

Membership Meeting Minutes
October 29, 2023

The meeting was called to order at 11:08 AM by Jeremy Schneider, Vice President

Present: 29 Voting Members and 8 other community members.

1- Reading of Minutes:

The minutes of the 8/28/23 Membership meeting were read by Dan Fast, Secretary, corrected, and accepted as corrected.

2- Financial report:

William Edwards, Treasurer, gave the Financial Report as of 10/28/23 as follows:

Sterling Bank – Operating	\$ 94,787
Sterling Bank – Camp/ Payroll	\$ 61,598
Sterling Bank – Water Capitol	\$227,065
Sterling Bank - Capitol Improvement	\$128,937

Total	\$512,388
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There are four members in arrears: Harris, Moledo, Burgun, and Hicks. Harris and Moledo are in legal proceedings. A lien has been placed on Burgun. Hicks paid, but still owes late fees.

3- 2024 Budget

William Edwards, Treasurer, went over the proposed 2024 Budget, and then took questions. A discussion ensued. Paul Stewart-Stand wanted the Camp budget included in the Colony budget. It was clarified that the Camp budget has always been handled separately by the Camp committee. Patrick dePaula moved, seconded by Paul Stewart-Stand, to pay all members of the Camp staff at least minimum wage. It was pointed out that the salaries our Camp pays are similar to the salaries paid at other day camps in the area, with the exception of the Town camp. The Town camp pays higher wages, but is subsidized by the Town in order to do so. After discussion the motion was withdrawn, but the Board will evaluate the Camp salary situation and the feasibility of raising salaries, and report back at a future Membership meeting.

After further discussion Barbara Tauber moved, seconded by John Bergherr, to approve the 2024 Budget, as amended at this meeting. Passed unanimously.

4- Committee reports:

Water:

Dan Fast reported that we have received a proposal for the Carbon Block PFOAs filtering system from H2O Innovation, which left a number of questions unanswered. Their proposal to use our facility for a pilot study of that system did not include the engineering of the actual installation, or the installation itself. It also appeared to be having us foot the entire bill for the pilot study, which when successfully completed should lead to a great deal of business for H2O. We sent them a list of questions, some of which have been answered, and some not. We are awaiting further information and we hope to be meeting with them in the near future to negotiate.

The idea of all of the Water System users installing their own wells instead of using the present Community Water System, and thus having the community be able to abandon that system was raised

by Ken Finkelman. It was pointed out that this must be addressed at the State level, not the County level. Jeremy Schneider stated that Jeremy Metz has had conversations with some of our elected officials discussing this subject as well as the issue of funds that may be available to upgrade our existing Water System. Dan Fast stated that in order to accomplish this all water users would have to agree to it, and all water user's properties would have to be analyzed to determine if it was possible to install a well. Dan stated that installing a well that serves more than one property on one of the properties was fraught, and he would recommend against it. Ken Finkelman moved, seconded by Rina Slavin, to direct the Board to use political leverage to convince the State DOH to allow the water users to convert to private wells, and to report back to the Membership at the next Membership meeting. In favor: 24. Opposed: 0. Abstaining: 4. Motion carried.

Dan will email the Membership about the Water Users forming a committee to work on the possible conversion to private wells.

Beach:

Abaz Nuza reported that the Beach situation was well organized this past summer, the bathrooms have been closed for the winter, the committee plans to do more work on the steps and install additional drainage for runoff control. They are also projecting work on the basketball court and the picnic tables there. Abaz stated that the committee is looking for volunteers.

Barn:

Mike Brown reported that there is a Halloween party scheduled for the Barn.

Social

Elliot Sokolov reported that the summer season was quite successful.

Road 4:

Rina Slavin reported that the committee is working on the next issue, due out in November, and they are looking for volunteers.

Environment:

John Bergherr reported that the Tag Sale & Sell / Swap was proceeding in the Barn and the committee is looking for volunteers.

Town & Roads:

Reed Gillen reported that the Town is now aware that a majority of our community supports extending the paving at the 3 entrances. Reed suggested that anyone experiencing road problems should call or email the Town Highway Dept.: 914-763-3166; highway@lewisboro.gov.

Communications:

Natalie Solano reported that she and Natalie Gehrels are wrapping up the new website for preliminary use.

Maintenance:

Drew Orr reported that the railing for the base of the new Barn back stair is in the works.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 12:35 PM.

Respectfully submitted: Dan Fast, Secretary