

**Rustic Ridge Association
Board Meeting Minutes**

Friday, May 27, 2022, 5:00 PM. EST
Zoom Teleconference

Attendance – Leesa Campbell, Doug Denise, Bob Ziegenhagen, Linda Glover, Margie Conner, Jean Bubriski, Lindsey Lack, Pamela Read, Philip Livingston, Bill Ferguson, Patricia White (part time), Carol Ziegenhagen and Lucy Hann Livingston as guests.

Minutes - Minutes from the January 18, 2022 Board Meeting were approved unanimously without correction.

Financial Report – Doug Denise summarized the finances. We have a balance of approximately \$32,000 and dues collection for this year is coming along well, though slightly behind year ago. Doug will be following up with delinquent members and Leesa Campbell will remind members in her upcoming President's letter. Leesa Campbell, Lindsey Lack and Carol Ziegenhagen volunteered to contact non-payers as well. Doug's report is attached.

Social Report – Jean Bubriski reported planned social events to general acclaim. Key events will be the July 2 Ridge Dinner, a Tennis Social (postponed to later in the summer), the July 4th parade, an art exhibit, a Ghost Story evening, the Cottage Crawl, the Annual meeting and Picnic and Ridge Sunday. Jean's report is attached.

Linda Glover alerted the Board that she will be hosting two large social events at her cottage early in June.

Roads – Lucy Hann cautioned that North Lane has deteriorated further and needs significant attention from the Town since it is not a Ridge property or responsibility. She discovered that the road is not scheduled for maintenance in 2022 but she will contact the Town administrator to see if the Lane could be assigned a higher priority. She will also ask the fire department if the road is satisfactory for their purposes.

Lucy reported that the Oak Terrace culvert was properly repaired but that a number of other culverts need attention, as well. Sweeping and blowing maintenance was completed but Brush-hog work is deferred to later in the season when regrowth can be better assessed.

There was discussion concerning efforts to reduce the damaging flooding that comes off Wood Way onto Cottage properties. It was agreed that Wood Way needs general maintenance and during the repair we should seek to shape the road to divert water to where it would be less damaging. If a Cottage owner decides to install a culvert under the Wood Way we will seek to repair the road as inexpensively as possible, preferably without macadam.

The Board agreed with Lucy's suggestion to develop a long-term plan for the maintenance of the Roads and the ditch / culvert system that protects the roads. Lucy's report is attached.

Water Company – Leesa voiced satisfaction that the Water Company's latest Safety report showed that its water continues to meet health and safety standards.

Margie Conner reports that the proposal to reform the East Northfield Water Company into a non-profit Grandin Water District has progressed and is now in front of the Massachusetts legislature for approval.

350th Anniversary – Margie reports that the committee overseeing Northfield's 350th Anniversary has continued to add many new and exciting events for next year. It is shaping up to be a major event that will interest a broad audience. Details are at Northfield350.org.

Margie recommended that we open some of our cottages to the Northfield community in the summer of 2023 to help build understanding and rapport.

Nominating Committee – The nominating committee reported that John Powell has agreed to be nominated for a Board position. Searches for other open positions continues.

Documentary Film Making – Carol Ziegenhagen, speaking for the committee including Linda and Rob Glover outlined a planned course in Documentary Filmmaking given by Jim Alt this summer for Northfield and Ridge residents. She asked board members to contact her if they know of candidates who might want to take the course. Carol's presentation is attached.

Adjourn – The meeting was called to close to 6:06 PM EST.

Submitted by Bob Ziegenhagen, Clerk
May 28, 2022

Rustic Ridge Board Meeting Agenda
5:00 pm, Friday, May 27, 2022

1. Approve Board Minutes from January Board Meeting
2. Treasurer's Report – Doug Denise
3. Social Committee Report – Jeannie Bubriski
4. Road Report – Lucy and Phil Livingston
5. Water – Leesa Campbell
6. Oral History – Carol Ziegenhagen
7. Nominations – Margie Conner and Trish White
8. 350th – Margie Conner and website!
9. Other Business
10. Adjourn

Treasurer's Report

(As of 5.25.22, 3:00pm ET)

1. Greenfield Cooperative Bank (GCB) balance = \$32,780.63. Adjusted balance = \$32,480.63 (1 check O/S)
2. Including PayPal account, overall balance (GCB + PayPal) = \$33,973.90. Adjusted overall balance = \$33,673.90
3. Total FY21-22 Revenue to date = \$7,389.00*
4. Total FY21-22 Expenses to date = \$6,471.28
 - Brush Removal \$150.00, Community Contribution \$1,000, Five Acre Property \$62.33,
 - Flower Garden \$115.00, Roads \$4,343.95, Social \$200.00, Trash Collection \$600.00.
5. Member Dues payments and Reserve Fund contributions FY21-22 to date:
 - Active Members/cottages 36 paid of 64 cottages listed = \$5,317.91*
 - Associate Members/Families 13 paid of 53 listed = \$512.39*
 - Active Member Reserve Fund contributions 15 members = \$1,493.92*
 - Associate Member Reserve Fund contributions 1 member = \$57.98
 - Total Reserve Fund contributions = \$1,551.90*
 - Total Member Dues and Reserve Fund contributions = \$7,382.20*
6. Comparison - Member Dues payments and Reserve Fund contributions at the end of May 2021:
 - Active Members/cottages 55 paid of 65 cottages listed = \$8,699.05.
 - Associate Members/Families 22 paid of 55 listed = \$908.77
 - Active/Associate Member Reserve Fund contributions 18 members = \$2,751.43
 - Total Member Dues and Reserve Fund contributions = \$9,314.92
 - Note: For this time of year FY21-22 revenue is significantly less than last year (and 2 prior years).
7. On May 24-25 PayPal invoices were emailed to 25 Active and 36 Associate Members whose dues are unpaid.
 - As of this report, seven (7) payments have been received from these bills. Invoices were NOT sent to seven (7) Members, primarily those with no listed or functional email address in our Google contacts list.
 - The PayPal user ID is rusticridgeboard@gmail.com. PayPal fees (absorbed by the Association) for domestic accounts are 2.89% + \$.49 per transaction (unless fees are waived as happens occasionally).

*Includes payments made to PayPal account not included in Greenfield Cooperative Bank balance.

**+Rustic Ridge Activities for Summer 2022
Update as of April 9, 2022**

*To Rustic Ridge members and associate members:
Please consider volunteering your Cottage for the Cottage Crawl on July 31.
Please participate in the Rustic Ridge Exhibit and Art Activities by submitting
your own artwork or creating your own on July 23.
Please add other activities to this list that you would like to lead this summer.
Email Jeannie Bubriski and she will put it on the next update on this Ridge
Activities list, jbubriski33@gmail.com*

Saturday, July 2, 2022, 6 pm. Rustic Ridge Dinner at the Golf Course Pavilion.
Not a lobster fest this year, but Carol Ziegenhagen will be planning this event,
and she will be sending out an evite with more
information. carolzieg@gmail.com

Sunday, July 3, 11:30 am, Tennis Social.
Organized by Catherine Broadhead, catherine.broadhead@gmail.com

Monday, July 4th: Parade on the Ridge starting at the Flagpole at 9:30 am, with
a reception afterwards at Leesa and Dennis Campbell's cottage, 62 Woodruff
Way. leesa_campbell@woodberry.org

Saturday, July 23, 1:30-4:30 PM. Rustic Ridge Art Exhibit and Art Activities
At Catherine Broadhead's Crossroads Cottage, 21 Pine Road
Come see works by Rustic Ridge Association members!
Art activities for the young and old! catherine.broadhead@gmail.com

**We are looking for Ridge members to submit their artwork (see more
information at the end of this activities list*).**

We also need volunteers to help set up and provide hors d'oeuvres.

Saturday, July 23, 7:30 PM - Ghost storytelling. Featuring really scary true
Northfield stories by Gus Heydenreich.

BYOB and bring any Ghost Stories you would like to share.
Hosted at Catherine Broadhead's catherine.broadhead@gmail.com



Sunday, July 31: Cottage Crawl, 2-6 pm. **We need volunteers to open their cottages! We have not had a Cottage Crawl since 2019, so even if your cottage was part of the Cottage Crawl in previous years, we would love to see it again and visit with you and your family. You will open your cottage for two hours and only need to provide water or something to drink. Please email Jean Bubriski at jbubriski33@gmail.com or Margie Conner at mconner@tiu.edu.**

Saturday, August 6, 9 am, Annual Rustic Ridge Meeting. Leesa Campbell, Ridge President, will be planning this. The location will be announced soon. leesa_campbell@woodberry.org

Saturday, August 6, 6 pm, Annual Picnic at the Golf Course Pavilion. Each family brings their own picnic. More information will be coming to you about this event.

Sunday, August 7, 10 am, Ridge Sunday at the Trinitarian Congregational Church. Margie Conner will organize this with the Church and interested Ridge members.



****More detail for the Rustic Ridge Art Exhibit and Art Activities, Saturday, July 23, 1:30-4:30 PM:***

Calling all artists to exhibit their work in our first Rustic Ridge Art Exhibit!
To enter:

- Each member may submit 1 work to be displayed during the show.
- Send to Catherine at Catherine.Broadhead@gmail.com:
 - A. Title of your work
 - B. Materials used
 - C. Your name
 - D. Any description about the work that you would like to include.

- If you would like to exhibit a piece that you cannot physically bring to the show, please take a picture of it and send it to Catherine. We will display these photos on a computer at the exhibit.
- The **deadline to enter is Friday, July 15**. Late entries will not be accepted.
- Please bring your work to 21 Pine Road on **2:00-6:00 PM, Friday, June 22**.

**Road Committee Expenditures 2021-2022
Report for Rustic Ridge Board Meeting, 5.27.22**

2021-2022 Road Committee Budget

	<u>Proposed</u>	<u>Actual 5.24.22</u>
Oak Terrace crushed culvert pipe (SW)	\$3,500	\$3,500
Road sweeping/blowing and culvert clearing (SW)	\$1,200	\$1,530*
Biennial brush-hog clearing (SW)	\$1,300	0
Manual trimming, West Lane and Willows (ES)	\$ 300	\$120
Pot-holes/ other road repairs (SW)	\$ 600	\$400
Culvert markers & West Lane "No Trucks" sign (RC)	\$ 150	\$128.35
New North Lane mirror (RC)	\$ 200	\$195.60
 Total 2021-2022	 \$7,250	 \$5,873.95

*Invoice received, not yet paid, work being done currently

Description of Workshop in Documentary Filmmaking for the Ridge Community

by Jim Ault
www.jamesault.com

After meeting with Carol Ziegenhagen, we agreed that I should write something describing the kind of workshop we'll be giving this summer and what it will involve.

INTRODUCTION

First, by way of introduction, I am a sociologist-turned-documentary filmmaker who was first introduced to the arts and crafts of *cinéma vérité* documentary filmmaking by one of its pioneers in the United States, John Marshall. It is the kind of documentary where the story not by narration, but mainly by real-life scenes and stories told to camera by those in them. I took to it and began learning camera, sound and editing skills from some of its best practitioners at the time.

My interest in the Rustic Ridge stems originally from my being a student at Mt. Hermon in the 1960s (I worked the Northfield summer conferences in 1963!), and many years later from writing a good deal of NMH's history, covering everything from World War I to the present in my chapters of *Lift Thine Eyes*. That work showed me about important things that happened in the summer conferences on the Northfield campus, especially their impact on Christian growth around the world, which connected with my extensive documentary film project on African Christianity. Through that largely oral history work I also got to know residents of the Ridge.

Living down the Connecticut River here in Northampton, I ended up following events involved in finding new uses for the Northfield campus and even produced a short documentary about new developments there, which we'll have you watch.

To understand the kind of filmmaking I will be introducing you to in this workshop, you should have a look at some of my work to see if that would be something you would be interested in. So, the workshop will proceed like this:

1. First, I'll have you look at several of my documentaries to give some examples of the kinds of filmmaking I'll be showing you. We'll discuss these things at our first get together on Zoom. They are:
 - For a glimpse of my main kind of work, my near-finished roughcut of *Esperanza: Hope for Our Cities* (89:00) Just watch part of this.
 - *Twilight Park's 125th* (15:17) The life and history of a summer community like the Ridge mainly through events in its 125th anniversary celebration.
 - *New Life at Moody's Northfield* (8:11) A glimpse of some of the history of the summer conferences through a couple of events filmed on the Northfield campus in

2016. (Links to these films will be sent to those interested. Much of my work is also available on my website: jamesault.com.)
2. ZOOM meeting(s). (*June 16th or 17th*) We'll meet online by Zoom in mid-June to discuss the workshop and what stories we might like to explore to portray the Rustic Ridge community and its history and how we might tell them. By sharing my editing screen with you on Zoom, I will show you how I've edited or built several passages in the sample documentaries you've watch to show you what kind of materials—picture and sound—are needed to make such stories work and how they can be edited to make them work. We'll begin talking and imagining what kinds of filming we will want to do to tell some Ridge stories. We'll probably have a follow-up conversation by Zoom with peoples' afterthoughts.
 3. FILMING TOGETHER. (*June 24th*) Later in June we will gather together, go over equipment issues, and then film one or two family or community events on the Ridge, where I'll show you how to capture real-life events in film in completely natural ways without disturbing their natural course. (There are lessons here that can only be demonstrated and observed and, thereby, picked up.) And some of you will operate your own cameras—perhaps a smart-phone on a gimbal. That will be done when those events are happening. I would expect you all to participate in at least one of these filming, though even better both.
 4. FILMING INTERVIEWS. (*June 27 or 28th depending on weather*) We will also prepare equipment for and carry out filming two or three life-story interviews with Ridge members. We'll plan on filming two on a single day toward the end of June. I'll show you how to set up camera and sound mainly with available natural light, on a porch or outdoors, and launch and conduct an interview that captures meaningful personal stories from people. Would want you to participate in at least of one of these sit-down interviews. In preparation for them we will want to locate some of the archival photos relevant to our characters' own family stories.

MOVING FORWARD – all the above will be complete by July 1st. I'll be away all July. We will share footage we've shot and perhaps assign logging tasks. And you will be free to move forward with your own filming during July. I'll edit/build one story thread with our footage and show and discuss it with you via Zoom during the summer.