

**Rustic Ridge Association
Annual Meeting Minutes**

Saturday, August 4, 2018, 9:30 A.M. – 11:00 A.M.
Dolben Theater, Northfield Campus

Call to Order – Bob Ziegenhagen, Clerk, called the meeting to order at 9:34 AM. There were approximately 55 people in attendance.

Welcome – President Martha Schoonover welcomed attendees and made several brief announcements.

Invocation – Dr. Dennis Campbell.

Minutes of the 2017 Annual Meeting were approved without amendment.

Presidents report – Martha Schoonover highlighted key Ridge activities and upcoming events:

- The many interesting social events conducted this year
- Moody Center progress, their recently announced long range plans and the luncheon scheduled immediately after this Annual Meeting
- Thomas Aquinas College update, pointing to their plans to open next fall.
- 2017 Charitable donations of \$450 each to Emergency Medical Services and Loaves and Fishes
- Road Committee improvements with a special thanks to Alan Abel for his many years of service
- Appreciation to all the volunteers who have made this such a successful year
- In summary, spoke to the beauty and serenity of the Ridge and her hopes that future generations will also be able to appreciate this, as well.

Treasurer's Report - Carolee Ziegenhagen reported that 59 of 64 members have paid their dues and 33 of 53 Associates have paid, as well. This is slightly higher than budgeted. Expenses were on target for the year with the major costs being roads, trash collection and contributions.

Road Committee - Bob Ziegenhagen reported on activities completed in 2017-18. In addition to annual tasks such as street sweeping, tree trimming, mowing and culvert clearing, we also cleared the swale on Spring drive and leveled the mailbox area.

Social Committee - Jean Bubriski, speaking on behalf of the whole social committee, summarized the many events they coordinated this year, including:

- Coffee and Tea at the Broadheads
- Creamie Night
- 4th of July Parade and reception at the Ziegenhagens

- Walk to Pulpit Falls
- Game night at the Bubriskis
- Table Tennis at the Ziegenhagen's, organized by Zander Lack
- Cottage Crawl
- Lobster Fest
- Annual Meeting Picnic

Jean gave a heartfelt thanks to this year's volunteers and requested additional volunteers next year.

Memorium – Leesa Campbell noted the Rustic Ridge members who passed away in the past year:

- David Harned
- Edgar Moore
- Marilyn Williams
- Norman Stanhope

Town Report - Heather Tower updated the Ridge Community on events happening in the town of Northfield:

- Political Changes – Northfield has experienced some political turmoil as the Selectmen, the Town Administrator and the Police Chief seemed to have been jostling for power. The newly appointed Town Administrator was let go and an interim manager appointed, the third Town Administrator in a 12-month period.
- Thomas Aquinas College is still waiting for approval from the State of Massachusetts to begin classes. The College expects to open in 2019 with a Freshman class plus a sophomore class it recruited this year, and which will transfer to from California to Northfield as Sophomores in 2019.
- The Regional School Board is having serious financial problems and is facing a million-dollar shortfall this year.
- Schell Bridge is scheduled to be replaced in 2020. Three final designs are being discussed this fall.
- The Northfield Mart (IGA) continues to improve and broaden its offerings. Mims also active and as popular a meeting spot as always.
- Northfield Trails Association is still active
- Thursday night road races continue with both walkers and runners.
- Local bulletin board on the Next-Door internet platform is heavily used by the community.
- The Official Town website at Northfieldma.gov also has a great deal of information, including Senior Center postings, Transfer Station schedules, road closings and official documents.
- The Farmers Market continues to expand and now has musical entertainment on Thursday afternoons.

- Amtrak serves the area twice a day. Authorities are talking about a Boston train stopping in Greenfield. The Large Parking Garage next to the train station in Greenfield is almost done.
- CS Lewis Center has held a number of events and discussions
- Senior center ran several programs, including a river cruise, clambake, a Night at the Creamie, a Kazoo event and Contra dance.

Board Officers – Martha gave her thanks to retiring board members Alex White and Tim Powell. Charlotte Martin proposed a slate for 2018-2019 which was unanimously approved:

OFFICERS

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|--------------------------|---------------------|
| President | Margaret Conner |
| 1st Vice President | Jeannie Bubriski |
| Immediate Past President | Martha Schoonover |
| Treasurer thru Dec | Carolee Ziegenhagen |
| Treasurer after December | Doug Denise |
| Clerk | Bob Ziegenhagen |
| Assistant Clerk | Barbara Walker |

DIRECTORS

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|--------------------------|------------------|
| Director (Class of 2019) | Lillian Young |
| Director (Class of 2019) | Leesa Campbell |
| Director (Class of 2020) | Anne Yarnall |
| Director (Class of 2020) | Bill Young |
| Director (Class of 2021) | Lisa White |
| Director (Class of 2021) | Douglas Southard |

New business

- Dick Young reported that the path to Garnet rock has been effectively cleared and is now accessible. He thanked volunteers who opened and marked the path clearly. It is now an easy 15-minute walk from Cliff Road. Maps were handed out and copies are also on the website.
- Dick Young also reported that 2001 Video of our Centennial Celebration will soon be posted on You Tube and accessible via links from the RusticRidge.org website.
- Martha reminded all that trash pickup starts at noon Saturday and that all garbage should be in pre-paid Northfield bags. Paper and containers should be separated and stored in separate containers. They do not need special bags.
- Margie Conner mentioned a Memorial Service for Marilyn Williams Monday, 2 PM at the Trinitarian Church. Followed by a reception in the lounge area of the church. All are invited to come.
- Choir practice scheduled for 8:30 AM Sunday at the Church. The Ridge Sunday Service begins at 9:30.
- Phil and JoAnne Sherburn were welcomed as new members.
- Lee and Dale Stanhope were welcomed.

- Martha pointed out Heydenreich, Chesbro, Yokel and Bowman cottages were all on the market. Details are on the Ridge website.
- Dave Powell said The Moody Center presentation at Hibbard Hall would begin at 11:15 AM. 40 Ridge members were signed up.

Closure - In her last act as President, Martha handed the gavel over to the new President, Margie Conner. Martha was sincerely thanked for her contributions over the past two years. The Meeting closed at 10:40 am.

Minutes Submitted August 8, 2018 by Bob Ziegenhagen, Clerk.