

Minutes of Meeting held November 4, 2020

Attending

Staff: Sarah, Frank, Rob, Suzie

Officers: Chris Hjelt, Jack Hjelt, Dale LaBonte, Judy Hyde, Dennie Brandt

Appreciations:

Chris: Evening of Sharing

Sarah's return to Campus

Halloween Fun

Mary Alice and Bill Wilson and Martha Cushman for helping identify trees and plants in the forest and attach attractive signage

Opening of the Gathering Room

Successful Community Fund Campaign

Alex: letter to editor of the Gazette by Bob Solosko on election day. Jack: shout out for Nick, fun, pleasant. Fortunate to have him.

Jillian: Grateful to be here, regret getting rid of Halloween paraphernalia

Daphne: thanks to fantastic co-presidents

Comings and goings

Betty Moran died September 12, 2020

Anne Yarnall still in Florida

Andrea Kulin is now at the Hospice at Fisher Home.

Denny and Libby's son died last week.

Jillian & Peter Hensley arrived in August after our last Association meeting.

Ann Wood will move to Golden Chain Nov 9.

Treasurer's report (attached)

Management report (attached)

Frank's Finance report: as of 8/31 (attached)

Some move-ins were delayed due to COVID-19 so a little decline in Inn residency. Entrance fees were up.

Expenses close to budget. Expect to finish year between 2-3% of budget. 73 days cash on hand (big increase) is an anomaly. Average is closer to 0-30 days, as usual.

Suzie's Marketing report: as of 9/30 (attached)

Northampton: 100% occupancy

Total for both campuses: 97 % occupied and sold

Cottage expansion: 71 people expressed keen interest

To be considered for occupying a new cottage an additional \$2,000 must be paid to get on the priority list

Expect to have full subscriptions for new collages by deadline in December

Thom's Management Report (attached)

Questions for Thom:

- Are we comporting with the Governor's stages, which now allow bigger indoor gatherings in low-incidence towns?
- Can gym open 5 days to provide more access during cold weather?
- Continuing concerns about drainage and ice on Hawthorn. When can this be addressed?
- Could we have more detail about the organization & charge of the 3 committees Thom refers to in his report which desire resident involvement? (Diversity, Equity & Inclusion/ Building & Grounds/Resident Finance)?
- Could use more guidance on the risks factor of people working in our homes.
- What is the status of the Meeting House door? Sarah shared that the new door is scheduled to be installation on Nov. 11. Fobs and or swipe cards will be provided for all residents.

Wellness Report from Rob

Everyone entering homes should be treated like they have COVID. We screen everyone the same. You should be like a defensive driver.

Merv 13 filters to improve air purification for the furnaces in the Meeting House have been ordered & are expected to arrive in the next few weeks.

CDC has long list of recommendations about holiday observances. You can find them with a link in the Lamp Post.

Suzie shared that a new advisory from Governor limits gathering across the state to 10 indoors and a limit on any gatherings after 10 p.m. (Jack reminded us to keep down the noise at our late night wild parties. Ha, ha.)

Friday the 13th is the first wellness chat with Rob. Please join in.

Ongoing activities and plans

Dale reported on activity from the Land Conservation committee.

- New sign at entrance to the Blue trail about conservation issues.
- New signage now which identifies plants and trees in the forest; also available in an album in the Library.

- Next meeting of committee of the Land Conservation Committee will be in early December. Contact Dale for more information.
- Periodic trail walks are scheduled in Easthampton...let Dale know if you want to be on notification list—All are welcome.
- There are plots available in the Community Garden. Contact Dale to reserve a plot for next year.
- The clover is growing on Aspen. Stop by to check the progress.
- Paradise City project and the Conway School report yielded advice about what to plant for cottages when they are being turned over to new residents. A committee is working with Suzie to refine these plans.
 - There will be a hearing Wednesday, Nov 4, by the town council re: the Wilbur tract abutting Lathrop. The City is trying to acquire 53 acres of this land in order to move forward it's conservation plans. This move will ensure that the forest will be preserved behind many of our homes. Fran will attend the meeting.
 - Who should be turned to for advice about their TH gardens? Check with Dale for advice.

Pamela: 5 London Plane Trees on Bridge Rd. will be planted on 11/7. Trees provided & planted by Trees Northampton. No cost to Lathrop.

Announcements:

Jack said that the Council has considered how we can appreciate Bonnie Johnson? She was really a part of our community & had to leave abruptly because of the COVID virus. Council has approved at \$200 gift card. A ceremony on the porch is under consideration.

Sarah: The new mailman is Carl. His day off is Friday.
22 households signed up for the meal plan initiative, a great response.

Ginny: Knitters just contributed lots of hats, scarves and mittens to the shelters. More knitters are welcome to participate in this project.

The meeting adjourned to moderated breakout groups to brainstorm about community-building ideas for the winter.

Respectfully submitted,

Judith Hyde, Secretary