



## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Can you believe we are already in the final few months of 2024? Our annual elections are coming up in February so we are soliciting nominations for our 2025 Board of Directors. If you would like to volunteer to be on the board, please complete the [Board of Directors Application](#). Plan to join us at the Annual Meeting in February. The agenda, location, and time will be posted in January 2025.

This year's potluck on September 21<sup>st</sup> was so much fun! About 40 neighbors attended. There was fantastic food, fun dancing (at least by a couple cute kiddos and yours truly), and lots of mingling and meeting neighbors. "Chefs" Scott Provost and John Payne entertained the crowd flipping burgers, dogs, and onions on the grill (and sometimes each other). Nancy Brown and Mindy Atkinson manned the membership table, bringing in many renewed and new memberships as well as selling tickets to passersby who just wanted one of John and Jeff's hamburgers.

Thank you to those of you who paid your annual dues at the potluck. If you have not paid yet, or you're not sure, please reach out to [bha.wa.board@gmail.com](mailto:bha.wa.board@gmail.com). It costs only \$25/year to be a part of our awesome association. Larissa, Board President



Jacob Libby, from BHA Facebook

## WHAT'S INSIDE

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Association Events

*Burfoot Park Ivy Pulling*  
11/17, 10 am-12 pm

*Harbor Stories* 11/23, 5 pm  
*Marina*

*Annual Meeting*  
2/2025, 6 pm, date and  
location TBD

### Marina Events

*Haunted House* 10/31:  
4:30-5:30 pm little kids  
5:30-7 pm big kids

*Trivia* 11/2, 11/16, 5 pm

*Wine Tasting* 11/9, 5 pm

*Harbor History* 11/23, 5 pm

*Wreath Making* 11/30, 11 am



## SURVEY SAYS...

We had a good response to our survey, with 102 participants answering 14 questions about community activities. Thank you to all who took the time to participate. And a HUGE thank you to board member Scott Provost who prepared the survey and the fantastic [presentation of the results](#)! We are so lucky to have a survey professional on the board.

### Key Takeaways:

- Awareness, participation, and opinions of eleven community activities were evaluated. Taking into account the level of awareness of activities, the top three that participants felt most positive about were:
  1. July 3<sup>rd</sup> Bike Parade
  2. IvyBeGone (in Burfoot Park)
  3. Annual Picnic/Potluck
- While not in the top three, 76% of participants felt positively or neutral about the annual July 3<sup>rd</sup> Fireworks, with 24% responding negatively. See article about fireworks, below.
- Participants offered a lot of suggestions for new activities. [Check them out](#) and if you'd like to spearhead one or more, email Jackie, [jackie.d.ashley@gmail.com](mailto:jackie.d.ashley@gmail.com)
- To see all results and comments, please review the [full survey](#) posted on the Boston Harbor Association website ([bharbor.org](http://bharbor.org)).

## 2025 FIREWORKS – TO BE OR NOT TO BE?



Todd Mason, from BHA Facebook

The future of the July 3<sup>rd</sup> Fireworks is in our community's hands. The original intent for the fireworks was to create one large central display to replace the individual street fireworks and the noise and fire danger that came with them. While it didn't eliminate people shooting off their own fireworks, it did significantly reduce it.

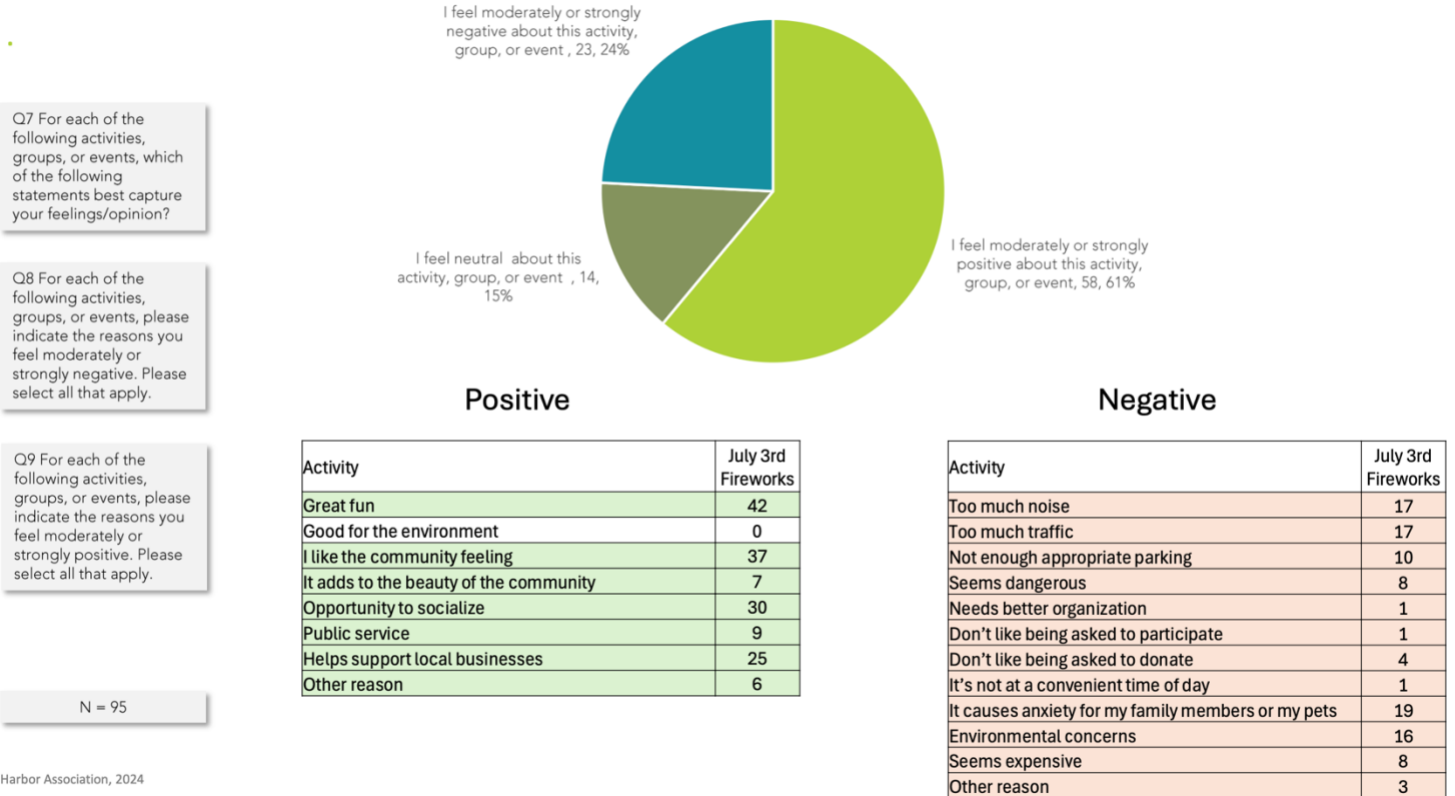
The recent community survey showed a majority of participants felt positively about the fireworks: 61% felt moderately or strongly positive about them; 15% were neutral; and 24% were negative. This is not to say there aren't significant concerns (noise, traffic, parking, anxiety, environment), but there isn't an overwhelming message to stop the show. We took a quick look into drone shows but they're very expensive and have set up challenges for our current location.

Connect with the Association and your neighbors on Social Media. We're on [Facebook](#) and [Next Door](#). If you're not a member yet, [join us](#)! Just \$25 per household supports events and minor administrative costs.



## FIREWORKS Continued...

### Feelings/Opinions Regarding Boston Harbor Community Activities – July 3<sup>rd</sup> Fireworks



in Harbor Association, 2024

Regardless of their popularity, the fireworks show is expensive, and the costs increase every year. Last year it cost \$20,000 for fireworks, security, preparation, barge and towing support. In 2014, it cost \$7,000. It is difficult to raise money for the event. We try to keep fundraising within our community to keep the event local.

The hard truth is, our fireworks show is no longer “local.” The costs are starting to exceed the amount we receive through small donations and local sponsors. The attendance has grown beyond what a volunteer board and the Boston Harbor Marina staff can manage. If we go forward with the fireworks in 2025, there will be several changes, some of which are listed below:

- A Fireworks Committee will be formed to plan and raise funds for the show. We need several volunteers from the community. If you are one of the people who love the show, please volunteer by contacting BHA President, Larissa James at [bha.wa.board@gmail.com](mailto:bha.wa.board@gmail.com) by November 15.
- Professional event management services will be hired to provide a safer and more smoothly run fireworks show. We anticipate this will bring the cost of the fireworks show to \$30,000.00 or more. If you have event management expertise and would like to develop and oversee the water and/or land management plans, please contact BHA President, Larissa James at [bha.wa.board@gmail.com](mailto:bha.wa.board@gmail.com).



## FIREWORKS Continued...

- The Marina docks may be closed to the public, however moorage customers will still have access.
- Boats anchoring in the harbor will be managed to keep critical water channels open.
- Public parking on the streets to the west of Boston Harbor Road and around the Marina may be limited.

Fireworks fundraising and event planning will begin in November 2024. Please contact BHA President Larissa James at [bha.wa.board@gmail.com](mailto:bha.wa.board@gmail.com) if you are willing to be on the Fireworks Committee, make a sizable donation, help with fundraising, or help with event management.

# HARBOR STORIES AT THE MARINA NOV 23, 5-7PM

## This is gonna be FUN!

Did you know there was once a mill, a hotel, a boardwalk, a cannery, a lightkeeper, and a foghorn out here? Join us at the Marina to hear about the early days in Boston Harbor from some “old timers” ☺ who grew up here. We’ll get into their stories after a short intro about the Indigenous Peoples who originally lived here, then a bit about some of the early settlers and swindlers, one of whom named the area “Boston Harbor.” It’s a fascinating history!

Reconnect with childhood neighbors, or, for newbies, meet the people who shaped this community and hear their stories about this place we call home. Feel free to submit questions ahead of time by emailing [bha.wa.board@gmail.com](mailto:bha.wa.board@gmail.com), or messaging the [Marina](#) on Facebook.

## BURFOOT PARK NEWS



We presented the [Burfoot Park Expansion Proposal](#) to the Board of County Commissioners on October 15. We’ll let you know their response when we get it. At that same meeting, the commissioners approved applying to the WA State Recreation and Conservation Office to upgrade the trails in the park. Yay!

Our first ivy pull was October 20. Thank you to the 15 people who helped pull a big pile of ivy! Join us Sunday, November 17<sup>th</sup>, 10 am-12 pm for our next ivy pull. To get on the email list for updates and reminders, email [kimarkelley2@comcast.net](mailto:kimarkelley2@comcast.net). If you pull ivy on your own, please email Kim to find out how and where to dispose of it so it’s not extra work for the county maintenance crews. It makes them grumpy.

**Boston Harbor Association Board:** Larissa James, President; Kate Gervais, Vice President; Nancy Brown, Treasurer, Web Liaison; Jackie Ashley, Secretary; Kim Kelley, Environment Committee Chair, Newsletter; Nina Goodrich; Scott Provost; John Payne.