

Minutes of Executive Board of GBCA meeting – 1/23/11

Present: Ron Arnstein, Dan Fast, Chris Rietsch, Michael Brown, Martha Levites, Jody Folster, Fred Margolies, Jay Martin, Drew Orr, Dorothy Shulman, Paul Stewart-Stand, John Bergherr, Gerry Sircus

Absent: Drew Orr, Mera Eisen

Meeting called to order at 9:45 AM

- 1- The minutes of the 12/19/10 Board meeting were read, corrected, and accepted as corrected.

- 2- Rental & Sales:
Ken reported as follows:
The Elias house sale has gone to contract at \$150,000, contingent upon the buyer obtaining a permit to build a three bedroom house on the property. In order for the sale to proceed GBCA must waive it's option. Martha moved, seconded by Ken, to waive our option. Passed unanimously.

Ron reported that Eric Stand had called him about dead trees threatening his son Paul's house, and that Eric had told him that a tree on the Elias property had fallen recently, damaging Paul's house, and narrowly missing Paul and his wife. The two properties are adjoining. Ron called Michael Elias about the problem, as a courtesy to Eric, and suggested that Michael hire an Arborist, which Michael has done. It was noted that this is not a Colony responsibility, and must be handled by the owners in question.

- 3- Financial:
 - Ron wrote to Hom and directed him to contact Martha and pay up. Martha has not heard from Hom.
 - The DeAngelis situation was discussed. Although he has made payments, they have been sporadic, and have required prodding. Ron and Drew will make sure that his curbcock can be turned to shut off his water, and then John Bergherr will contact DeAngelis, and state that payment in full must be made immediately, and if such payment is not forthcoming, then water will be shut off.
 - Martha reported that she is backing up the Treasury files to an on-line back up service at a cost of \$5 per month due to her having problems with the flash drive that she was using for that purpose. Martha stated that the Colony should provide her with a laptop computer to handle the Treasurer work. Jay moved, seconded by Ken, to have the Colony purchase a laptop computer for the use of the Treasurer. Passed unanimously.
 - Martha reported on our financial status as follows:

Assets in bank: M&T Camp	\$8,872
M&T Checking	\$77,683
Total Assets in Bank	\$86,555
Other Accounts: Savings (Cap. Improv.)	\$20,630
Water Money Market (M&T)	\$34,579
Total Investments:	\$55,209

Total Assets:

\$141,764

- No update on the Brennan situation.

4- Roads:

- Fred reported on a conversation he had with Mr. Ripperger. Ripperger stated that, although there are no planned cuts in service this year, things will happen more slowly.
- It was noted that there is considerable icing on the roads, with the last half of West Main Street in particularly poor condition.

5- Environment:

- Discussion of putting up fencing around the basketball court to keep the ball from going into the swamp. No decision reached.
- We are getting a large dumpster this year, and the Environmental committee wants to know what it is for: general community clean up or for individual community members to place household trash in it. If the latter, then we will probably need a second dumpster for the general community clean up.
- The question of Bria Carting picking up recyclables for the community (Beach and Barn) was discussed. Martha will check on whether a separate pick up is needed for a business. An additional charge may be incurred.
- The Environmental committee is looking for a place for a community garden. The Nursery acre was suggested, but it was pointed out that the placement of one of the Colony wells, which is on that property, precluded that use. The committee will look for another location.
- Trees were discussed: Mark Schmid noted that there are trees which he feels are threatening the school bus stops. The general sentiment of the Board was to wait until spring when the condition of the leaves can be ascertained, although Chris noted that now is the time to assess the condition of the trunk of the tree. It was decided to hold on this for now.
- The shuffleboard court at the beach needs to be refurbished.

6- Camp:

- The mailing for Camp registration and information is scheduled to go out next week.
- Tuition will remain the same as last year for community residents, and will be a little higher for those from outside the community.
- Hiring of Camp staff and lifeguards is proceeding.
- The Camp committee wants to have a Camp Night in the Barn, and will coordinate this event with the Social committee.

7- Good & Welfare, Etc.:

- It was noted that Paul Gordon, a long time member of our community, passed away this past week. Paul was 96.
- Ron reported on an article in the Lewisboro Ledger regarding dogs. It is now a violation of the local law for a dog to defecate anywhere but on the owner's property, and all dogs must be licensed. It is probable that the owner's picking up after their dog would meet the intent of the law.

- Gary Forbes, our insurance agent, will be coming to our next Board meeting to discuss our insurance situation.
- Ron described a conversation that he had recently with Scott Kishbaum of NYSDEC. Mr. Kishbaum stated that in order to acquire DEC permits to perform dredging the lake owner(s) must be able to prove that silting is having a negative influence on the use of the lake for boating and/or swimming, and that putrefaction of organic matter in the lake was not a valid reason to dredge. He suggested putting up barriers to keep runoff from the roads out of the lake. He said that Waccabuc got a permit to dredge due to the weed growth in their lake. When Ron mentioned the "mystery snails" that have been found in our lake, Mr. Kishbaum stated that, were he be able to see them he would be able to identify them, and that the presence of the snails indicates a healthy lake. He emphasized that dredging is a hard sell to both NYSDEC and NYCDEP (the lake is within the NYC watershed area, which is under the jurisdiction of NYCDEP).

The Meeting was adjourned at 11:30 AM.