



From the Board Room

January 2026 Meeting Notes



Here are highlights from the January 12, 2026, Board meeting.

Re-Organization Meeting

The Medford Lakes Colony kicked off the new year with its annual re-organization and committee assignments.

Outgoing President Will Saraceni received thanks for a good year and handed the gavel to new Colony President Dale Keagy.

In addition to Keagy, a slate of officers was presented by the Nominating Committee and unanimously approved. These officers serve for a one-year term:

- Eric Requa, Vice President – Social
- Ken Nelson, Vice President – Recreation
- Shawn Collins, Vice President – Property
- Jeff Goetschius, Vice President – Finance
- Will Saraceni, Immediate Past President
- Christine Tucker, Recording Secretary
- Nicole Abate, Financial Secretary
- Kevin Kinney, Treasurer

The Board starts the year with a full slate of nine Directors. Joining Adam Burger, Susanne Dennis, Rich Jones, Allison Kelly, Jon Moraglia, and Justin Sedarat are new Directors John Holtz (2028), Vanessa Long-Farrell (2027) and Bev Scheimreif (2027).

President Keagy Shares Goals

President Dale Keagy outlined his five goals for 2026. These include:

Board and Committee Development: Retain committed Board members by recreating an active and effective committee structure; define

expectations and encourage independence and creativity within that structure; create a positive meeting environment where members are respected and appreciated.

Brooks Field Hard-Surface Restoration Project: Determine a design concept and gain community understanding and acceptance of it.

Colony-wide Storage Solution: Initiate a “storage reform” project to inventory existing storage space throughout Colony properties, eliminate obsolete equipment, determine storage needs, and implement a solution that includes structures consistent with the Colony’s rustic character.

Shared Services Agreement: Evaluate and fully implement the new shared services agreement with Medford Lakes Borough that eliminated the Colony’s property department.

Lakes Management Plan: Collect and formally record the institutional knowledge and individual wisdom about the Colony’s lakes system in a comprehensive and useful reference document.



Vanessa Long-Farrell

New Board Member

The Board elected Vanessa Long-Farrell as a Director to fill an unexpired term.

A Laker since 2022, Vanessa is a past President of the Women’s Club. She was an integral part of ensuring the Club’s survival and resurgence following its Post-COVID membership and participation decline. Before her move to Medford Lakes, Vanessa was the founder and artistic director of a dance company in NYC and choreographed Off-Broadway shows, music videos, and films. Her creative and entrepreneurial background, and proven volunteerism will be a valuable asset in her (hopefully long) Board career. Please join us in welcoming Vanessa to board service.

Volunteer Spotlight – Greg Lackey

There are two types of individuals in volunteer organizations: those who actively engage in doing things hands-on and those who confine their talents to governance. It is rare to find someone with a passion for both and also willing to sustain that passion consistently over time. For over 40 years, this community has been blessed to have Greg Lackey filling those dual roles.

Greg was born in New York City, but he grew up in a lake community in North Jersey. It was there that he gained his appreciation for life on the water, in the water, and for its delicate environment.

He worked his way through Columbia University as a postal carrier and joined the service full-time after graduation. He quickly moved into a supervisory track and was given his own post office to manage in Patterson. Then, his career path (which included a Rutgers MBA) led him to the Service's real estate division, and later to property development, where he managed projects throughout the country. A project of which he is particularly proud is the retail renovation of the historic Post Office across from Madison Square Garden.

It was a promotion and transfer to Philadelphia in 1986 that brought him to Medford Lakes, following the advice of a friend who told him that "it was the only place to live in South Jersey." After a visit with wife Toni and both in full agreement, they took up residence on Chickahominy Trail where they raised sons Josh, Geoff, and Jeremy. He is thrilled that Josh and Jeremy are also Lakers.

Greg's community service began in 1989 when he joined the M.L.A.A. board. He recalls it as a particularly transformational and challenging period. "There was a lot of interest in growing youth and adult sports back then," he recalls. "But our facilities, uniforms, and equipment were in poor condition and not ready for the expansion. And we were very low on money. We had to start over from scratch on a very tight budget."

With a new board of too many to name, the auxiliary remade itself. Fields were re-sod, dugouts, fencing, batting cages, and bleachers were added. Sprinkler and electric systems were installed. In fact, much of the athletic infrastructure we enjoy today came from that time. In all, Greg spent eight years with M.L.A.A. including service as its Property V.P., Finance V.P., and time as Commissioner of Soccer, Baseball, and Basketball. Greg was also active as a coach, an activity he continues to this day. In all, he has coached an astonishing 41 teams(!) including a current five-year run coaching his grandchildren Maxwell and Lyla in

M.L.A.A.'s Basketball program. His service to community athletics also includes time as a soccer and basketball referee. Greg still maintains a busy schedule refereeing interscholastic high-school sports.

It was in 1997 that he joined the Colony Board of Directors, where he served for about ten years, including time as Lakes Committee Chair, Property V.P., Finance V.P., and finally as Colony President. When he was

President, he wrote a popular monthly feature, "Lakeside Chats" for the *Colony News*, a project in which he takes great pride. But once again, he found himself in the middle of a crisis – the flood of 2004 – created by the "1,000-year storm" that swept away the Aetna dams and threatened the Colony with financial ruin. Greg was actively involved with many others navigating the recovery process and helping protect the Colony's interests in the storm of litigation against the Colony that followed. That we exist today is in no small part a credit to that board's success.

After his Colony service, he was elected to a four-year term on Borough Council, which concluded with a year as mayor in 2012. Once again, Greg was called on to help lead the community through turbulent times. This time it was a long-overdue property tax reassessment and evaluating a study on eliminating the Medford Lakes Police force. It was a 2-1 Council vote to retain the force, with Greg siding with the majority.

Greg was also a member of the Medford Lakes Lions Club from 2008 to the present, and served as the Club's President in 2018-19.

When Greg retired from the Post Office in 2018, he actually found himself looking for something to do! This is after completing the "hat trick" of serving as President of the town's three major organizations and also a term as Mayor! He returned to Colony affairs to work on the Lakes Committee where he has served to this day. His contributions there include establishing a "healthy lakes" strategy, which involves scheduled hydro-raking and multi-lake aeration.

Reflecting on a lifetime of out-of-town work, evening meetings, and citizen and member phone calls, Greg is quick to credit the enduring support, patience, and understanding of Toni, his wife of 43 years. "I see her as my partner in all of this," he says. "And she's been my best friend throughout."

Thanks to Greg Lackey for all you've done for us!

