

Board Meeting Minutes October 3, 2009

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 10:03 a.m. by President Laurie Francis.

Attendance

Members in attendance were: Laurie Francis, Tom Gabriel, Linda Ebbe, Patti Ebbe, Steve Nowicki, Dick Wadnal, Tom Wycklendt, David Trudeau, Jinny Matush, Jerry Sipla, Ron Fisher, John Kovac, David Duxstad, Gerald Klahn, Norm Abler, Linda Sheppard, Bill Scharles, Joan Schwegel, and Bob Linke.

Secretary's Report

After reading the minutes of the last board meeting held on August 1, 2009, Ron Fisher moved that we accept the minutes with the change that Dick Wadnel, who was listed as president in the call to order, is actually the vice president; John Kovac seconded the motion and the motion was approved.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Linda Sheppard reported that the beginning checkbook balance from August 31, 2009, was \$6,597.86. There were total receipts of \$5,912.56 and total expenses of \$6,130.66. The ending checkbook balance on September 30, 2009, was \$6,379.76. Steve Nowicki moved to accept the treasurer's report, Ron Fisher seconded and the motion was approved.

Budget Committee Report

Chairperson Bob Linke deferred to committee member Jerry Sipla who noted that we were still in the negative comparing income to expenses. He noted that we have not paid our loan principal down as we had hoped. Bob Linke added that although we had planned to use this year as a trial year for a workable budget, this year has been an unusual year economically and we should defer using 2008 as a trial year for a workable budget. Bob noted that we can still keep the budget with the proposed figures, noting that we need more time to get a trial year with viable numbers. Therefore, the budget committee will keep working with the figures as we have them for another six months before bringing adjustment suggestions to the business committee.

Tri-Lakes Management Report

Chairperson Steve Nowicki reported the following:

- Replacement of old, inadequate septic systems: As of August 1, 2009, 36 properties were cited to remove or repair their septic systems; 23 of those were resolved; 13 are moving to a second citation. As of September 1, 2009, seven more septic systems have been found to be in code violation. Letters have been sent to those property owners.
- Weed harvesting for 2009 yielded 3,107,500 pound of weeds for all three lakes; Lake Sherwood had 940,100 pounds of the total.
- Invitations to the Cranberry Tour were sent to all members; Steve encouraged all members to try to attend.
- The agricultural runoff upstream is still a problem as we have no control over it. Adams County's Chris Murphy is in charge of getting the agricultural owners to comply with the clean water ordinances, but as of now, little has been done.

- The Tri-Lakes board approved a motion to purchase a new weed harvester to replace the one that is 15 years old and on its last repair. There are no monies available from the federal or state government s. Plans are to replace another old harvester next year as well.
- The Sherwood Dam toe drains are passing some gravel. It is not a lot, so it will be monitored by the county as these are county drains.
- Steve encouraged all members to join the Lake Management Planning Committee. It only meets once a year but does need people to take water samples etc. Let Steve know if you are interested.

Architectural Report

Chairperson Bill Scharles had no report.

LSPOA Assistant Report

Barb Schwarz is on vacation, so there is no report.

Covenants Committee Report

Chairperson Tom Gabriel asked who has responsibility for the blow-up trampolines, slides, piers, etc. Steve Nowicki said that once it was in the lake, the DNR (Department of Natural Resources) has the responsibility to monitor it. If we see violations (not removing them overnight or if they are too far out into the lake), we should call the county and the DNR to take care of the violations.

Scholarship and Donations Committee

Chairperson Joan Schwegel had no report.

Business Committee Report

Chairperson Dick Wadnal reported the following:

- Board Members must remember their confidentiality agreement not to discuss board meeting discussions with the general public or where the general public can overhear them. At the last meeting, the possibility of selling or leasing the lodge was mentioned as a possible solution if times do not improve. Unfortunately, rumors surfaced that had people thinking the Lodge was going to be sold or leased. It is not being sold or leased. If we have any questions or comments about operations, we should speak to Mike Sheppard, Lodge Manager, or Gerilyn, Assistant Lodge Manager, or Dick Wadnal, Business Committee Chairperson.
- The Business Committee has been looking at the Lodge Operations Page and although economic times are tough, the following items have been addressed since 9/22/09 and will continue to 12/31/09:
 - Kitchen Staff Reductions
 - Bar Staff Reductions
 - Bar hours reduced 18 hours a week
 - Kitchen hours reduced 7 hours a week
 - Menu reductions; main items remain
 - Attempting to reduce inventory
 - Bar Prices will increase 25 cents per drink
 - Continue bar and food controls and eliminate items where possible
 - Continue promotions to bring people in

- The committee noted that since last year we lost 50% of our revenue due to loss of gambling revenues, reductions of gasoline revenues, and reductions in cigarette revenues. Our other revenues have remained approximately the same.

Questions/Comments from the Board Members:

- Bob Linke stated that his remarks at the previous meeting were what he considered the budget committee's responsibility to impart to the membership. They were meant only as possible considerations for the board. He also stated that the budget committee will continue to monitor the budget process but will hold off making recommendations for a better trial year.
- Jerry Klahn stated that the budget was an ongoing process and that the business committee was doing its best to improve and adjust operations and have a working plan.
- Mike Sheppard (Lodge Manager) found that we are heavy on food inventory, especially shrimp! He also is trying to get the cash flow stabilized. He has a Monday night special for the Packer/Viking game—a free shot for every Brett Favre sack or interception! Mike also stated that the Lodge pays for itself on weekdays so closing on weekdays should not be an option.
- Jinny Matush said that we all could come up with ideas to raise money and nobody should discuss our budget outside of board meetings.
- Jerry Sipla brought up that Board members could be assessed or we could have a special assessment for all members to get the loan repaid.
- Steve Nowicki said we should support the lodge as much as possible.
- Jerry Klahn read us the part in the by-laws that tells us that we can have a special assessment by passing a resolution in the board by a 2/3 positive vote and then taking it to a general or special meeting for all Lake Sherwood members (those who pay dues) and passing it with a simple majority.
- Norm Abler asked the business committee to come up with a plan to reduce LSPOA expenses and bring it back for the board to look at.
- Tom Wycklendt asked what percentage of property owners pays dues. We have 652 property owners. Fifty-four percent paid dues to date.

Housing Committee Report

Steve Nowicki reported the following:

- The committee reviewed John Kovac's hours to date and found that he spends about 12 ½ hours every week on average to help keep the property and grounds well maintained.
- DCM Landscaping will be hired again for snow plowing. It is \$60 a time plus salt and sand costs.
- We have replaced six bar stools.
- We are reviewing Steve's plumbing to have for the future. Next year we will get other bids for the plumbing jogs. We also need to purchase a timer in the septic system to cut bills during the winter. Jerry Klahn moved to buy the timer, Ron Fisher seconded the motion and the motion was approved.
- We also need to replace the patio door, which is on sale for \$880 at Menards or put foam tape on it for the winter. Linda Sheppard moved to put foam tape on the door for this winter and address the need for a new door in the spring. Linda Ebbe seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Nominating Committee Report

Jinny Matush had no updates on Board members for the empty spots from Broadsword, Glencove, and Westwood Shores.

Nominations were held for the slate of elected officers, President, Vice President, and Secretary.

Joan Schwegel was nominated for Secretary, Dave Trudeau was nominated for Vice President, and Jerry Klahn was nominated for President. Voting will take place at the next meeting on November 7, 2009.

Recreation Committee Report

John Kovac reported that he was limiting the children's Christmas Party to be held Friday, November 27, 2009 and would be limited to a maximum of 50 children.

Conservation Committee Report

Chairperson Dave Trudeau reported the following:

- Dave is collecting records on fish stocking over the years at Lake Sherwood
- He is also working with the DNR on the analysis of fish stocking for the lake and analyzing the weed effects on the fish
- As part of the Wildfire Committee, he said they are making plans for recommended projects on Firewise information. They would like to tie us into their website so that we can link with the information about Firewise.
- On November 5, 2009, the committee will ask the Rome Town Board to pass a nuisance ordinance on clearing dead trees, removing brush, etc. The ordinance would be enforced by the Town of Rome.

Correspondence

- Received a letter from Wildlife Committee inviting us to become part of the Firewise Community/USA Recognition. Based on Dave Trudeau's report, Steve Nowicki moved that we pursue joining the Firewise Community; Ron Fisher seconded and the motion was approved.
- Luebke letter—members were made aware of the ugly scum on the lake through the pictures accompanying the letter. We are advising her to send them on to the DNR and to Adams County.

Old Business

None

New Business

- Board of Directors Christmas party—the general feeling of board members in attendance was enthusiastic for having the Christmas party. Steve Nowicki graciously agreed to cook again this year and we asked him to look into coordinating with Mike to use up some of the excess Lodge inventory. Steve will get back to us at the November meeting to give us menu plans/options. The Christmas party will be Saturday, December 5, 2009.
- All members in attendance (see ATTENDANCE) donated \$1 each toward quick picks for the Powerball Lottery. If we win, \$222,000 will go to pay off the loan and the rest will be split among the 19 dollar donors.

Respectfully submitted—Joan Schwegel, Secretary