

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Rustic Ridge Association, Inc., held Saturday, August 5, 1978 at 2:00 P.M. at the Music Hall of the Northfield Schools.

Meeting was called to order by the President, Mr. David Berger.

Mrs. Evelyn Page opened the meeting with prayer.

The call of the meeting was read by the clerk, Miss Gertrude Lauber.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved as read.

At this time the president welcomed Selectman, Mr. Metcalf who introduced the new town Chief of Police, Mr. John Schmitter. Mr. Schmitter expressed his desire to be of help to Ridge residents and was glad to be chosen to serve the people of Northfield.

Report of President: "This year Northfield has seen a drastic change." This was the first sentence of last year's report. Unfortunately, these words must be repeated. The tragic loss of a third historic landmark, the Trinitarian Congregational Church, saddened the hearts of all Ridge residents. I do pray that there will be no similar loss this coming year.

I wrote the congregation sharing your sympathy and concern. A letter of grateful appreciation was received in reply. The message received abounded with Christian courage in the face of overpowering loss.

On behalf of the Association and myself, I want to thank our clerk, Gertrude Lauber, and our Ridge Representative, Ted Powell, for their welcomed assistance and support through the year.

The president also expressed sincere and grateful thanks to the following: Each officer, board and committee member.

Special thanks to Mr. Arthur Parker for obtaining the mirror on North Lane. To Marilyn Williams for gathering news and facts for the "Ridge Runner" and for producing it.

To David and Lucia Powell for the hours of care to the garden which brightens our approach to the Ridge.

Thanks to those who maintain and care for the Directory.

A final thank you to every resident who trims along the roads by their property.

He urged everyone to keep the growth along their properties cut back and to drive slowly on our roads, especially on the hills.

Report of the Clerk: "This has been another busy year. Notices were sent out for the Annual Meeting, cards sent to all members about the Trinitarian Church fire, president's letter was mimeographed and mailed, 1977 adopted By-laws have been mimeographed and will be mailed with the bills for the coming year's dues in September. Treasurer's report has also been mimeographed and all other correspondence taken care of as directed.

Ridge Representative: Ted Powell, ^{reported} that a number of break-ins occurred on the Ridge in the past year. The police checked all the cottages.

He suggested that all those members who use the Henry Moore tennis courts should be sure to mention these when sending donations to the Schools.

Auditing Committee: Mr. Warren Snyder reported that the books of the treasurer were audited and found to be in good order.

Treasurer's report: Miss Ruth Card reported a balance on hand of \$3,004.19. (copy of this report attached to these minutes.)

Upon motion being duly made and seconded, it was unanimously VOTED to accept all reports of officers as presented.

Road Committee: Mr. George Marston reported that the major road work this past year was the installation of two new culverts, one on East Lane and the other on Wood Way. Mr. Harris paid for the culvert on East Lane. Fill was placed on the side of Ledge Way. Mr. Walker as he checked the culverts in the fall and spring located an old culvert on the lower end of Glen Road and cleaned it out. The past winter and spring was unusually hard on roads due to the cold and large amount of moisture. It is obvious that Ridge roads are not all season roads and it would take considerable reconstruction to make them so. More adequate drainage and heavier foundations would be necessary. Wood Way is a good example where the surface has broken up in several places due to early spring use. Even Woodruff Way, a town road, proved difficult to keep open this past winter and spring. The road committee appreciates the many Ridge residents who assist in road work by removing the accumulation of leaves from the traveled way and culvert entrances and drainage ditches in the vicinity of their cottages. Also the trimming of brush where it overhangs the roads and obstructs visibility - all helps in road maintenance. This keeps road costs reasonable and yet adequate for seasonal use. This coming year we expect to have Wood Way patched where necessary, a section of East Lane in the vicinity of the new culvert and the east end of Oak Terrace oiled, the corner at the upper end of Glen Road built up and reflecting posts installed, and some patching done on the lower end of Mountain Road. We will probably have to install a new culvert on Wood Way where an old one has been clogged with wash from a driveway. We will request the town to recoil Woodruff Way to hold the surface and reduce the dust. The road committee always welcomes suggestions from Ridge residents for road improvements that seem desirable.

Insect Control: Mrs. Patricia White reported that the Bourbeau Spraying & Painting Contractors of Montague were contracted for three sprayings on the Ridge - at the beginning of June, July and August with Malythion. This is the compound to be most effective for mosquito control. At the request of the Board of Directors Mr. Warren Snyder rediscussed the contract with Mr. Bourbeau and he agreed to honor the request of the Board to drop the third spraying at \$334.00 and to consider the contract fully performed with two sprayings at \$333.00 each.

Sanitation Committee: Miss Gertrude Lauber reported that Gardner Hudson was not able to take care of waste removal this year. Mr. William Smith of Winchester was contracted for \$350.00 to be paid in two payments - July 31st and Oct. 15th. Schedules were printed and Mrs. David Berger and family distributed them to all cottages.

Road Signs and Directory: Mr. John Hann, III reported that this year for the first time in many no changes were made on the directory.

Necrology Committee: Mrs. Bernice Rubyor reported that following members and friends passed away during the year - Robert Gutman; Raymond Pheneger; Dr. Dudley Peck; Betty Kraft; Rev. Robert Heydenreich; Lee Bolton and Elsie Rickhard. A moment of silent prayer was had.

Upon motion being duly made and seconded, it was unanimously VOTED to accept all committee reports as presented.

Upon motion being duly made and seconded, it was unanimously VOTED to adopt the Budget for 1978-79 as recommended and presented by the Board of Directors. (Copy attached to these minutes.)

Upon motion being duly made and seconded, it was VOTED that the Active Members dues be increased to \$26.00 and Associates to \$2.00 for the year 1978-79.

Nominating Committee: Mrs. Dorothy Noble presented the following slate of Officers and Directors:-

President - Mr. John Hann, Jr.
Vice Pres. - Mr. David Harned
Treasurer - Miss Ruth Card
Clerk - Miss Gertrude Lauber
Asst. Clerk- Mr. Edward M. Powell, Jr.
Directors - Mrs. Dorothy Noble - Term Expires 1979
Mr. George Marston - " " 1979
Mrs. Lucia Powell - " " 1980
Rev. Alexander Babos " " 1980
Miss Frances Pearson " " 1981
Mr. John Hann, III " " 1981

VOTED that the nominations be closed and that the slate of Officers and Directors be accepted as presented.

VOTED that the clerk cast one ballot for Officers and Directors.

The Nominating Committee then presented the slate of committees for the year.
(List of committees attached to these minutes)

VOTED that the list of committees be referred to the Board of Directors for ratification and appointment.

The President read a letter from the Chairman of the Board of ~~Assessors~~ stating that should anyone have a question regarding their assessed valuation to contact the Board of Assessors.

The President conveyed thanks and appreciation from Mr. Nelson Harris for all the get well wishes that Ridge members sent after his accident.

Mrs. Marilyn Williams announced that there are a number of Ridge Histories still available at \$1.50 each.

At this time Mr. Berger turned the meeting over to the Vice President, Mr. David Harned.

The Board of Directors recommended that Mr. and Mrs. Norman McClintock be accepted as Associate Members. This was so moved and carried.

VOTED to express our thanks and appreciation to Mr. David Berger for his faithful service as President these past two years.

VOTED that the Board of Directors make a study of the condition of the roads and the use by permanent residents on the Ridge.

There being no further business to come before the meeting, motion was made to adjourn.

Miss Mary Moore closed the meeting with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Gertrude Lauber
Clerk.