

RUSTIC RIDGE ASSOCIATION, INC.

ANNUAL MEETING

AUGUST 2, 1997--10:00 A.M.

AGENDA

1. Reading of Annual Meeting Notice Marilyn Williams, Clerk
2. Prayer of Thanksgiving
3. Minutes of the August 3, 1996 Annual Meeting
Distributed: Motion to dispense with the reading.
4. NMH Director of Auxillary Services, Tom Pratt
5. Reports of the Officers: Margaret Conner, President
Auditor's Report: Ed Burdick
Treasurer's Report: Lucia Powell
6. Activities of the Association
A. Trash and Recycling Warren Snyder
B. Road Maintenance, Repair, etc. David Powell
C. Road Signs and Directory Lucy Livingston
D. Necrology and Memorials Elaine Harned
E. Gardens David and Lucia Powell
F. Security Bob Huber
G. Ridge Representative Kenneth Hoff
H. Taxpayers for a Safe & Prosperous Nfld. Trish White
7. Old Business:
A. Charitable Contribution (1996)
B. Northfield Community Newsletter
8. New Business:
A. Budget for 1997-1998 Lucia Powell
B. Charitable Contribution for 1997-1998-Senior Center
C. Resource List
D. Summer Ridge Clean Up
E. Sewer News Hoyt Chapin
F. Memorial Gift-Estelle Heydenreich, Marie Maddaus
G. Social Activity **RIDGE PICNIC
TONIGHT 7PM**
9. Adjournment

RUSTIC RIDGE ASSOCIATION, INC
ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES
August 2, 1997--10:00 A.M.
President, Margaret Conner, Presiding

The meeting was opened with the Clerk reading the Call to the Annual Meeting and followed by a Prayer of Thanksgiving rendered by the President.

It was **Moved Seconded and Carried** to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the August 3, 1996 meeting as they has been distributed by mail. There were no corrections or additions.

Dave Powell introduced Tom Pratt, Director of Auxiliary Services at NMH, who gave us an overview of his job at the schools and the community services which are offered. Some of these include conferences, weddings and allowing scenes from a major movie starring Annette Bening to be filmed on campus. The pavilion at the Golf Course is available from rent either with or without food. It accommodates 50 for a meal. Moore Cottage is available for \$45 and \$55 a night. He then outlined the conferences scheduled for the summer including one Christian Conference with Dr. James Kennedy featured. It was requested that the schedule of the conferences be communicated to Ridge Association members as early as possible so that vacations can be planned to include those of interest.

The President suggested that everyone in the room stand and be identified to refresh our memories and to identify the new people.

REPORTS

PRESIDENT: Margaret Conner gave a "State of the Ridge" report which featured a reflection and discussion on the future of the Rustic Ridge and its Association. She extended our special thanks to Patricia White, James Broadhead and Hoyt Chapin for their extended work on preventing the recycling plant from coming to Northfield.

AUDITOR: Ed Burdick reported that the Treasurer's books were in order.

TREASURER: Lucia Powell presented the report, reflecting a Balance on hand of \$5,353.10 and a total of projected income from dues of \$3,616.00. This would mean that there will be no increase of dues for the year 1997-8.

It was **Moved, Seconded and Carried** to accept the reports of the officers.

ACTIVITIES

TRASH AND RECYCLING: Warren Snyder reported that Tom Walker is still collecting our trash. There was a request from the floor that the members of the Association be given more information as to what can be picked up, which items can be recycled, and how to dispose of items which cannot be picked up.

ROAD MAINTENANCE AND REPAIRS: Dave Powell reported that all the roads have been machine swept which helped to identify the problem areas. He summarized his written report which included three priorities for repair. #1 Woodruff Way down to the Willows: #2 A major repair of Oak Terrace from Woodruff Way to the culvert and #3. removing the hump in a portion of Cliff Road. There are other needs to be addressed when the above are taken care of. Of serious concern is the damaged trees from two severe storms this past winter. Property owners are asked to do what they can to minimize the danger.

MEMORIALS: Elaine Harned reported the death of four people from member families this past year. Alexander Babos, Estelle Heydenreich, Melissa Heydenreich Marple, and Marie Maddaus. A moment of silence commemorated their passing. We thank you God for the lives of these your servants!

GARDENS: Lucia Powell reported that the gardens are now mostly perennials so that not as much money is needed to maintain them, but we all need to help weed them. Thanks were expressed to those who help to keep the gardens beautiful.

SECURITY: Bob Huber was not present, but the President enumerated his many contributions to our safety, especially those related to the storms this winter which caused a lot of tree damage. There were many suggestions as to what each of us could do for him individually, and the President will write him a letter of thanks.

RIDGE REPRESENTATIVE: Ken Hoff reported on the bad winter we had and the possibility of chippers being available to help us clean up the mess. He also reported that reassessment of our properties is in process and some people have already received them. If we have questions, Carol is the Assessor Clerk and we can speak to her at Town Hall.

TAXPAYERS FOR A SAFE AND PROSPEROUS NORTHFIELD: Patricia White reported that the Zoning that had allowed the recycling project on the River has been voided. The whole process of defending Northfield from the onslaught of the project has been very expensive and we still owe \$140,000. Checks should be made out to the Connecticut River Watershed Council (CRWC) and earmarked for the Northfield Defense Fund. Send to 1 Ferry Street, Easthampton, MA. 01027 There is also a need to keep tabs on future developments.

OLD BUSINESS

Copies of the Northfield Community Newsletter were made available and are issued every two months. News is welcome.

In 1996, we sent our charitable contribution to this Newsletter and were acknowledged in the paper itself.

NEW BUSINESS

Elections: It was Moved, Seconded and Carried to elect the slate of officers for a One Year Term as presented:

Margaret Connor, President
John Voorhies, Vice President
Marilyn Williams, Clerk
Lucia Powell, Treasurer

Dorothy Foster and Richard Young were elected as Directors to the class of 2000. These officers join the previous classes of Directors, Tim Harned and Edward Sonoski, class of 1999 and Hoyt Chapin and Leroy Martin, class of 1998.

It was **Moved, Seconded and Carried** to approve the Budget as presented for the coming year. Suggestions were made as follows, to be discussed and acted upon by the Board.

1. That the Road Maintenance budget be enlarged because of the tree problems. It was noted that the Board does have the authority to spend money as needed.
2. That the Charitable contribution for 1997-8 be given to the Northfield Senior Center.
A Resource List, (people who can provide services to Ridge residents) was distributed and added to.
3. There will be a "Summer Ridge Clean-Up Day in 1998. It was suggested that it be the afternoon of the Ridge Meeting but the decision will be made by the Board.
4. It was announced that the following houses and property are for sale: the Kent house on Woodruff Way, the Dumeer house on West Lane, the Sommers Cottage on Pine Rd, the Longley Cottage PGA28 and 8 2/3 lots owned by Walker-Poole on the upper Ridges.
5. That septic systems are not necessary as long as the existing cesspool passes a perk test which costs \$20 to have done. Low water toilets are recommended.

There was a brief period of Ridge Vision Sharing. The visions expressed by the members will be colated and distributed.

All were invited to the Ridge Picnic at the pool at 7 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,



Marilyn A. Williams, Clerk

RUSTIC RIDGE ASSOCIATION: ADDENDUM TO THE MINUTES
ANNUAL MEETING, 1997

This is a compilation of the comments made on cards regarding individuals personal desires and visions for the future of the Rustic Ridge Association and its community. The items on the cards have been collated according to topic and an effort was made to be sure all points of view were included.

The numbered items were mentioned, in one way or another, on at least five cards. The other items, mentioned fewer times are listed at the end without numbers.

1. Keep Rustic Ridge a safe and caring community with high moral values, stressing its religious heritage. Keep it a summer community.
2. A greater sense of community is needed. To this end, we need more Association functions. For example, seminars, lectures and music by Ridge people or NMH or Community experts. It would be helpful if we could have early notice of events that will be taking place in the community and the schools so that we could participate--again creating community.
3. Roads were mentioned frequently. Most want them improved, even if we have to pay more money. Some cautioned about improving them too much which would foster unwanted visitors and speeding. One wanted them left alone.
4. Trees were also a major concern. Most want the trees to stay the same and the natural environment preserved. They also agreed that the dangerous trees should be removed, and there should be a cooperative effort for trimming and removal.

Other items mentioned at least once. Only the first three were suggested more than once.

Keep domestic animals under control.

There is a need for a swimming pool nearer the Ridge and less expensive.

Find some way to enforce the clean up and care of property.

Keep the rules about quietness.

Keep the "Rustic" in Rustic Ridge.

Single family ownership, only.

Be open to different people and life styles coming together (Sense of Community).

Concern about fire safety.

Concern about septic viability.

Maintain the paths.

Have a winter reunion.

Increase the staff for maintenance and security.