

1) Invite Sue Ross 3) Do Annual Meeting agenda
2) Do grass roots plan 4) " Board "

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING -RUSTIC RIDGE ASSOCIATION

SATURDAY, JULY 5, 2004
20 PINE ROAD. NORTHFIELD. MASSACHUSETTS

Present: Bob Caruthers, President; Marilyn Williams, Clerk; Lucia Powell, Treasurer; and Margaret Burdick, Deputy Clerk. Also attending were former President Charlotte Martin and Executive Board members: Janet Abel, Ted Denise, Leslie Krichko, George Thomas and Carol Ziegenhagan.

Mr. Caruthers opened the meeting at 9:15 am and welcomed the Board to his cottage. The minutes of August 8, 2003 were approved with corrections for meeting dates and dues mailing dates. Invoices will be sent in October/November.

Regarding Directors and Officers insurance coverage for the Board, Mr. Caruthers reported the cost of such insurance is prohibitive. Beyond that, an umbrella policy and indemnification under the by-laws would also be required for a carrier to even consider the matter.

Since last summer, NMH trustees have decided to close the Northfield campus and lease most of the property. Sue Ross, the Association's representative to the town, has been appointed to a town committee that will study the NMH situation, and has forwarded pertinent information to us. Mr. Caruthers stated he offered Richard Mueller, Head of NMH, any help the Ridge community could supply, and Mrs. Powell reported David Powell is seeking information on the situation, as well. It was suggested Mrs. Ross report at the next Board meeting, as well as at the Annual Meeting. Mr. Denise suggested the Ridge should focus its efforts on keeping the tennis courts, pool and golf course available for public use. Ideas for mobilizing Ridge resident's toward this end were discussed, and a "grass roots" plan will be prepared by Mr. Caruthers for presentation at the next Board meeting.

Mrs. Powell reviewed the budget. It was agreed that Bob Huber and Dierdre Gilmour, Ridge security personnel, and Mrs. Ross shall each be paid \$200 for 2003-2004, as well as 2004-2005. Funds for road work, which have not been expensed during this fiscal year, shall be carried over into the new fiscal year. Mrs. Powell said the books for 2003-2004 will be closed on July 21st. The Board approved the proposed 2004-2005 budget.

Reporting for Mr. Abel, Mrs. Abel indicated two road workdays are planned: Saturdays July 17th and 24th.

Revisions to the by-laws were discussed. The Board unanimously elected to retain the current by-laws format, rather than a version based on draft Massachusetts non-profit by-laws. On motion of Mrs. Ziegenhagen, seconded by Mrs. Abel, the Board

unanimously accepted the revised bylaws, and approved their mailing to the Association membership, along with the call-to-meeting.

Mrs. Martin suggested a review of the Rules and Regulations by the Board. In the pre-meeting packet, Mr. Caruthers included a report from Vice-president Adrienne Hawkinson on the process required to gain historic district recognition from the National Park Service for Rustic Ridge. The consensus was that further explanation was needed regarding the benefits and drawbacks such designation would bring. Additional background will be obtained, and Mrs. Hawkinson will be asked to review her research at the July 31 Board meeting. It was observed that the original intent in the foundation of the Ridge is enhanced by such designation, and that it might help preserve the Ridge's unique character in light of the changes at NMH. The Board decided an announcement would be made at the Annual Meeting that the collection and evaluation of information was being made concerning the project, and that approval by the membership will be sought before a decision to go forward is made.

A Nominating Committee consisting of Mrs. Martin, Mrs. Powell and Mr. Denise was appointed.

The next Executive Board meeting will be at 9 am on Saturday, July 31, 2004 at 20 Pine Road. The meeting adjourned at 12:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Margaret M. Burdick
Deputy Clerk

Put before meeting, vote up or down?