

Approved
9/18/24

MINUTES OF THE
COUNCIL MEETING,
NORTHAMPTON CAMPUS, LATHROP COMMUNITY

JUNE 19, 2024

Officers Present: Sue Bastek, President, Presiding; Richard Hutton, Vice-President; Nancy Chamberlin, Treasurer; Alaire Rieffel, Secretary.

Council Members Present: Joe Kulin and Edie Denney (Aspen), Nancy Felton (Butternut), Rowena Roodman (Crabapple), Michael Schwartz (Dogwood), Joan Bernardini (Firethorn), George Teter (Goldenchain), Martha Cushman, (Hawthorn).

Because of the holiday, there were no staff members present.

After a period of silence, Sue reviewed the new arrivals and departures on campus. Margaret Zelljadt is leaving Hawthorn Lane to live with family near Washington, DC. Bill and Mary Alice Wilson are relocating to a facility near family in New Hampshire.

The Treasurer's Report (below as an addendum) was approved.

The Proceedings of the last Council Meeting (March 21, 2024) were approved.

Old Business:

Chris Hjelt provided an update of the fundraising effort for Cooley-Dickinson Hospital. A donation of \$250 will be made on behalf of the Northampton Association and will be bundled with contributions from individual residents. Contributions should be sent by July 1 to Chris. Checks should be made out to the hospital.

George Teter noted that the detention pond near Goldenchain has been inspected, and it was determined that a part needed to be replaced. So far, however, no one has come to do so.

New Business:

Sue reported for Patrick Arguin, CEO. The effort to inspect and, if appropriate, upgrade insulation, is continuing at Easthampton and soon will be done on the Northampton campus. Patrick's complete report on space needs and availability is available from Sue.

Joe Kulin asked about the painted signs near the Lathrop entrance at Bridge Road, which are in disrepair. In addition, Aspen residents have been concerned about the individuals who have taken up residence along the fence in the cemetery adjacent to their back yards. Cemetery personnel have been informed and will address the problem.

Nancy Felton asked about the status of the old flagpole, which has been left lying on the lawn. The area will be cleaned up and the flagpole will be reinstalled near the entrance.

Rowena reported that Crabapple Lane had no current concerns to raise.

Michael Schwartz reported that the weed whacking has been incomplete on his lane: the area behind the houses near Crabapple has not been done.

A sign limiting parking to 15 minutes in the Meeting House parking area next to the handicapped ramp has disappeared.

Nancy Chamberlin expressed continued concern about Meeting House utilization and security. Doors and windows have been left open on occasion following afternoon or evening activities. A group of volunteer dog walkers has been checking that the doors and windows are secure in the evening and sometimes find that they are not.

There was a discussion about the weekly use of the Meeting House by a non-resident group, arising from some complaints about the lack of parking space in the Meeting House lot during these meetings and the noise level after the event lets out. Sue asked to be notified of incidents such as these, which she will report to Patrick.

Joan Bernadini asked that dogs be tied up on the porch at a location such that leashes will not block the entrance to the porch, *i.e.*, about 6' down to the right. Sue asked that bicycles be parked on the sidewalk to the far side of the Meeting House entrance to avoid blocking the entrance to the Meeting House.

Concerns have been raised about the condition of the segment of the trail at the end of Shallowbrook between the trail head and the first bench. This was intended to be a well-maintained area such that persons with limited mobility could safely access the first bench, but the path over time has been worn so now there are tree roots and other hazards in this location. Patrick Arguin has been informed about this problem. Barbara Walvoord stated that previously the Land Conservation Committee had paid for crushed stone to be placed here. She will check with the Land Conservation Committee to see if they are doing anything. George Teter also noted that the nearby grassy area hasn't been kept up.

No written reports were received.

Barbara Walvoord reported that the Northampton City Council is meeting on June 20 to consider the grant application for removal of invasive plants from Lathrop property. She noted that poison ivy is not considered an invasive, since it is indigenous and is consumed by birds and deer. It likes carbon dioxide and has been proliferating because of climate change. However, efforts are being made to clear it away from paths.

Joe Kulin, on behalf of the Fitness Committee, reported that the chair massage event was successful and will be coming back on Tuesday afternoons. He reported that there is an "All Trails" app that may be helpful in planning walks in areas not now frequently used by Lathrop residents.

There were no reports from Board members.

Respectfully submitted, Alaire Rieffel, Treasurer

Addenda:

Report of the Treasurer

Florence Savings bank balance is \$4126.21, down \$214.75 from last month's balance. Expenditures covered cake and flowers for the May Association meeting, and the New Horizons Band event 6/13. The Lathrop administered North Association account continues to have a balance of \$12,880.50.

Nancy Chamberlin, treasurer, 5/19/24

Program Committee June Report

Below are the programs/events either sponsored by or assisted by the Program Committee

Thursday, May 16, Program Committee Meeting, Thursday, May 16, 10:00-11:30, Thursday Café

Thursday, May 16, Sequential of the Williamsburg Dam flood. May 18th and May 30 and June 1 events Old Hampton County courthouse events advertised in the Lamp Post

Friday, May 17, A very successful trip to Old Deerfield Village – Lunch at the hotel or picnic

Saturday, May 18, 2:00 Walkabout – go right

Wednesday, May 21, 3:00 Walkabout – go left

Thursday, May 23, 10:00-11:30, Thursday Café

Friday, May 24, 12:00 A Potluck Memorial Day Picnic with BBQ chicken

Saturday, May 25, 3:00 Walkabout – go left

Sunday, May 26, Judy Bruder - The Ascent of Man: Knowledge vs, Certainty

Wednesday, May 29, 3:30 Walkabout – go left

Thursday, May 30, 10:00-11:30, Thursday Café

JUNE

June 1, 2:00 Walkabout – go right

Sunday, June 2 Movies with Dave and Judy - Gathering Room, Hamlet (with Laurence Olivier)

Wednesday, June 5, 3:00 Walkabout – go left

Thursday June 6, 10:00-11:30, Thursday Café

June 15 Silverthorn Theatre, (Hampshire College) The Broken Machine,

Saturday, June 8, 2:00, Walkabout – go right

Wednesday, June 12, 3:00 Walkabout – go left

Wednesday, June 12, Stan Moulton, Northampton Ward 1 City Councilor Report in the Gathering Room

Thursday June 13, 10:00-11:30, Thursday Café

Thursday, June 13, 3:00 PM New Horizon Band and Ice Cream Social

Saturday, June 15, 2:00, Walkabout – go right

Sunday, June 16, 3:00, Movies with Dave and Judy Gathering Room, Streetcar Named Desire

Worked with Black Authors Book Group to coordinate Juneteenth

Wrote articles for the Lamp Post



New Horizon Band Concert and Ice Cream Social

Last Thursday, the New Horizons Band entertained North residents with a widely varied program including a series of Henry Mancini melodies, Can-Can by Jacques Offenbach which we learned is a short song at the "Orpheus in the Underworld" (or Orpheus in Hell) , and a rousing John Philip Sousa march. The musicians joined residents for our annual Ice Cream Social. A selection of hand dipped ice cream, a variety of topping choices including whipped cream with a cherry on top.

Calendar for the rest of June

Saturday, June 22, 2:00, Walkabout – go right

Wednesday, June 26, 3:00 Walkabout – go left

Thursday, June 27, 10:00, Gathering Room Thursday Café

Friday, June 28, 2:00 The Thin Place, Chester Theatre (purchase tickets/sign up for van)

Saturday, June 29, 2:00 Walkabout – go right

Save the Date: July 5th – Potluck Picnic on the Patio