Friday, January 27, 2023 9:46:18 AM

Dear Jim:

Thank you for sharing your thoughts and we will take them into consideration the next time we discuss the outdoor lighting article.

Kind regards,
Denice

From: jim.love13@outlook.com <jim.love13@outlook.com>
Sent: Thursday, January 26, 2023 4:22 PM
To: Denice Kronau <dkronau@nantucket-ma.gov>; Joseph Grause <jgrause@nantucket-ma.gov>; Jeremy Bloomer <jbloomer@nantucket-ma.gov>; Christopher Glowacki <cglowacki@nantucket-ma.gov>; Stephen Maury <smaury@nantucket-ma.gov>; Peter McEachern <pmceachern@nantucket-ma.gov>; Joanna E. Roche <jeroche@nantucket-ma.gov>; Peter Schaeffer <pschaeffer@nantucket-ma.gov>; Jill Vieth <jvieth@nantucket-ma.gov>
Cc: Dawn Hill Holdgate <dhillholdgate@nantucket-ma.gov>; Matt Fee <mfee@nantucket-ma.gov>; Malcolm MacNab <mamacnab@nantucket-ma.gov>; Brooke Mohr <bmohr@nantucket-ma.gov>; Jason M. Bridges <jmbridges@nantucket-ma.gov>
Subject: Citizen Warrant Article - Bylaw Amendment-Outdoor Lighting

Dear Finance Committee.

My name is James R. Love, and I have owned a home at 8 Alliance Lane for more than 30 years.

During this time, amount of light pollution of the island has increased significantly. As a result, my enjoyment of the island's serene nightscapes and fantastic night skies has diminished significantly.

I strongly encourage the Finance Committee the proposed new bylaw!

J. R. Love

8 Alliance Lane
Nantucket, MA 02554
908.723.6256
jim.love13@outlook.com

From: [Denice Kronau](#)
To: [Bob Dobies](#)
Cc: [Joseph Grause](#); [Mariya Basheva](#)
Subject: Re: Citizen Warrant Article entitled "Bylaw Amendment- Outdoor Lighting"
Date: Wednesday, January 25, 2023 11:21:45 AM

Dear Bob:

Many thanks for sharing the Board of Brant Point's Association's thoughts on the outdoor lighting article. We will take this into consideration when we first discuss it on 1/26/23.

Kind regards,
Denice

From: Bob Dobies <radobies@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, January 22, 2023 1:56 PM
To: Denice Kronau <dkronau@nantucket-ma.gov>; Joseph Grause <jgrause@nantucket-ma.gov>; Jeremy Bloomer <jbloomer@nantucket-ma.gov>; Christopher Glowacki <cglowacki@nantucket-ma.gov>; Stephen Maury <smaury@nantucket-ma.gov>; Peter McEachern <pmceachern@nantucket-ma.gov>; Joanna E. Roche <jeroche@nantucket-ma.gov>; Peter Schaeffer <pschaeffer@nantucket-ma.gov>; Jill Vieth <jvieth@nantucket-ma.gov>
Cc: Jason M. Bridges <jmbridges@nantucket-ma.gov>; Dawn Hill Holdgate <dhillholdgate@nantucket-ma.gov>; Matt Fee <mfee@nantucket-ma.gov>; Malcolm MacNab <mmacnab@nantucket-ma.gov>; Brooke Mohr <bmohr@nantucket-ma.gov>; Nantucketlights@gmail.com <Nantucketlights@gmail.com>
Subject: Citizen Warrant Article entitled "Bylaw Amendment- Outdoor Lighting"

To Members of the Nantucket Finance Committee,

I am writing to inform you that the Brant Point Association Board has voted to endorse the Citizen Warrant Article entitled "Bylaw Amendment- Outdoor Lighting". It proposes to replace the outdoor lighting bylaw adopted in 2005 (Chapter 102 of the Code of Nantucket) with an updated bylaw to make the regulations consistent with best practices to minimize light pollution. We have reviewed the details of the proposal before making our endorsement. We particularly endorse the stronger enforcement provisions.

Our neighborhood residents are most concerned by bright lights shining onto their property resulting in their inability to view the night skies and stars. It appears that this issue has worsened over the past few years and the perception is that enforcement of regulations has been lacking or not well defined. We recognize the costs associated with improved enforcement, but feel that there are a number of offsets to defray these additional costs incurred by the Nantucket Government as explained by Gail Walker's comprehensive proposal and study. This proposal addresses our concerns. It has become a quality of life issue with many residents who feel our night skies have been an asset to Nantucket's uniqueness and do not want to see further deterioration.

The Board of the Brant Point Association, representing our neighborhood, urges you as a member of the Finance Committee, to support the adoption of the outdoor lighting article.

Thank you for your consideration.

Bob Dobies
President, Brant Point Association

This email was scanned by Bitdefender

From: [Mark Deck](#)
To: [Denise Kronau](#)
Cc: [Joseph Grause](#); [Marya Bashiya](#)
Subject: Re: Citizen Warrant Article on outdoor lighting
Date: Wednesday, January 25, 2023 5:34:09 PM

Thank you for your acknowledgment, Denise. It makes me happy that I took the time to write it.

Here's one other insight I've been thinking about. I hope it's helpful to you.

I visited Hawaii 10 years ago and was struck when I learned the deeper meaning of the word, Aloha. Aloha means far more than hello/goodbye. Aloha means living in harmony with the people, land, and environment around you with mercy, sympathy, grace, and kindness. When you stop to think about it, the Aloha mindset is fundamental when you live on an Island in the middle of nowhere. Once you've ruined the Island, there's nowhere else to go. So living sustainably on an Island requires the "Aloha" mindset. Those native to the Island were inculcated in this concept for centuries.

Sometimes I wish Nantucket was even more remote and not just a fast-ferry ride away from the mainland. Even if we're not really in the middle of nowhere, for those who truly understand Nantucket's inherent beauty, it would seem natural to adopt an Aloha approach to protecting it. I think it's axiomatic that as an Island, Nantucket is itself a scarce resource. It's a closed environment whose beauty must be managed to be maintained. Once lost, any dimension of its beauty can become impossible, or very costly to restore. If it weren't for the efforts of many like you, there would be no historic town center, no scallops in the harbor, no open spaces, and more. The same is true with night skies if you think about it.

I think the town and its homeowners, visitors, and elected officials could benefit from adopting the Aloha mindset. On Nantucket, it seems our politics sometimes fall into an "us vs them" or "progress vs preservation" or "winner vs loser" mindset instead of a mindset that says "we're all on this <island> together <so we'd better take care of it>."

It's incumbent on us all as Nantucket's custodians to preserve its beauty. We don't have to do it. It's easier and cheaper not to care. But if we don't care, we'll lose it.

Cue: "Big Yellow Taxi" by Joni Mitchell - "Don't it always seem to go that you don't know what you've got til it's gone, they paved paradise and put up a parking lot! - hahaha"

Good luck this week as you prepare for Town Meeting.

Mark

On Jan 25, 2023, at 10:22 AM, Denise Kronau <dkronau@nantucket.ma.gov> wrote:

Dear Mark and Tricia:

We very much appreciate your thoughtful and substantive comments about the lighting article; thank you for taking the time to elaborate your thoughts on this topic.

We will take your comments into consideration when we have our first discussion on the article on 1/26/23.

Kind regards,
Denise

From: Mark Deck <mark.john.deck@gmail.com>

Sent: Monday, January 23, 2023 7:14 PM

To: Denise Kronau <dkronau@nantucket.ma.gov>; Joseph Grause <jgrause@nantucket.ma.gov>; Jeremy Bloomer <jbloomer@nantucket.ma.gov>; Christopher Glowacki <cglowacki@nantucket.ma.gov>; Stephen Maury <smaur@nantucket.ma.gov>; Peter McEachern <pmceachern@nantucket.ma.gov>; Joanna E. Roche <jeroche@nantucket.ma.gov>; Peter Schaeffer <pschaeffer@nantucket.ma.gov>; Jill Vieth <jvieth@nantucket.ma.gov>

Cc: Jason M. Bridges <jmbbridges@nantucket.ma.gov>; Dawn Hill Holdgate <dhillholdgate@nantucket.ma.gov>; Matt Fee <mfee@nantucket.ma.gov>; Malcolm MacNab <mamacnab@nantucket.ma.gov>; Brooke Mohr <bmohr@nantucket.ma.gov>; Deck Tricia P. <tricia.deck@gmail.com>

Subject: Citizen Warrant Article on outdoor lighting

To the Nantucket FinCom:

We are writing this email to the Nantucket FinCom in support of the Citizen Warrant Article being proposed by Gail Walker for your review this week. The article seeks to replace the existing outdoor lighting bylaw.

Nantucket is a natural beauty and one of its magical features is its nighttime view of the heavens. We have had a house at 33 Union Street since January 2000 and we have tried hard to keep our outdoor lighting limited, shielded, and down facing. Being so close to town, it can be difficult to get an especially dark sky but it's not impossible. On a clear night, we can usually see major constellations and the milky way. Its even better in the winter with fewer lights from fewer cars, fewer boats in the harbor and people in their homes.

Over the years, it has gotten harder to enjoy a dark sky. Sometimes houses are updated and shiny bright brass fixtures are set out front with as many as 8 60-watt bulbs shining through the night. Sometimes they are left on for weeks when owners are away. The same is true with floodlights for driveways and patios. They serve a useful purpose when used sparingly but when they are unshielded and left on all night, they become destroyers of the magical ambience Nantucket can have at night.

The new bylaw being proposed would help with these problems and hopefully make homeowners more aware of their responsibilities for keeping our evening skies more natural. Being in the historic district, there are limitations on changes we can make to the exterior of our home in order to preserve the look of the town. But we can add fancy bright brass lights or unshielded floodlights that materially change the look of the historic district at night. It would make sense to have lighting be another aspect of the look of the historic district to be managed. The proposed new bylaw would help with this both in town and away from town.

One other problem we have had is lights on roof walks that stay on all night. A few years ago, we asked the town to help us with a neighbor who lights a huge statue on their roof walk all night along in the summer. The current bylaw requires outdoor decorative lighting to be off by 10 pm. The town representative suggested that we take a personal approach. So we contacted the homeowner to let them know that while we loved the look of the patriotic decorative lighting, it was being left on past 10 pm which was not in keeping with the town's bylaws and we politely asked them to change it. We heard back from their attorneys saying that we had upset the owners, that the timer was broken and they would fix it. That worked for that summer, but for the three summers since, the statue remains lit all night, now with even brighter lights.

Another neighbor has renters for much of the summer and while our neighbor is careful about leaving his patio floodlights on all night, many times his renters forget. We've grown tired of trying to catch them coming in or out of the home to ask them to turn them off.

While the newly proposed bylaw won't cover all these issues, it will help limit them over time with better fixtures and sensors, clearer enforcement, and increased awareness. Our permanent residence is in Lincoln MA where zoning bylaws were changed a few years ago regulating outdoor lighting on new construction and remodeling. It has made a great difference. We live at the edge of a 20 acre field and a newly constructed house across the way has only downward facing, shielded lights that provide plenty of illumination without blasting light out into the field. Older houses still have older fixtures, but the skies get a little darker and more natural with each passing year because of the changes made in our bylaws.

We hope you can work collaboratively with the petition sponsors to address this important issue for the town.

Mark and Tricia Deck
33 Union Street

This email was scanned by Bitdefender

From: [Denice Kronau](#)
To: [Angus MacLeod](#)
Cc: [Joseph Grause](#); [Mariya Basheva](#)
Subject: Re: Citizen Warrant Article: Bylaw Amendment - Outdoor Lighting
Date: Thursday, January 26, 2023 8:39:18 AM

Dear Angus:

Many thanks for sharing the Nantucket Historical Commission's thoughts on the outdoor lighting article.

We will take this into consideration when we discuss the article today at 4PM.

Kind regards,
Denice

From: Angus MacLeod <angusonack@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, January 25, 2023 2:03 PM
To: Denice Kronau <dkronau@nantucket-ma.gov>; Joseph Grause <jgrause@nantucket-ma.gov>; Jeremy Bloomer <jbloomer@nantucket-ma.gov>; Christopher Glowacki <cglowacki@nantucket-ma.gov>; Stephen Maury <smaury@nantucket-ma.gov>; Peter McEachern <pmceachern@nantucket-ma.gov>; Joanna E. Roche <jeroche@nantucket-ma.gov>; Peter Schaeffer <pschaeffer@nantucket-ma.gov>; Jill Vieth <jvieth@nantucket-ma.gov>
Cc: Jason M. Bridges <jmbridges@nantucket-ma.gov>; Dawn Hill Holdgate <dhillholdgate@nantucket-ma.gov>; Matt Fee <mfee@nantucket-ma.gov>; Malcolm MacNab <mmacnab@nantucket-ma.gov>; Brooke Mohr <bmohr@nantucket-ma.gov>; nantucketlights@gmail.com <nantucketlights@gmail.com>
Subject: Citizen Warrant Article: Bylaw Amendment - Outdoor Lighting

To whom it may concern,

The Nantucket Historical Commission met last Friday, January 20th, where Gail Walker presented her Warrant Article. The Commission voted unanimously in favor of the new outdoor lighting bylaw she has proposed, as it addresses mutual concerns of the NHC regarding preservation of sense of place and the island's natural environment.

We are aware that the proposed requirements for streetlights would preclude having glass globes/sides in the decorative streetlights we have in the Historic Districts. At the time of our vote, commissioners had not had the opportunity to view first-hand an example of fixtures without glass globes/sides but we concluded that preserving the aesthetic of glass globes/sides is not more important than preserving our dark skies. Moreover, we believe the town should "lead by example" and use only dark sky friendly lighting.

Lighting is a technology that will change over time. We are confident there will be appropriate

fixtures using new technologies that work in our historic environment. We look forward to the chance to discuss appropriate lighting further with the town and community.

Sincerely,
Angus MacLeod
NHC Chair

This email was scanned by Bitdefender

From: [Denice Kronau](#)
To: [Ted Bent](#)
Cc: [Mariya Basheva](#); [Joseph Grause](#)
Subject: Re: Civic Leagues' endorsement of Gail Walker's Citizen Warrant Article re night sky.
Date: Wednesday, January 25, 2023 11:15:44 AM

Dear Ted:

Many thanks for your letter and we will take your thoughts into consideration when we have our first discussion on the article on 1/26/23.

Kind regards,
Denice

From: Ted Bent <ted@esbent.net>
Sent: Sunday, January 22, 2023 7:08 PM
To: Denice Kronau <dkronau@nantucket-ma.gov>; Joseph Grause <jgrause@nantucket-ma.gov>; Jeremy Bloomer <jbloomer@nantucket-ma.gov>; Christopher Glowacki <cglowacki@nantucket-ma.gov>; Stephen Maury <smaury@nantucket-ma.gov>; Peter McEachern <pmceachern@nantucket-ma.gov>; Joanna E. Roche <jeroche@nantucket-ma.gov>; Peter Schaeffer <pschaeffer@nantucket-ma.gov>; Jill Vieth <jvieth@nantucket-ma.gov>
Cc: Peter A. Morrison <petermorrison@me.com>; Charles Stott <stott.charles9@gmail.com>
Subject: Civic Leagues' endorsement of Gail Walker's Citizen Warrant Article re night sky.

Dear Fin Com members,

I am writing to support the Nantucket Civic League's endorsement of the Citizen Warrant Article of Gail Walker regarding updating the town's existing 2005 lighting bylaw.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Ted Bent

Edward S. Bent, President, Shimmo Association.
2 South Valley Road
Nantucket, MA 02554
Cell: 860-601-8722
ted@esbent.net

From: [Denice Kronau](#)
To: [Peter Morrison](#); [Charles Stott](#)
Cc: [Joseph Grause](#); [Mariya Basheva](#)
Subject: Re: Letter of support for Citizen Warrant Article entitled "Bylaw Amendment -- Outdoor Lighting"
Date: Wednesday, January 25, 2023 12:00:58 PM

Dear Peter and Charlie:

Many thanks for sharing the Civic League's thoughtful and considered comments about the proposed changes to the outdoor lighting bylaw.

We will take your comments into consideration when we have our first discussion on the article on 1/26/23.

Kind regards,
Denice

From: Peter Morrison <petermorrison@me.com>
Sent: Thursday, January 19, 2023 12:33 PM
To: Denice Kronau <dkronau@nantucket-ma.gov>; Joseph Grause <jgrause@nantucket-ma.gov>; Jeremy Bloomer <jbloomer@nantucket-ma.gov>; Christopher Glowacki <cglowacki@nantucket-ma.gov>; Stephen Maury <smaury@nantucket-ma.gov>; Peter McEachern <pmceachern@nantucket-ma.gov>; Joanna E. Roche <jeroche@nantucket-ma.gov>; Peter Schaeffer <pschaeffer@nantucket-ma.gov>; Jill Vieth <jvieth@nantucket-ma.gov>
Cc: Nantucket Lights <nantucketlights@gmail.com>; Charles Stott <stott.charles9@gmail.com>
Subject: Letter of support for Citizen Warrant Article entitled "Bylaw Amendment -- Outdoor Lighting"

Please see the attached letter of support for the Citizen Warrant Article entitled "Bylaw Amendment -- Outdoor Lighting."

Thank you for your consideration.

cc: SELECT BOARD

Peter A. Morrison
Co-President
Nantucket Civic League
www.nantucketcivicleague.com

petermorrison@me.com
Cell: (310) 266-9580

From: [Denice Kronau](#)
To: [Karen Rigney](#)
Cc: [Joseph Grause](#); [Mariya Basheva](#)
Subject: Re: Letter of Support for Proposed Outdoor Lighting By Law
Date: Wednesday, January 25, 2023 11:19:09 AM

Dear Karen:

Many thanks for your letter and we will take your thoughtful comments into consideration when we have our first discussion on the article on 1/26/23.

Kind regards,
Denice

From: Karen Rigney <kwrigney@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, January 22, 2023 3:23 PM
To: Denice Kronau <dkronau@nantucket-ma.gov>; Joseph Grause <jgrause@nantucket-ma.gov>; Jeremy Bloomer <jbloomer@nantucket-ma.gov>; Christopher Glowacki <cglowacki@nantucket-ma.gov>; Stephen Maury <smaury@nantucket-ma.gov>; Peter McEachern <pmceachern@nantucket-ma.gov>; Joanna E. Roche <jeroche@nantucket-ma.gov>; Peter Schaeffer <pschaeffer@nantucket-ma.gov>; Jill Vieth <jvieth@nantucket-ma.gov>
Cc: Jason M. Bridges <jmbridges@nantucket-ma.gov>; Dawn Hill Holdgate <dhillholdgate@nantucket-ma.gov>; Matt Fee <mfee@nantucket-ma.gov>; Malcolm MacNab <mmacnab@nantucket-ma.gov>; Brooke Mohr <bmohr@nantucket-ma.gov>; nantucketlights@gmail.com <nantucketlights@gmail.com>
Subject: Letter of Support for Proposed Outdoor Lighting By Law

Dear Fin Com Members,

This letter is in response to the Nantucket Lights initiative.

My husband and I have owned a house in Madaket since 2004 and also have been vacationing there since 1995. Highlights of our stays have been the beautiful starry nights and undisturbed dark nights. We try to minimize our outdoor lighting and generally target the times when people are entering or leaving the house at night.

Often renters leave bright outdoor lights on all night without realizing they shine directly into and around adjacent homes. Many people renting are not aware of the issue which makes having specific regulations regarding outdoor lighting important. Also, having such bylaws will make it easier for homeowners to help rental groups comply.

Since spectacular celestial views are such an attraction on our island, I am in favor of the new proposed outdoor lighting bylaw and corresponding expenses.

Sincerely,
Karen Rigney

--

Karen Rigney

914 275 6808

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From: [Denice Kronau](#)
To: [Jane Hammond](#)
Cc: [Joseph Grause](#); [Mariya Basheva](#)
Subject: Re: My Concerns About Growing Light Pollution: Support for Gail Walker's Proposal
Date: Thursday, January 26, 2023 8:40:58 AM

Dear Jane:

Many thanks for taking the time to share your thoughts about the outdoor lighting article. We will take them into consideration when we discuss the article today at 4PM.

Kind regards,
Denice

From: Jane Hammond <alljanenotarzan@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, January 25, 2023 2:38 PM
To: Denice Kronau <dkronau@nantucket-ma.gov>; Joseph Grause <jgrause@nantucket-ma.gov>; Jeremy Bloomer <jbloomer@nantucket-ma.gov>; Christopher Glowacki <cglowacki@nantucket-ma.gov>; Stephen Maury <smaury@nantucket-ma.gov>; Peter McEachern <pmceachern@nantucket-ma.gov>; Joanna E. Roche <jeroche@nantucket-ma.gov>; Peter Schaeffer <pschaeffer@nantucket-ma.gov>; Jill Vieth <jvieth@nantucket-ma.gov>; Nantucketlights@gmail.com <Nantucketlights@gmail.com>
Cc: Jason M. Bridges <jmbridges@nantucket-ma.gov>; Dawn Hill Holdgate <dhillholdgate@nantucket-ma.gov>; Matt Fee <mfee@nantucket-ma.gov>; Malcolm MacNab <mmacnab@nantucket-ma.gov>; Brooke Mohr <bmohr@nantucket-ma.gov>
Subject: My Concerns About Growing Light Pollution: Support for Gail Walker's Proposal

I am a long time Surfside resident, since 1977, a homeowner, and a member of the Surfside Association. I am writing in support of the Nantucket Civic League's endorsement of better lighting regulation as proposed by citizen Gail Walker.

I totally agree with the sentiments that one of the nicest and most special and beautiful aspects of Nantucket is the night sky. Nantucket as an island of little industry thirty miles at sea in a windy spot is blessed with clear skies and one can see at night a kind of sky like people saw a hundred years ago, before so much pollution. This is something to treasure.

It is these cumulative quality of life things, clean air, a dark and starry sky at night, a great view of the moon and sunrise that make Nantucket special.

I fully support legislation to curtail light pollution.

Sincerely,

Jane Hammond
6 Dunham Street
Surfside Beach

This email was scanned by Bitdefender

From: [Denice Kronau](#)
To: [Boasberg, Margaret](#)
Cc: [Joseph Grause](#); [Mariya Basheva](#)
Subject: Re: Please support the new outdoor lighting bylaw
Date: Monday, February 6, 2023 10:02:24 AM

Dear Margaret,

Many thanks for taking the time to share your thoughts about the outdoor lighting article. We will take your comments into consideration when we next discuss it on 2/16/23.

Kind regards,
Denice

From: Boasberg, Margaret <Margaret.Boasberg@bridgespan.org>
Sent: Saturday, February 4, 2023 8:13 PM
To: Denice Kronau <dkronau@nantucket-ma.gov>; Joseph Grause <jgrause@nantucket-ma.gov>; Jeremy Bloomer <jbloomer@nantucket-ma.gov>; Christopher Glowacki <cglowacki@nantucket-ma.gov>; Stephen Maury <smaury@nantucket-ma.gov>; Peter McEachern <pmceachern@nantucket-ma.gov>; Joanna E. Roche <jeroche@nantucket-ma.gov>; Peter Schaeffer <pschaeffer@nantucket-ma.gov>; Jill Vieth <jvieth@nantucket-ma.gov>
Cc: Malcolm MacNab <mmacnab@nantucket-ma.gov>; Brooke Mohr <bmoehr@nantucket-ma.gov>; nantucketlights@gmail.com <nantucketlights@gmail.com>; Jason M. Bridges <jmbridges@nantucket-ma.gov>; Dawn Hill Holdgate <dhillholdgate@nantucket-ma.gov>; Matt Fee <mfee@nantucket-ma.gov>
Subject: Please support the new outdoor lighting bylaw

Dear FinCom and Select Board members:

I write to express my support for the new outdoor lighting bylaw.

I have been coming to Nantucket for the last 54 years, and we are now living on the island for many months each year.

The beautiful night skies are one of our favorite parts of Nantucket – please help preserve them for generations to come. They are so very special!

Thank you,
Margaret Boasberg
6 Black Fish Lane, 'Sconset

Margaret Boasberg
Partner

The Bridgespan Group

2 Copley Place, 7th Floor, Suite 3700B | Boston, MA 02116

Phone: 617.572.2532

Margaret.boasberg@bridgespan.org

www.bridgespan.org

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From: [Denice Kronau](#)
To: [Marypat Farrell](#)
Cc: [Joseph Grause](#); [Mariya Basheva](#); [Nantucket Lights](#)
Subject: Re: Regarding proposed new Bylaw concerning outdoor lighting.
Date: Thursday, February 2, 2023 11:14:15 AM

Dear Mary Pat:

Thank you for taking the time to share your thoughts with us; much appreciated. We will take your comments into consideration when we next discuss the article on 2/16/23.

Kind regards,

Denice

From: Marypat Farrell <marypatfarrell@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 1, 2023 10:56 PM
To: Denice Kronau <dkronau@nantucket-ma.gov>; Joseph Grause <jgrause@nantucket-ma.gov>; Jeremy Bloomer <jbloomer@nantucket-ma.gov>; Christopher Glowacki <cglowacki@nantucket-ma.gov>; Stephen Maury <smaury@nantucket-ma.gov>; Peter McEachern <pmceachern@nantucket-ma.gov>; Joanna E. Roche <jeroche@nantucket-ma.gov>; Peter Schaeffer <pschaeffer@nantucket-ma.gov>; Jill Vieth <jvieth@nantucket-ma.gov>
Cc: Jason M. Bridges <jmbridges@nantucket-ma.gov>; Dawn Hill Holdgate <dhillholdgate@nantucket-ma.gov>; Matt Fee <mfee@nantucket-ma.gov>; Malcolm MacNab <mmacnab@nantucket-ma.gov>; Brooke Mohr <bmohr@nantucket-ma.gov>
Subject: Regarding proposed new Bylaw concerning outdoor lighting.

To the Finance Committee and the Select Board members of Nantucket,

Gail Walker has laid out her research and argument so thoroughly that I don't want to waste your time repeating the points.

But I do want to ask you, so sincerely, to support this proposed new Bylaw and help Nantucket restore and maintain its unique and wonderful magic.

I have been coming to Nantucket since 1969 and have been a property owner since 2006. We have a house out at Surfside. Star-gazing on Nantucket has been a fixture of my life for as long as I can remember and my sisters and I spent many nights at the Observatory growing up. We thrilled and wondered at the story of Maria Mitchell. I have been an avid sky watcher ever since.

Please consider how amazing it will be to restore and preserve the dark skies for everyone's enjoyment and to honor the singular history of this amazing Island.

Gail Walker has laid out how she conceives any incurred costs could be covered and I would add that if Nantucket could actually succeed in becoming

a Dark Sky Preserve, it may increase further opportunities for off-season tourism.

In a world with so much artificial brightness I hope you can vote to keep Nantucket in the dark, so to speak!

Thank you for listening.

**Mary Pat Farrell
Surfside**

"I am just learning to notice the different colors of the stars, and already beginning to have a new enjoyment." Maria Mitchell

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From: [Denice Kronau](#)
To: [Ann Marvin](#)
Cc: [Joseph Grause](#); [Mariya Basheva](#)
Subject: Re: Supporting Article #76
Date: Thursday, February 9, 2023 3:02:33 PM

Dear Ann:

Thank you for taking the time to share your thoughts about the outdoor lighting article. We will take your comments into consideration when we next discuss it on 2/16/23.

Kind regards,
Denice

From: Ann Marvin <ann.marvin@verizon.net>
Sent: Thursday, February 9, 2023 10:53 AM
To: Denice Kronau <dkronau@nantucket-ma.gov>; Joseph Grause <jgrause@nantucket-ma.gov>; Jeremy Bloomer <jbloomer@nantucket-ma.gov>; Christopher Glowacki <cglowacki@nantucket-ma.gov>; Stephen Maury <smaury@nantucket-ma.gov>; Peter McEachern <pmceachern@nantucket-ma.gov>; Joanna E. Roche <jeroche@nantucket-ma.gov>; Peter Schaeffer <pschaeffer@nantucket-ma.gov>; Jill Vieth <jvieth@nantucket-ma.gov>
Cc: Jason M. Bridges <jmbridges@nantucket-ma.gov>; Dawn Hill Holdgate <dhillholdgate@nantucket-ma.gov>; Matt Fee <mfee@nantucket-ma.gov>; Malcolm MacNab <mmacnab@nantucket-ma.gov>; Brooke Mohr <bmohr@nantucket-ma.gov>; nantucketlights@gmail.com <nantucketlights@gmail.com>
Subject: Supporting Article #76

Dear members of the Finance Committee:

I am writing as a life long member of the Nantucket community. My grandparents first came to the Island in the 1920's and our family has had a home here ever since.

I grew up, as did my father and then my children, spending summers on Baxter road with the absolute vastness of the night sky. My father was a star expert, teaching my brother and I every constellation and planet as we would look up each night. That never would have happened if we were not on the Island.

To realize that this is no longer possible due to light pollution is very disappointing to me, as there is so much to be learned from the sky. Not just the names of what we are seeing, but the feeling of vastness that comes from a clear dark night.

We have lost so so much of 'the good old days' as the Island has become so much more 'fashionable' and 'Instagramable, yet this does seem to be one area where we could put the brakes on just a bit and let a thing of beauty just be beautiful. No one gets

hurt with the updating of the by-law as its being proposed by Article #76, yet I think we will all benefit. I absolutely urge you to support it on behalf of those of us who appreciate the dark skies we have on the Island.

I think we can be certain that Maria Mitchell would urge this as well!

thank you for your consideration,

Ann Marvin

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From: [Denice Kronau](#)
To: [Rhett Currier](#)
Cc: [Joseph Grause](#); [Mariya Basheva](#)
Subject: Re: Supporting Motion To Adopt Outdoor lighting Citizens Warrant
Date: Monday, February 6, 2023 10:09:51 AM

Dear Rhett:

Thank you for taking the time to share your thoughts about the outdoor lighting article and to give us concrete examples for consideration when we next discuss the article on 2/16/23.

Kind regards,

Denice

From: Rhett Currier <rhettcurrier@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, January 21, 2023 7:29 PM
To: Denice Kronau <dkronau@nantucket-ma.gov>; Joseph Grause <jgrause@nantucket-ma.gov>; Jeremy Bloomer <jbloomer@nantucket-ma.gov>; Christopher Glowacki <cglowacki@nantucket-ma.gov>; Stephen Maury <smaury@nantucket-ma.gov>; Peter McEachern <pmceachern@nantucket-ma.gov>; Joanna E. Roche <jeroche@nantucket-ma.gov>; Peter Schaeffer <pschaeffer@nantucket-ma.gov>; Jill Vieth <jvieth@nantucket-ma.gov>
Cc: Jason M. Bridges <jmbridges@nantucket-ma.gov>; Dawn Hill Holdgate <dhillholdgate@nantucket-ma.gov>; Matt Fee <mfee@nantucket-ma.gov>; Malcolm MacNab <mamacnab@nantucket-ma.gov>; Brooke Mohr <bmohr@nantucket-ma.gov>; nantucketlights@gmail.com <nantucketlights@gmail.com>
Subject: Supporting Motion To Adopt Outdoor lighting Citizens Warrant

Finance Committee Members,

I am writing to urge you to adopt a motion to support the Citizens Warrant Article relating to Bylaw Amendment - Outdoor Lighting (the "Warrant") that was sponsored by Catherine Gail Walker (the "Sponsor").

My name is Rhett Currier, and our family has owned our house at 12 Baxter Road in Sconset since 1965. All of the outdoor lighting is LED and complies with the provisions of the Warrant. It is not hard to comply with the Warrant.

I have noticed many properties on island that would not be compliant with the Warrant, several keep their lights on all night, and lights are not fully shielded luminaires, or otherwise compliant. I have spoken with an immediate neighbors who refused to do anything. Their light by their back door is on all night is very bright and is not fully shielded. I appreciate needing to be able to see where you are going to get in, but you can read a novel in my room across the street up a story! I know Marine Home Center was very happy to sell us some really great shades at significant cost for all of the bedrooms, but when I use our shades, I miss having the

wind blow through my open windows, and I miss being woken up naturally with the rising sun in the morning.

When there are clear rules in place, it is easier to get neighbors who are not complaint to do the right thing.

Bright glaring lights are dangerous. There is one property near our place that is lit up so bright with a zillion uplights on the trees. When I drive near that location, the glare is horrible, and it is not safe. I try not to drive by. (And, I know they are not home - that really makes me crazy!)

Bright glaring lights make it impossible to enjoy the stars. You cannot enjoy the stars on a walk with all the light. What would Maria Mitchell say?

An increasingly important issue is energy consumption, The Warrant contemplates fewer lights at lower lumens, which will also help with reduced energy consumption.

Rhett Currier
12 Baxter Road
Siasconset, Mass.

From: [Denice Kronau](#)
To: [Justine Kingham](#)
Cc: [Joseph Grause](#); [Mariya Basheva](#)
Subject: Re: Warrant Article 76
Date: Monday, February 6, 2023 10:07:34 AM

Dear Justine and Richard:

Thank you for your comments about the outdoor lighting article; we will take them into consideration when we next discuss it on 2/16/23.

Kind regards,
Denice

From: Justine Kingham <jmckingham@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 2, 2023 4:01 PM
To: Denice Kronau <dkronau@nantucket-ma.gov>; Joseph Grause <jgrause@nantucket-ma.gov>; Jeremy Bloomer <jbloomer@nantucket-ma.gov>; Christopher Glowacki <cglowacki@nantucket-ma.gov>; Stephen Maury <smaury@nantucket-ma.gov>; Peter McEachern <pmceachern@nantucket-ma.gov>; Joanna E. Roche <jeroche@nantucket-ma.gov>; Peter Schaeffer <pschaeffer@nantucket-ma.gov>; Jill Vieth <jvieth@nantucket-ma.gov>
Cc: Nantucket Lights <nantucketlights@gmail.com>
Subject: Warrant Article 76

Dear Members of FinCom,

Our first visit to Nantucket was in 1987, and we have owned a house in Siasconset since 2011. In that time, we have become aware of how little we now see of the night sky. It is a very pale reflection of what could be seen on our first visit, and the loss has diminished our enjoyment of the natural environment here. It strikes us that this is a needless loss to all forms of life on the island, where the sky has been a dominant part of the cultural and aesthetic pleasure of living away from urban environments.

It is simple to abide by the regulations written in Article 76. It provides for ways to adapt existing fixtures, and sets standards for new lights. The language is clear. Everyone saves money on their electric bill, yet has sufficient lighting where it is needed. The island and all of its inhabitants and visitors will benefit. It might even allow Nantucket to foster future Maria Mitchells once they can see the wonders of the sky.

Please adopt this very thoughtfully composed regulation.

Very best wishes,
Richard and Justine Kingham

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From: [Denice Kronau](#)
To: [Madaket Conservation](#)
Cc: [Joseph Grause](#); [Mariya Basheva](#)
Subject: Re: Warrant Article 76
Date: Thursday, February 9, 2023 3:04:49 PM
Attachments: [PastedGraphic-3.tiff](#)

Dear Bill:

Many thanks for sharing the MCA's thoughts regarding the outdoor lighting article. We will take the comments into consideration when we discuss it on 2/16/23.

Kind regards,
Denice

From: Madaket Conservation <madaketconservation@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 8, 2023 9:02 PM
To: Denice Kronau <dkronau@nantucket-ma.gov>; Joseph Grause <jgrause@nantucket-ma.gov>; Jeremy Bloomer <jbloomer@nantucket-ma.gov>; Christopher Glowacki <cglowacki@nantucket-ma.gov>; Stephen Maury <smaury@nantucket-ma.gov>; Peter McEachern <pmceachern@nantucket-ma.gov>; Joanna E. Roche <jeroche@nantucket-ma.gov>; Peter Schaeffer <pschaeffer@nantucket-ma.gov>; Jill Vieth <jvieth@nantucket-ma.gov>
Cc: MCA Madaket Conservation Association <madaketconservationassociation@gmail.com>
Subject: Warrant Article 76



February 8, 2023

Dear Finance Committee Member:

Voters at the 2023 Annual Town Meeting will be considering Warrant Article 76, which proposes to replace the outdoor lighting bylaw adopted in 2005 (Chapter 102 of the Code of Nantucket) with an updated bylaw to make the regulations consistent with current best practices for outdoor lighting intended to minimize light pollution. That warrant article also proposes stronger enforcement provisions.

The Madaket Conservation Association Executive Board voted unanimously at its February 7, 2023 meeting to endorse Article 76. Our board did not take this position without knowledge about the views of our members.

The MCA is in the process of updating the Madaket Area Plan that was adopted in 2006. As part of that process, we sent a lengthy survey last year to 690 Madaket contacts; the response rate was 27% (186 responses). Survey question 18 asked respondents to identify the top seven

attributes of living in Madaket. The survey identified 17 attributes. Dark skies at night was the number 5 attribute with a 70.75 response rate (132 residents).

If adopted, the new bylaw would reduce light pollution and preserve the ability of residents and visitors to see the Milky Way, a pleasure that an estimated 80% of the population in the United States can no longer enjoy.

I urge you, as a member of the Finance Committee, to support the adoption of the outdoor lighting article.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Bill Grieder

Bill Grieder,
President

From: lynn.filipski@gmail.com
To: [Denice Kronau](#); [Brian Turbitt](#); [Mariya Basheva](#)
Cc: [Jason M. Bridges](#); [Dawn Hill Holdgate](#); [Malcolm MacNab](#); [Matt Fee](#); [Brooke Mohr](#); "SCA"
Subject: Warrant article 76
Date: Monday, February 13, 2023 8:06:42 AM

Dear Finance Committee:

The Board of the Siasconset Civic Association has voted to give their full support to the proposed warrant article 76 that updates the bylaw on lighting regulations to minimize light pollution and creates meaningful enforcement provisions. We have testified previously before your committee stating our support.

After assessing resident interest in lighting issues through a village wide survey, we included lighting recommendations, including dark sky best practices, in the 2021 Siasconset Area Plan submitted to the Select Board. Additionally, the Board adopted in April 2021 a lighting policy included here as follows:

Artificial light at night has revolutionized the way we live and work outdoors, but it has come at a price. When used indiscriminately, artificial outdoor lighting can negatively affect our environment and impact our quality of life. Not only does it interfere with our ability to enjoy the stars at night, it can disrupt wildlife, be harmful to human health, waste money and energy, and contribute to climate change. The Board of the Siasconset Civic Association strongly supports the efforts of the Maria Mitchell Foundation, the International Dark-Sky Association, and other organizations that promote solutions to protect our dark, star-filled sky through responsible outdoor lighting. Simply put, reducing light pollution leads to a better quality of life for all. Because the Board deems combating light pollution to be consistent with protecting the welfare of its members and thus consistent with the purposes and mission of the Civic Association, the Board, pursuant to its authority under Article I, Sections 1 and 3, and Article V, Section 1, of the Civic Association's Bylaws, hereby:

--Endorses the Five Principles of Responsible Outdoor Lighting agreed upon by the International Dark-Sky Association and the Illuminating Engineering Society in 2020, namely that all light should have a clear purpose; light should be directed only to where needed; light should be no brighter than necessary; light should be used only when it is useful; and warmer color lights should be used where possible (see <https://www.darksky.org/our-work/lighting/lighting-principles>)

-- Commits to educating the 'Sconset community about the Five Principles, advocating for adherence to them, and advocating for endorsement of them by the Nantucket Select Board

-- Commits to educating the 'Sconset community about the requirements of Nantucket's outdoor lighting ordinance and advocating for adherence to them as a way to reduce light pollution by individual homeowners and businesses

-- Commits to advocating for the conversion of the streetlights in 'Sconset and on the rest of the island to LED lights that are consistent with the Five Principles as well as preserve the historical

character of the island

--Commits to advocating in favor of legislation, regulations, ordinances and/or other courses of action that would reduce light pollution in Siasconset as well as opposing any that would unreasonably increase light pollution

Here is an educational link to a section of our website that helps our members understand the issue and includes valuable information on preferred lighting practices:

<https://www.siasconsetcivicassociation.org/Sconset-Dark-Sky>

We urge the Finance Committee to support this warrant article and protect our dark sky on Nantucket.

Sincerely,

Lynn Filipski
President, Siasconset Civic Association

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