



EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING-RUSTIC RIDGE ASSOCIATION
SATURDAY, AUGUST 8, 2004
20 PINE ROAD, NORTHFIELD MASSACHUSETTS

President Bob Caruthers opened the meeting at 1:32 PM. A quorum was present made up of Bob Caruthers, Adrienne Hawkinson, Bonnie Burdick, Clerk; Sharie Broadhead, Ted Denise, Dick Young, George Thomas, and Carol Ziegenhagen.

Ted Denise indicated that his daughter Trish, who had voiced concerns about the revised by-laws prior to the Annual Meeting, would be available later in the month for further discussion. The issues are 1) indemnification for officers, directors and agents, and 2) language associated with our status as a non-profit association.

The merits of D&O insurance and/or an umbrella insurance policy were discussed, as well as any by-law modification that would be required. It was agreed further study was needed, and that Dick Young will coordinate the effort. A majority of those present indicated they would probably be unwilling to continue on the Board unless shielded from personal liability.

Adrienne Hawkinson presented the case for Historic District designation. Among the benefits cited were "bragging rights," installation of a plaque from the Department of the Interior identifying the Ridge as a Historic District, and serving as an additional selling point for cottages on the market. **On motion of Mrs. Ziegenhagen, seconded by Mr. Young, it was unanimously agreed to further explore Historic District designation, and if feasible, to submit the concept to RRA membership at the Annual Meeting.**

Two local non-profit agencies were chosen for the RRA annual donation: the Northfield Fire Department's Firemen's Fund and the Northfield Library. Each will receive \$270.

Actions Association members could take to influence sale/lease of the Northfield campus assets were discussed. Among the ideas mentioned were: 1) writing letters to the Board of Trustees, and 2) determining the profits made by the golf course and pool for use in various communications vehicles with the school and/or trustees.

Kurt Nelson, an absent Board member, had written Bob Caruthers with several suggestions for improving life on the Ridge. A particular concern were derelict cabins. Mrs. Hawkinson will research the status of the properties concerning tax arrears. It was suggested that the cabins in question could be demolished with the land given to a non-profit land trust. Mrs. Ziegenhagen and Mrs. Brodhead will assist Mrs. Hawkinson in composing a letter to the property owners and in contacting the Mt Grace Land Trust. An ideal situation would be to persuade NMH to donate land bordering the Ridge to the North to such a trust to create a buffer zone as there are concerns that land could be sold to build small houses. Mr. Young and Bob Ziegenhagen will discuss the possibility of creating a buffer area with Nathaniel Tufts, a resident of Northfield, who organized a group to forestall a landfill.

Lucy Hann is organizing construction of a new entrance sign for the annexed area of the Ridge. George. Thomas and Dick Young will assist with site selection, design and

construction. Other potential helpers were identified: Alan Abel, Bob Caruthers and Jim Broadhead.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:31 PM.

Bonnie

Respectfully submitted,
Margaret M. Burdick, Clerk
(9/21/04)