

Minutes
Association Meeting on ZOOM
August 5, 2020
10:00

Co-President, Chris Hjelt opened the meeting by gathering into our presences those who have died in the past six months: Grant Bowman, Joel Dansk, Judy Stearns, Monique Roland, Audrey Bozzo. This was followed by a few moments of silence to center ourselves.

Comings and Goings

Arrivals

Bob Solosko and Jean Krogh, Bill and Mary Alice Wilson, Jillian and Peter Hensley (who moved in on Aug 3.) We also welcomed Marlisa Parker's new dog JayJay and the return of Betty Bartow's dog Suzie who is now living with Maureen McCarron. Jack welcomed Dennis' promotion to Facilities Manager. We look forward to working with him.

Moved

Bette Moran to Assisted Living, Cynthia Nyary to the Inn.

Treasurer's Report Dennie Brandt

Checking Account Beginning Balance \$6812.00

Expenditures 442.00

 Black Lives Matter signs

 Butterfly Garden assistance

 The Belmonts Jazz Trio

Checking Account Ending Balance \$6370.00

15 month CD matures August 8, 2020 interest 2.3%

Balance as of June 2020 \$5,268.97 to be reinvested per instructions from the Resident Council.

Gratitude

Chris expressed gratitude for all the ways we have recently built community by sharing pictures of events and practices that have helped to hold us together as a community over the past three months. The pictures are mostly from Joan Cenedella. Jack added a special thanks to Dave for his weekly film updates, and Elly shared a special thanks to Cynthia for her wonderful Audio Collage on the 4th of July.

Management Reports including phased opening of the MH

1. Master Plan

- The architect, Kuhn Riddle, have schematically designed 38 units.
- In August, there will be initial meetings for site review with each city.
- A construction manager will be retained by the end of August to provide pricing as the designs are developed and designed.

- By the end of September, Lathrop will file the Conservation Restriction plan for 75 acres with Easthampton.
2. Sales & Marketing
 - Currently at 95% sold and/or occupied.
 - The soft priority list stands at 71 interested prospective residents who form the waitlist for new cottages. This list continues to grow each day.
 3. Spring Valley
 - On Thursday, the owner of Spring Valley, Jon Hancock and Brenda will meet with the Grounds Guild to discuss current outstanding projects and ways to enhance communication and overall landscape management.
 - The two Tupelo trees at the end of Shallowbrook will be replaced by Spring Valley.
 - Vegetation from the Goldenchain detention basin will be scraped to insure permeability and the remainder of the project to slow erosion and disperse water flow prior to entering the basin will be priced out and planned as funds are available.
 - Standing water issues behind Firethorn will continue to be addressed.
 - Jon will follow up on individual projects.
 4. Conway School
 - On Friday, Jim Dowell will present via zoom the Conway School of Landscape Design report that was prepared for Lathrop. All are welcome to attend.
 5. Townhome Meals
 - Jack Curley has agreed to consider delivering take-out meals to Northampton starting in September. This may require that residents join a meal plan (10, 20, 30/31) to qualify for free delivery. Details will be finalized by the end of August.
 6. Power Washing
 - Due to the current water ban, power washing is not possible at this time.
 7. Emergency Alerts
 - Lathrop sends out emergency broadcast alerts through Informacast. Information will appear in his week's update. To ensure that resident contact information is correct and, in the system, please contact Sarah Gauger at sgauger@lathrop.kendal.org if you do you receive these alerts.

Ongoing activities and Plans

Shelley Schieffelin shared her idea about putting American flags beside the Black Lives Matter signs on Bridge Rd. Her hope was to help folks see that striving for an inclusive and just society is an act of patriotism. Several residents responded to this idea: by requesting that we ensure that Black Lives Matter would find this acceptable; that our acts not be seen as inappropriate by veterans; asking if placing additional flags on our property was consistent with Quaker practice and principles; as well as a statement of ardent support. We decided to move a decision on this matter to the Council level, where there can be more discussion and input. Thank you, Shelley, for raising this idea and helping us think about the importance of symbols and how they are interpreted in our society.

Dale LaBonte shared the efforts of the Taskforce on Landscape Maintenance. This bi-campus effort is seeking to define best practices in landscape maintenance to help identify our over-arching desires for our landscape as we work with Spring Valley or another landscape maintenance company in the future. The Taskforce plans to have their recommendation by September. Thank you Taskforce for your efforts.

Fran Volkmann reviewed the opportunities for fitness activities each week, including the new fitness loop, access to the fitness center, Yoga under the canopy and Healthy Bones and Balance on ZOOM. She stressed the importance of staying fit and maybe being just a little silly at the same time. Thank you Fitness Committee for your excellent work.

Rowena Roodman shared plans for an Evening of Sharing on Sunday, September 6 at 4:30 on our Outdoor Stage. This will be an opportunity to share with each other songs, skits, poems and dance. She already has a few acts lined up but there is plenty of room for more. Acts should be short: 5-7 minutes. We are planning for a light hearted time of sharing with each other. Thank you, Rowena, for this wonderful idea and another way to gather outside before the weather shifts.

Pamela White shared plans by *Tree Northampton Inc*, a private citizens group that works with *the Northampton Tree Warden* and the *Northampton Tree Commission* to plant trees along Bridge Rd sometime this fall or next spring. Lathrop has indicated that they would welcome these trees and would want to help identify which trees would be planted along our property line on Bridge Road. The trees and the planting are provided at no cost, a wonderful gift to our community. Thank you, Pamela, for your involvement with this project that will benefit our community.

Dale LaBonte shared a report from the bi-campus Land Conservation Committee. The Committee has received a grant to help control invasive plants in the conservation areas on both campuses. Part of the grant includes educational signage. Dale shared a picture of similar signage developed for the Easthampton Campus. Dale will work with the Council to review the overall design of the sign and where it should be posted. Residents will remember that we also approved Association funds for this effort to help free our forest of invasive plants so that we and others can enjoy the forest land we help to maintain. We appreciate the efforts of the Land Conservation Committee to help keep our forest area the pleasant refuge we now enjoy.

Before closing the ZOOM meeting we experimented with the use of break-out Groups. Dale, our ZOOM master, randomly divided us into groups where we could interact with each other for about 4 or 5 minutes. We learned a lot from this experiment, and hopefully we will be able to use this as a technique for gathering community input in future meetings.

There were a few announcements at the close of the meeting.

We adjourned about 11:20.

Minutes prepared by Jack and Chris Hjelt