

Membership Meeting (Virtual) Minutes  
August 28, 2022

The meeting on Zoom was called to order at 11:05 AM by Jeremy Schneider, President

Present: 36 Voting Members and 8 other community members.

1- Reading of Minutes:

The minutes of the 3/6/22 Special Membership meeting were read by Dan Fast, Secretary, and accepted as read. The minutes of the 7/24/22 Special Membership meeting were read by Dan Fast, Secretary, and a discussion ensued. It was decided that, since this was not a regular meeting, and no decisions were made, it was not necessary to approve or read these minutes. The minutes of the 7/31/22 Regular Membership meeting were read by Dan Fast, Secretary, and accepted as read.

2- Financial report:

William Edwards, Treasurer, gave the Financial Report as of 8/28/22 as follows:

Sterling Bank – Operating	\$105,647
Sterling Bank – Camp/ Payroll	\$ 74,058
Sterling Bank – Water Capitol	\$182,009
Sterling Bank - Capitol Improvement	\$158,420
 Total	 \$520,144

There are two members in arrears: Harris and Moledo. Both are in legal proceedings.

William stated that the Finance Committee met and made up a preliminary budget. William asked for volunteers for the Finance committee.

3- Nominating committee report – results of election:

Martha Levites reported on the results of the election for Executive Board as follows:

President –	Jeremy Metz
Vice President -	Jeremy Schneider
Treasurer -	William Edwards
Secretary -	Dan Fast

At Large:

John Bergherr  
Reed Gillen  
Russell Gordon  
Mary Mahoney  
Abaz Nuza  
Elliot Sokolov

4- Beach bathroom septic system situation:

Jeremy Metz reported on the Beach bathroom septic system situation. This report, as well as the reports from USA Drains, the company hired by the Board, and United Septic, the company hired by 14 Main St., were sent to the Membership before this meeting. Jeremy noted that 14 Main St.'s lawyer had sent us another letter stating that the owners of 14 Main St. actually own the septic system. Our attorney

advised us to ignore that letter and proceed as we had planned. Jeremy summarized the interaction between Paul Stewart-Stand and Board representatives Jeremy Metz and Drew Orr.

Jeremy then summarized the USA Drains report as follows. USA Drains, the septic system contractor hired by the Board, found that the system was functioning, and the pipe from the tank to the distribution box was clear. They used a water jet to clear the roots from two of the nine fields. The other fields were blocked by roots. They ran water for several hours, totaling over 400 gallons, and the water flowed unimpeded through the tank to the distribution box and out through the fields. (FYI: at the height of the summer we use between 140 and 200 gallons per day for the Beach bathrooms).

USA Drains recommended that we use “Root Destroyer” regularly, and then call them back and they will hydrojet the fields again.

Paul allowed USA Drains personnel into the house, and they found that the soil line from 14 Main goes directly into the septic tank, and is not connected in any way to the line from the Beach.

Jeremy stated that the shrubs over the drain field should probably be cleared in order to minimize the root intrusion into the fields.

Discussion ensued. Faye Lieman moved, seconded by John Bergherr, to stop discussion of the Beach septic system situation now, and allow the Board and 14 Main Street to resolve it. In Favor: 25: Opposed: 3 Abstaining: 2 Motion carried.

At this point Jeremy Schneider thanked Ron Arnstein, who is no longer on the Board, on behalf of the outgoing Board, for his sixty plus years of service to the community as Water Operator, holder of various Board offices, Board member, and volunteer on various community projects.

#### 5- Committee reports:

##### Water:

Ron Arnstein reported that the Main Street well has again exceeded the limits for PFOA and PFOS chemicals, and that in order to meet the water demand at the present time, both wells are needed. Ron reported that he has been called to a DOH hearing on 9/13, which he will attend with Drew Orr and Dan Fast.

William Edwards reported that the Special Water Committee is still in negotiations with an outside water operator to take over the operation of our water system.

##### Camp:

Dave McDonough reported that Camp went very well this year, with the Director and staff doing an excellent job. Dave stated that the Camp committee is now in the process of looking at waterfront staffing for next year.

##### Beach:

Abaz Nuza reported that the benches will be installed next week, and there are two other projects that the committee is working on.

Several community members raised questions about the overly large number of lifeguards at times, along with the poor coverage, and at times, no coverage. Questions were also raised about this year’s

high expenditure on waterfront staff. William Edwards and Jeremy Schneider replied that the Finance committee, and the Board would be looking into these problems in the coming year.

**Barn:**

Mike Brown reported there will be a dumpster at the Barn on 10/28 for community member's use, and requested that people compact items that they put in the dumpster, and asked that it not be overfilled, as it has in the recent past. Mike also reminded the Membership that the Barn is not available for private parties during July and August.

**Lake:**

Eric Stand reported that the dredging at the south end of the lake is scheduled to start the week of 9/8, and the spoils from the dredging will be emptied into a large bag placed on the basketball court, which will be unavailable for use until the spring of next year. Eric also requested that people remove any Purple Loosestrife that they see because it's an invasive plant that is destructive.

**Town & Roads:**

Mary Mahoney reported the Comprehensive Town Plan kickoff meeting occurred on 8/17, and the next meeting for this is on 10/17 at 7:30 PM.

**Sales & Legal:**

Jeremy Metz reported that 322 Waccabuc Road and 43 Main Street are on the market. Jeremy stated that our legal expenses for the coming year can be expected to increase due to several factors, including the Harris property situation.

**Social:**

Elliot Sokolov reported that the season was very successful, except for one event, and that the committee would be circulating a survey to the community about this year's events and possible events for next year. Elliot thanked Barbara Tauber, who is leaving the committee, for her valuable service over the past years.

**Road 4:**

Rina Slavin reported they are starting a suggested readings column, and asked for suggestions from the Membership. Rina also stated they are looking for children's vacation stories and pictures. Rina, and Elliot Sokolov, requested volunteers to help with Road 4.

**Communications:**

Natalie Solano reported that the committee is preparing a guide to the use of the new website, which will be password protected

**6- Good & Welfare**

Rina Slavin reported that Suki Sircus is back in the hospital.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 1:25 PM.

Respectfully submitted: Dan Fast, Secretary