

Sprongs Bluff Landowners Association

Annual Meeting

Minutes

July 7, 2018

The Sprongs Bluff Landowners Association met on Saturday July 7, 2018 at 10:00 a.m. in the “Town Hall”.

Present: Art Adams & Sue Gaylord, Rick Bush & Janice Adair, Mike Byerly, Bob & Carol Colvin, Bob & Ellen Cooper, Yeates Conwell & Gay Mills, John Dempsey, Joe DiTucci, Mike & Janet Ehrhart, Jan Ferry-Axman, Dave Fitch & Wendy Hrabak, Don & Nancy Foster, Ruth Gaylord, Mike Harmer, Ellen Hobbie, Lorraine & Ray Holla, Bill & Sandy Jeffers, Mike & Adrienne Kllc, Bob Laird, Dave & Julie Mitchell, Sumner & Sumner Pearsall, Jon & Betsy Raynor, Doug & Donna Riter, Ed Saphar, Jimmy Scardinale, Matt Schman & Kristi Finch, Amy Thatcher, Freida VonSchiller, Larry & Karen Whitbeck.

Dave Fitch asked the membership to observe a moment of silence for Scott Lucieer and good wishes for Cheryl DiTucci.

Dave Fitch asked that everyone introduce themselves for the new members.

Dave Fitch asked everyone to share their thoughts with Post-It notes adding them to poster boards with heading of 1. Our Work Ahead. 2. What Works Well. There was also a Thank You board to share with everyone who they were thankful for.

Dave called the meeting to order at 10:22am.

Amy Lichti notified everyone that the minutes were distributed prior to the meeting and asked if there were any changes in the minutes. No changes were given. Betsy Raynor motioned that the minutes be approved and Adrienne Kllc 2nd the motion. All approved the July 1, 2017 minutes. Motion carried.

Jimmy Scardinale read the Treasurer’s Report which was handed out to each family. He went over the “Services” and “Expenses”. They were explained and approved. A listing was given of Income and Expenses for the 2017 – 2018.

Dave Fitch went over what was called “Summary of Costs” which was handed out to each family. Betsy Raynor clarified that the spruce tree that was listed was not on the Raynor property. Ed Saphar brought up that the N/S culvert was missing a “Wing Wall”. Bob Cooper talked about making sure that a guard rail was installed there. Betsy Raynor also made sure people understood that the culvert was a ‘dry stack’ which means that it was not held together with cement. Manfred Lichti asked why permits were not acquired. Dave Fitch pointed out to Manfred Lichti and Ed Saphar that their questions/comments should and would be addressed later, that at this time in the meeting we were speaking only about the report. Manfred Lichti said that Dave should have gotten the permits prior to any work being done. Art Adams motioned that the report be accepted and Joe DiTucci 2nd the motion. Motion carried.

4th of July Weekend events:

Matt Shuman talked about the Carnival. Matt pushed the contest between the East vs. West end competition. Matt brought up that the money that was made only fit in a coffee mug, and offered to add it to the budget. Matt announced that the carnival was to start after the annual meeting was adjourned.

Mike Ehrhart talked about the music this year. Mike stated that there was a special DJ called Myster E. performing from 7pm – 10pm Saturday night at the west end common area. There will be a dance area, lights and loads of fun.

Rick Bush talked about the Kayak Race. That it was going to start at 10am Sunday morning. The races starting line will be at the west end common area. Mike Byerly, Ellen Hobbie and Amy Lichti offered up their kayaks. Lorraine Holla asked if the time for the Kayak race could be changed next year because it conflicted with the 5-K run at Sodus Point. Many runners in Lorraine’s family miss out on the kayak races.

Bob Cooper talked about the Nature Walk. Bob said that we will be meeting at the name sign at 1pm Sunday afternoon.

Rick Bush – Directory updates needed. Rick will be getting a new directory printed and to make sure that all the information is updated if there were any changes. Rick also talked about repairing and updating the name sign with

new Home Owners. Rick also handed out some Sodus Point lighthouse prints and offered to get more printed for anyone interested.

Bob Laird – Dumpster and Propane report. Change of year for the dumpster changed from Sept. 1st – Aug. 31st to July 1st – June 30th. That means that there was a reimbursement for 2 months. So everyone that paid dumpster dues last year only has to pay for 10 months this year. Bob said that he was not an expert on the Propane costs. Bob is still happy with Main Energy. Bob gave the prices.

- **A new member would get \$1.99/gal. for 500 gallons**
- **If prepaid in advance would get \$1.89/gal. for 500 gallons.**
- **For Sprongs Bluff member – they would get \$1.79/gal. for 500 gallons.**

Dave Fitch – East End Bridge Report. This project was supposed to be done in fall of 2017. Approximate cost for the bridge \$2650 for the future year.

New Business:

- **Jimmy Scardinale requested that dues be paid in advance before any reduction in dues occurs for services to the community.**
- **Sumner Pearsall said that it was the same difference. That it didn't matter if a person paid first or put an invoice through first.**
- **Kristi Finch paid her dues then was reimbursed for her services.**
- **Donna Riter motioned that resident service providers pay dues first then be reimbursed for services rendered. . Betsy 2nd the motioned. Association agreed and motion carried.**
- **Absentee Vote was requested. This motion was tabled.**
- **It was motioned that Article XI – Committees of the ByLaws be changed. Dave Fitch examined the role of the Nominating Committee and summarized the current controversy. Manfred made a point in saying that he did not have anything to do with the decision of how the Nominating Committee picked their candidate. In response to a question of why do we have a nominating committee, Betsy Raynor explained that in the past it was sometimeshard to find candidates to fill the positions. Members agreed. Bob Laird said that there should not be a Nominating Committee period. Bob Laird said that the nomination committee told people how to vote. Amy Lichti said “Are you saying that the members don't think for themselves?” Bob Laird agreed with that statement.**

- **Article XI changes – Dave Fitch handed out a written proposal for rewording and clarification of duties for the Nominating Committee with 4 options for the article change, see below.**

Sprongs Bluff Landowners Association Bylaws

Adopted July 3, 2010

Revised July 9, 2017

A. Bylaws posted on the Association’s website:

Article XI: 1. Prior to the summer annual meeting, the Board of Officers shall appoint a Nominating Committee consisting of one Officer and two members at large whose duty shall be nomination of candidates for election. The **slate** of officers will be presented at the summer annual meeting.

B. Addendum to Article XI from the July 4, 2015 Association minutes that was motioned by Ed Saphar, seconded, and carried but never added:

Nominations from the floor would be allowed. One week prior to the annual meeting, the Nominating committee would provide to members the slate of officers. The Board of Officers should read Executive committee.

C. Article XI with no changes other than adding the July 4, 2015 addendum:

Article XI:

1. Prior to the summer annual meeting, the **Executive committee** shall appoint a Nominating Committee consisting of one Officer and two members at large whose duty shall be nomination of candidates for election.
2. **One week prior to the annual meeting, the Nominating Committee will present the slate of officers to the members.**
3. **Nominations will be accepted from the floor during the annual meeting.**

D. Proposed rewording and clarification of duties for the Nominating Committee:

Article XI:

1. Prior to the summer annual meeting, the **Executive Committee** shall appoint a Nominating Committee consisting of one Officer and two members at large whose duty shall be nomination of candidates for election.
2. **One week prior to the annual meeting, the Nominating Committee will present candidates to the members.**
3. **The Nominating Committee shall present all eligible candidates (members who are willing and dues paying) for a position without making any recommendation for or endorsement of any one individual.**
4. **Nominations will also be accepted from the floor during the annual meeting.**

- **The paper was discussed and option D was accepted with the following addition. Line 2 was added to say “The nomination committee will notify the membership that nominations are open one month prior to the annual meeting.” The remaining items were renumbered to 3, 4 and 5. There were no changes to the rest of the items. Karen Whitbeck made a motion that with the above changes the new wording be accepted. Doug Riter 2nd the motion. Motion carried.**

Community Sign-Up Sheets: Dave Fitch suggested that the volunteer sign-up sheets be online. Survey Monkey could be used for these sign-up sheets. Betsy Raynor emphasized that the survey results be made public. Dave Fitch agreed to publicize all survey results.

Dave Fitch requested that there be a Contractor Committee set up to make a form that advises hired workers of the rules of our Community such as: Speed on the road, restrictions to the dumpster use. Contractors that agreed to the rules would be posted on the website. Wendy was made head of the Contractor committee. Jon Raynor volunteered to help with the contractor committee.

Proposed Budget 2018 – 2019. Dave Fitch gave this report (see attached). Survey Monkey was requested to use to establish the priority of items based on members wishes. A discussion followed where priorities were established by those present. The first item discussed was the suggested N/S road paving of a single lane – 100’ long and 8’ wide. At a price of \$5000, the majority of people were not in favor of the project. Pavement testing is not necessary. Others stated that they do not want paving on the road. East and West culverts are more important than paving. This project was dismissed.

Dave Fitch talked about a town in the north country where there had been a legal battle for getting public services on a private road. The lawsuit ended with no services being provided. In view of that legal battle, the town of Sodus decided that two of its communities would receive services and the two others would not. Dave Fitch wants to have contact with the Town of Sodus. Doug Riter talked about past times when the Town was contacted about such matters. It was mentioned that the road owners (Reithel estate) do not want any contact about the road. Freida VonSchiller made comments about being at a Sodus Town Board meeting and being very surprised that an agenda item

about public water for Sprong's Bluff was included and why weren't we told about this prior to the Sodus Town Board meeting. Who proposed this to the town and we should be told in the future before any town contacts are made. A motion was made by Joe DiTucci that contact be made with the Town. Sue Gaylord-Adams 2nd. Motion carried.

Joe DiTucci suggested that guard rails be added to the N/S culvert. There are 2 options at present. Dave Fitch suggested wood rails that he has designed. He will build for the cost of milling the lumber that was removed from VonSchiller's land, any other materials and power post hole digger. Jon Raynor offered 2 metal guard rails for free. Dave Fitch emphasized that his plan would be more beautiful and he thought it was the best. This would be a cost of \$450. Joe DiTucci made a motion for the wooden rails. Mike Kluc 2nd. Motion carried.

Rick Bush made a motion that the budget for General Maintenance as listed in the proposed budget be accepted at \$3170 total as described (see attached). Sue Gaylord-Adams 2nd. Motion carried.

Jimmy Scardinale reminded the membership that our total General Fund is about \$10000 after dues are paid. As treasurer, he can only recommend budgeting to spend \$7000. He emphasized that it is important to maintain a balance of \$3000 for emergencies.

Mailboxes project – Amy Lichti brought up that it's been awhile since the association agreed to repair, put mailboxes in numerical order and update the mailbox holder. Dave Fitch selected Kristi Finch to do the job. Julie Mitchell volunteered along with Amy Lichti. Betsy Raynor said that the mailboxes should be put back where they are now. Dave Fitch said that we will make them movable. Kristi Finch said she will contact the Town of Sodus about the road to bypass her driveway. Price for this project is budgeted at \$500. This project was approved as budgeted.

The East end bridge widening project was approved as budgeted. Price for this project is budgeted at \$2650.

West end culvert – Mike Byerly motioned that the engineering study be done. Joe DiTucci motioned that we should wait until Membership talks to the Town of Sodus. Mike Byerly 2nd. No money was budgeted for this project. This project was tabled.

Website – Dave Fitch suggested a Blog. Amy Lichti said a Blog was added in the past and was not utilized. It was removed from the site. Dave Fitch suggested a facebook page/group. Members rejected this suggestion. Dave Fitch suggested officers email be taken off the website. Dave said that his email address was hacked. This suggestion was accepted. Dave Fitch suggested a password protected document page. Amy Lichti said that this was already in place. Bob Laird suggested that the website be SSL protected certified. Bob Laird said that this could have a cost of up to \$300. Manfred Lichti emphasized that this cost was only for the certificate. Dave Fitch approved that Manfred & Amy Lichti take care of this. Bob Laird motioned and Jimmy Scardinale 2nd. Motion carried. \$240 was budgeted for the website. The cost of the SSL certificate is extra.

Community Concerns – Adrienne Kllc motioned that due to the length of the meeting, we forgo this topic. Freida VonSchiller 2nd. Motion carried.

Nominating Committee Report – Amy Thatcher read the nominating committee report. Many members said that they could not hear the report. So Amy Lichti reread the report. “The Nominating Committee submits the following nominations: for president, Mike Ehrhart and for treasurer, Jimmy Scardinale. Dave Fitch asked Mike Ehrhart to speak, but Dave was reminded that he had to open up nominations from the floor. Rick Bush nominated Dave Fitch for president.

Rick Bush presented his nomination speech for Dave Fitch for president. Rick went into a complete list of all of the projects Dave completed over the year. He also talked about why he would make a great president. Rick also talked about how much more Dave Fitch accomplished in one year than previous presidents.

Mike Ehrhart gave his speech on why he would make a great president. First Mike thanked the Board for all of the work they did and paused for clapping of the association members. Mike emphasized that no matter what the outcome – this community needs to come together.

Amy Lichti asked why Kristi Finch/Matt Shuman were allowed to vote since in the By-Laws it states in Article III “Any property owner in the Sprongs Bluff Subdivision is eligible for membership in the Association.” They are not

in the Subdivision. Jan Ferry-Axman suggested that Article III be changed to read anyone living on the Sprongs Bluff Rd. be eligible. A vocal positive response was spoken by many and it was accepted that Kristi/Matt be allowed to vote at this election.

Jon Raynor, Ellen Hobbie and Amy Lichti were appointed tellers of the vote. Amy Lichti proceeded to hand out the ballots by paid membership property address list. Jon Raynor checked off who received ballots from the list. 28 ballots were handed out. After all ballots were collected, Amy Lichti read each ballot. Ellen Hobbie separated the ballots into name piles and Jon Raynor kept a tally. 28 were received back. Jon Raynor announced that Dave Fitch had won the election. Dave was confirmed and Jimmy Scardinale was also confirmed.

Meeting was informally adjourned at 1:15 pm

Respectively submitted by Amy Lichti - Secretary