

Minutes of the Pinewoods Association Annual Meeting July 27, 2019

1. Association President Jane Hoey called the meeting to order. Other board members in attendance were Association Treasurer, Paul Brown, and Secretary, Jody Foster. Jane called for a Quorum and it was reported that we have either live in person, 292 or combined with proxies, 432 shares accounted for, which is 60 percent.

2. Nomination and approval of new share holders. Lindsey and Stanford Phillips who are purchasing Rockey's cottage are applying for 20 shares. Jack Eubanks has applied for one share and to become a member. Jane Hoey asked all those in favor and if she could get a second for all those in favor of voting these people in as new members. The response was a universal aye. Jane asked if anyone was opposed? The new members were approved unanimously with applause and cheers.

3. As is our tradition at Pinewoods, Jane Hoey recognized and honored the deaths, births and marriages of our members

a. A moment of silence was observed for the deaths this year. Members honored the passing of Christoper Robinson, Ed Babcock's mother, Ruby Babcock, Callie Hanson, Dick Tinkham, and at 4:00 this morning we said goodbye to Michael Taggart Sr. A moment of silence was held for each of these members.

b. Pinewoods is always happy to announce births. Ivy Marie and Max Robert are twins to Tim and Lauren Bennett. Alex Connor son of Emily and Nick Snyder. Hayden Murer son of George Murer and Phoebe Bryant. Parker Michael Foster son of Allison and Tyler Foster. Lucas Marshall Bennett born July 1, to Andrew and Maggie Gray Bennett. Ansel Bulleit Baumgartel son of Lukas "Duke" Baumgartel and Heather McGinn.

c. There were four marriages celebrated that we know about. Taylor Wade and Patrick Mullen. And Michael and Laurie Taggart. Nate Calvin and Polly Siegel. Andrew Smart and Edith Sealove, July the 25th. Congratulations were given to all the couples. There was round of applause for all of the marriages.

4. Jane Hoey called for a motion to approve the minutes of the 2018 Annual Meeting. She said that they have been circulated twice and asked if anyone had any corrections to add to it. They were sent out in March and also recently. Since there were no corrections or additions, Jane asked if we should we have an approval of the minutes. Members responded unanimously with aye and it was seconded.

5. Jane Hoey presented her President's report.

a. This year my being president is coming fast to a close. It has been my pleasure to be part of the Board for the last two years, serving last year with Curt DeVoe and Paul Brown, and this year with Paul Brown and Jody Foster.

b. The gift of serving on the Board is getting to know better how Pinewoods Association works. Also, getting to know our community and all the wonderful people who serve on those committees; those who just step up to help when help is needed. If you'd ever like to show us that you'd like to be more involved by stepping up, please say yes to serve on the Board when asked, and also by saying yes to being part of a committee.

c. This year, we are grateful to David Dewey and Curt DeVoe of the Finance Committee for working for hours on the budget for our Association. You should have received by email during the middle of our winter term a full report of our finances for the past year so you could understand the reason for the memberships dues raise that we voted on last year at the Annual Meeting.

d. At this meeting you should be pleased to hear the success we have had in gaining a good reserve to be able to have a new dining hall floor, if you have not noticed yet, and other important upgrades.

e. It is Kathy's 30th year with us as Dining Hall Manager. How lucky we are to have her fine skills and good meals. You should know that finding a good staff has become very difficult and that we are really lucky that Kathy has been able to do that for us this year. Ed Babcock continues to be our steady caretaker and all of our cottages are overseen by him in his good efforts.

f. We are all looking forward to celebrating our Pinewoods Centennial next year, hopefully you will be here. You will hear more about that in this meeting. Thank you all for participating.

6. Paul Brown provided his Treasurer's report.

a. Last year we had some very specific concerns about the finances of the Association. We started the year with a bank balance of under \$3000. I'm happy to report that as of today we have a bank balance of \$30,000.

b. Our Memorial Fund has additional funds of approximately \$10,000. We have current receivables of \$37,000. Past due receivables of about \$4000. So the total of the current assets right now is approximately \$70,000.

c. This is a massive improvement of our financial position. And I thank you for your promptness in paying your increased dues and fees, it's really helped the Association.

d. And I just wanted to say that this year as Treasurer we did implement a couple of changes in policies and procedures. Nothing big, but we did put together a structure in which we can pursue collections in a modest manner so that we can make sure that everything is up to date. We also made a decision, since at last year's meeting there was a strong consensus to keep rates as low as possible.

e. We made a decision that as we move forward we can try and keep adjustments roughly in tune with inflation, so, at least we don't fall further behind, but we don't see any significant increases. Remember, if you pay by credit card, you do incur fees and would be charged 3% as a credit card fee if you do chose to pay with that method. I'm happy to report the finances are all sound and thanks to you all for helping me to do that.

7. Committee Reports

a. Nominating Committee:

Nomination of new board members. The committee was represented by John DeBeer who thanked Curt DeVoe. John DeBeer said that he was happy to say that we have invited David Greenleaf to be the new Treasurer. The other board members to be nominated were Paul Brown, President and Jody Foster, Secretary. Jane Hoey introduced the motion to approve David Greenleaf as Treasurer and the other board members. The motion was seconded and approved.

b. Finance Committee:

David Dewey spoke for the Finance Committee:

- David Dewey thanked the other 2019 Finance Committee members, who were Trevor Wade, Robin Link, Phil Will and Curt DeVoe.
- David Dewey, co-chairman of the Finance Committee, said that they had all spent a lot of time doing the budget and going through the various items on it.
- David explained that they had sent out a lengthy description, but basically what they have done is break the budget down into three functional areas: General fund, Dining Hall and Caretaking.
- They wanted to get all of the expenses into one of those functional areas so we can see how we are doing; if we are making money, losing money or just breaking even. The goal is to break even on most of these budgets.
- The Finance Committee has instituted an additional \$5000 in the General Fund and \$5000 in the Dining Hall Fund.

- By the end of the year we had about \$59,000. Then, because we needed to offset some of the expenses of the Dining Hall, we allocated \$20,000 to our account to help keep the Dining Hall prices low. So, that really brings us down to about \$39,000. The number we have in the reserve should decrease by the end of the year even further.
- David said that he would be around if anyone had any questions.

Jane Hoey thanked David Dewey, Curt DeVoe and the committee for all their hard work and for working all winter on it.

There were several questions from members:

Q: Have we benchmarked the other camps on the amount we are spending on accounting services? My understanding is that the other camps don't spend nearly as much as we do.

Paul Brown : That's an excellent point. I will talk to the other camps and find out what they spent on accounting so we can track what we're spending.

Q: Is there a projection of some of the new expenses we might be incurring within the next year?

Paul Brown: There are not any new expenses for the coming year except that we want to get our accounting services to jive with our budget process so that we can track where we are. Other than that the reserve funds are being used to take care of some long-term issues. For example, the roof will need to be replaced on the Dining Hall, but I do not foresee any new expenses that we're planning on for this year.

Curt DeVoe: All the expenses we know about now are reflected in our current budget. It's the job of the other committees to let the Finance Committee know what some of these expenses are going to be.

Q: What are the Dining Hall wages?

Jane Hoey: They are comparable to Michigan wages. One of the problems is that they hire people to work and then they don't show up to work.

Curt DeVoe: The problem is finding people who have the specific skills that they need.

Paul Brown: I have had the thought in the past that we have often had camp family members who spent the summer up here to work. I haven't seen that in a long time. I don't know if it's just not a thing anymore, or people don't have that kind of time. I definitely would encourage the families if they have young people who might want to spend the entire summer at Pinewoods. Those are the best staff members we could possibly get our hands on. There's no better staff member than a family member.

A member made the comment that another issue with hiring staff members could be school schedules and sports schedules.

Q: What is the age restriction, 14 or 16 years old?

Jane Hoey: We have one staff member here this year who is 14.

Paul Brown : Since we are setting aside reserves each year, which we had not been doing before, we are actually developing funds to help pay for some of these long-term expenses. So, David Dewy said that we have a reserve of \$30,000 and it's \$40,000 to fix the roof, so you see, we are building to pay for some of these long-term expenses. That's why we made the necessary adjustments.

c. Memorial Fund Committee

Anne Sloan spoke about the Memorial Fund Committee:

- The Memorial Fund Committee was founded some years ago by my mother and Sue Geupel who were the initiators of it. The idea was to make available funds to enhance the life of the camp for things that were not essential to the running or function of the camp but things that were nice, enjoyable, and fun. Almost all of the library was paid for with funds from the Memorial Fund
- The benches outside were provided by the Memorial Fund and the idea was to provide an opportunity for people to get together and socialize.
- Paul mentioned that right now we have about \$10,000 in the fund, and a chunk of it will be set aside for the Centennial Celebration next year. A chunk of it will be set aside for the history, *Pinewoods*, that Ann(Taylor) has been working on this year.
- Also keep it in mind projects that we could undertake. It's been mentioned that maybe we need more seating in the tennis court area, or just places for people to hang out. A comment was made by some of the staff that the annex has been a very nice facility. A relative of a member who stayed in the annex, enjoyed it very much, but mentioned that maybe a handrail could be put up the front steps. The addition of carpeting and so forth in the annex to enhance the experience was handled by the Memorial Fund. The the staff room was not financed by the Memorial Fund.

Jane Hoey: Paul is going to talk later about the use of the annex and how it came to be. Thank you for the update from the Memorial Fund Committee.

d. Library Committee

Lucy Cochran spoke for the Library Committee:

- The library has a team that is dividing up the graphic novels for the teens and children. The library also has children's books and a shelf of picture books now. Thank you to Mary Highberger who did a lot of work for the library this summer, along with Marion Wattenbarger who is on the committee. If you have any interest in being on the committee, see me.

Paul Brown: I see a number of people, young and old, walking around with books, so I know it's being used.

e. Dining Hall Committee

Louisa Lawrence spoke for the Dining Hall Committee:

- Louisa reported that we have the highest number so far in 13 years with 6300 meals.
- Kathy has had a problem with the staffing and keeping it up has been difficult.
- Special thanks to Bitsy and Kate for doing the sheets every week. We've had 300 more meals than any other years.

Jane Hoey: I just want to say that you fill out those dining hall sheets on Wednesday, and remarkably, Jamie can get them back to us by Thursday which is just incredible when you think of the 1500 meals we have. And she reports that this year people have been paying their dining hall bills very promptly, but a number of people have not yet paid their spring dues. So just bear that in mind.

Q: Are we sending statements to people to remind them?

Jane Hoey: Yes and sometimes even phone calls, extra pushes.

f. Building and Grounds

Duncan Lawrence spoke for Building and Grounds:

- Duncan Lawrence spoke for Building and Grounds. Just a quick update. The Building and Grounds Committee has generally been John Fink and myself. Unfortunately we lost Chris Robinson. My brother also helps and different people participate. I can have additional members, so anyone interested in Building and Grounds just let me know.
- The biggest thing for Building and Grounds this year was the floor. We coordinated and Ed took the lead on that. It looks beautiful and was actually a push by John Fink who made us realize what the old floor actually looked like. The good news is that the floor is solid and

actually can be done a couple more times so we should be able to go to the next millennium, well maybe not quite the millennium.

- What we mostly actually do here is a lot of the little odds and ends. So, we updated the doors here, so there's actually windows on both sides.
- We did have a cleanup day at the tennis courts organized by Mary Highberger. It was great: the new cottage owners, the Phillips were there before the rest showed up, so it was all pretty much done by the time the rest of us arrived.
- We had a budget and worked with the Finance committee to put our budget together. We roughly targeted \$20,000 and ended up spending about \$13,000 or \$14,000. We did not have the annex numbers in our budget. There were some things we did not do this year. One thing we didn't have happen was a bunch of trees fall and knock anything over. That's a good thing, you always have to allow for that.
- We came under budget by about \$5000 or \$6000 and in part because we did not spend some money. We didn't buy some chairs we were going to buy, and that didn't go in. So that's rolling over and a few of those types of things. There were no catastrophes, I guess is the short answer, no trees, no raft and none of the chairs were purchased.
- It was requested last year to buy some new chairs. We are running out. We have a lot of people here. One of the problems with the chairs is that we have two different designs. One design has a big bow to it. If you kick this part, it actually becomes a little bit of a tripping hazard. This type of chair was likely to get hit. We are in the process of trying to find chairs. I have a prototype coming in next week so that we can vote and see if we like that option. Anyways, we are looking at new chairs. I was hoping to pick up some used ones, I didn't have any luck looking over restaurant supplies and those types of things, so I think we'll just go find one, take a look, and then buy a couple of others as we go forward.

Q: Are we buying 20 or 40 or what?

Duncan Lawrence: We may look at retiring or moving some of these with the bad shape.

Comment from Member: We would also like to say thank you to the Phillips. We have all of their dining room chairs from the cottage. They brought them all over.

- So we came through roughly \$5000 under budget, plus or minus, but some of that is getting rolled over. So roughly it was a \$20,000 budget driven largely by the core from last year.
- We've been spending about \$12,000 or \$13,000 over the last few years. I'm asking for \$15,000 this year. I keep a track of what the maintenance costs are. The big one is the roof. We have two big appliances, for example, a stove and a dishwasher in the back that may go for a period of time if they age well. We will have to think about how we will cover that if and when they need to be replaced. Those are a couple of the big ones. We are going to put in on

an ongoing basis the maintenance of the floor, which is every three years. Also, we are going to have somebody come in and give it a little buff here and there; that's only a thousand dollars and will get rolled into the budget. And separately, I think we are going to hear about the tennis courts. Any questions?

Q: Also is there something about a new ice cream cooler?

Duncan Lawrence: I have that in the budget.

Jane Hoey: The baby seats?

Duncan Lawrence: I have purchased a booster seat so we can put one on. Also we are going to get a couple more kids chairs that will be a little easier than the old fashioned ones. So again, we are going to add those, but fundamentally we want to make it easy for parents to have their kids here. Whatever we need to do to speed that, we will do. The dining hall committee will feed that to me and we'll make sure that we have the right stuff.

Q: When was it that you put a metal roof on the dorm?

Duncan Lawrence: That was 10 years ago? They last forever.

Duncan Lawrence spoke regarding shingles and other maintenance issues.

- There are two or three things going on. Some of the shingles are more amazing than they have been in the past too. So it's not like now a twenty year shingle will last fifteen, but that a thirty year shingle will last thirty.
- If you see things that you think need to be done just let us know. I am a believer in maintenance. We now have all of the windows done. They have been re-puttied. We need to put new screens in some of them. That's cheap and could be like a three or four year plan. We spent like a thousand dollars a year over the last few years to get them all reset and new rails on them. If they are sticking let me know.

Paul Brown: How about going around and looking at the trees to see if there was any risk there?

Duncan Lawrence: Historically Ed and I have taken a walk around. We have had the general rule that if it is in the Dining Hall's vicinity that it is taken care of. If it has an impact on the building.

Paul Brown: Members, let the Building and Grounds Committee know if when you are walking into the Dining Hall you see any trees that are dead.

Jane Hoey : If any of you are interested in being on the committees let them know

g. HLPOA

Mary Highberger spoke for the HLPOA:

- Jane Hoey, Nick Dewey, Marty Dewey and I attended the HLPOA meeting. That's the Higgins Lake Property Owners Association. They have 500 members. Each cottage is a member. It's part of your dues. It is an organization that is well worth helping out. Just a few things we heard at that meeting. Curt VanderWall who is the state senator for this district spoke about three things:

1. They have contributed \$250,000 to swimmers itch efforts this year.
2. They are working on septic tank codes and inspections.
3. They are working on ways to control outside boaters on the lake.

If these things are at the state level, that would be nice.

- The finances of the HLPOA are in good shape. The main bulk of their expenses are for lobbying for the lake. They have let go of the boat wash, it is now being maintained by the DNR.
- A couple of committees reported, one of which was the Riparian Committee. That's a study group that makes recommendations to the board about what they observed. They are looking at ways to discourage lounging and picnicking on the lake, especially in front of houses on the south side of the lake where there is a lot more partying and celebrating. There are several people who complained about that and people can't do much because the parties are in the lake and the property lines don't go into the lake. But if you object to the noise of the parties, you can also call law enforcement officers. The HLPOA has in their website how to do that successfully.
- The Environmental Committee reported also. There are a couple of things that are going on.
 1. High school chemistry students are helping to test water quality this summer.
 2. There is a woman by the name of Dr. Jamela Jones from the Restorative Lake Sciences organization that has been hired to do a baseline environmental survey of the lake this summer. She did one such study on Houghton Lake a couple of years ago with some good success. She plans to offer some future options for controlling evasive species without chemical treatment. The cost is \$25,000 and the HLPOA is looking for contributions for this effort.
 3. There were lots of questions from the audience about when are we going to end surveys and get going on things. Several people had said let's get some action going.

- Swimmers itch was another topic. Kurt Lankenspor was in attendance. This is his fourth summer that he is removing merganser ducks. They are tracking them with GPS tags. There are very few reports of swimmers itch this summer. If anyone has trouble with swimmers itch this year, the HLPOA wants to know. This is because they want to know where the swimmers itch is, so contact the HLPOA about that.
- There are 2 legal, issues going on. One that they are actively involved in and one that they would like to support.

1. The first is the AMVETS Lodge on the northwest side of the lake. The property is zoned residential and the lodge is being used for weddings and parties. They also have built quite a marina down there.

2. The other has to do with lake levels that are remaining too high over the winter. We lose sand beaches and it plays havoc on cement walls. Phil is going to say more about that.

- I also wanted to say that Susie and John Ruhl and I were invited to a meet and greet for the Higgins Lake Foundation. For the Higgins Lake Foundation we don't pay anything, it runs on contributions. But this is a fabulous Foundation that is also doing good work. Vickie Springstead is the chair of that Foundation. She invited Dr. Mark Luttenton from Grand Valley State University and the Annis Water Resources Institute to tell about the work he is doing with the Foundation. If you would like to contribute to the Foundation with ticket sales, Alex and Jack are responsible for selling tickets for the raffle and the big fundraiser which is August 3rd.
- Mark Luttenton has two things that are his major concerns about the lake. One is nutrients that are seeping into the lake from septic tanks and phosphorus from detergents. He said that if you haven't checked your septic tank do it, because it seeps into the lake and creates havoc with the lake. He is also very concerned about the invasive species that are growing in the lake, mainly milfoil, and the new one is starry stonewort which grows even faster than milfoil. He has a different opinion about what is causing the swimmers itch. He says that ducks might be part of the problem, but he's not convinced that mergansers are totally responsible. He says it is ducks. He says that swimmers itch relates to how cold the water is. This winter was very cold and the little snails died off, so there is less swimmers itch.
- I would say that a major portion of the meeting revolved around lake levels.

Q: Now that the DNR has taken over the boat washing, is it mandatory?

Jane Hoey: No, not yet. it is still all volunteers.

- Nick Dewey reported that the most serious concern about the lake is the invasive species. The Higgins Lake Foundation was the recipient a year ago of \$75,000 from the state to conduct boat washing at the state parks. There were three sites, and it didn't go well because of inadequate equipment; it takes about 5 minutes to wash a boat. The DNR wants to wash as many boats as possible and it takes a whole hour of waiting to go through the boat wash.

- The DNR is absolutely against the mandatory boat wash. Of the three sites, the South State Park is the worst with the lagoon, the North State Park is not quite as bad. The west launch site, however, is a disaster also. What is happening at those sites is that they are totally choked not only with Eurasian milfoil, but also the starry stonewort, which is so bad as an invasive species that the state has characterized it as a prohibited species.
- I serve on the Criterion Committee for the HLPOA and we have been asking the DNR to clean up these sites. They promised to do so and dredge the lagoon in the South State Park. Still this has not happened. What happens at these sites is that boats get launched into a quagmire of invasive species and then they drag them out and distribute them all over the lake. The DNR has done absolutely nothing in this regard and has said that they need to get a permit from the DPD.
- The DNR said in January that they would get the permit to dredge out the lagoon and the channel that goes out into the lake. They said that they could get that done before the boating season, but they didn't get the permit until sometime in May or early June and still have done nothing about it. The DNR said that for some reason they can only dredge down to the navigable depth of four feet, so we can't get to the bottom of the lagoon and clean out the invasive species. They said they can only dredge to a navigable depth of four feet.
- The DNR did a survey in July of last year and found starry stonewort at six different locations around the lake. And that's why the Higgins Lake Foundation has hired this organization to do a study to find out where the invasive species are in our lake, so we can do something about it. But it is hopeless unless the DNR is made to account for what they are doing to our lake. Do whatever you can to contact Curt VanderWall who is very interested in this. He is our senator that represents Higgins lake. You can contact any of your other congressmen because it is a tragedy.

Paul Brown: Right now we have an observe, listen and report posture with the HLPOA. If the members want, we can adopt a more aggressive posture and try to get them to do things.

- Nick Dewey: The HLPOA and the Riparian Committee have met repeatedly with the DNR and Anna Silvestri is the area representative. They have tried to get the DNR to act and take action and they have refused to do so. Curt VanderWall visited all three sites about 3 weeks before the annual HLPOA meeting. He said that he was going to talk to the powers that be in the DNR in Lansing and tell them that we have to do something about this. The HLPOA has no power except to publicize these things to let everyone know how bad it is.

Jane Hoey: We all are charged like \$95 and it comes in our spring or fall dues and it is sent in the name of Pinewoods Association.

Phil Will: I used to send them a list of the cottages, and if I knew, who was in charge of that cottage, or who was representing that cottage. So they have that information on the cottages. Then if someone went to a meeting and wanted to be a voter, they could tell them when they walk in the door that they are from Pinewoods and representing such and such a cottage.

Curt DeVoe: Each individual property has a member who is the representative of that property. As a community we have some collective clout. Make sure that there is a person that represents your lot and send a proxy to participate for the HLPOA meeting.

Recognition Of Kathy and Dining Hall Staff

Jane Hoey invited Dining Hall Staff out to be recognized.

Kathy and her staff enter to applause.

Jane Hoey: As always I am absolutely thrilled that you, Kathy, have been with us for as long as you have. Would you be willing to introduce your staff.

Kathy Piehl: Yes I want to introduce and thank my staff. This is Roxanne, she has been here 2 years and is a salad person for me. This is my grandson Justin. Ethan is a grandson but he is off today and he is our dining room person. Riley is also our dining room person. And you guys all remember my Alexandra. She said grandma just let me know if you need help and I'll come up and help you with something. So here she is. And Trisha you know was my salad girl for years, and now she is in the breakfast and lunch group, and I think she is doing a great job. And this is Brandon my grandson, and he is our dish person, and whatever I ask him to do kind of person. And of course my supervisor, Angela. (applause)

Jane Hoey: Thank you Kathy, Jody is the secretary and Paul has all of the emails. So if you need something to go to all the camps, Jody as secretary will send those out. We thank Phil for the directory because all of his information is in there as well as Jamie's information.

Jody Foster: Just wanted to let you know I tried to keep the list up to date and that if you have any changes in your address or email, to just let me know and I can change them on the master list.

Jane: And phones too, if you want the phone numbers.

Paul Brown: And Phil's directory is a Google Doc so you can actually save that link to your desktop or phone file and all of the information is right there. I saw Phil do it on his phone and I was like woo high tech!

Jane Hoey: Phil did you want to say anything about the directory?

Phil Will: The directory is a database which is not a Google Doc, but it does produce a pdf file which may be converted into a Word Doc, which is how I created the directory for this year which has a title page and other information. It's complicated to keep it up to date there are a lot of changes to email addresses, mailing addresses and telephone addresses. People switch off their home phones. It's an ongoing process on a Google Form where you can update your information. It's referenced in the current directory on the backside of the title page.

Jane Hoey: Thank you so much for all that work.

Bitsy Fitzsimmons: Perhaps you can send that most current link.

Phil Will: I can send that link to Jody to send out.

Jane Hoey: Kristin Larkin isn't here but she has been doing the Pinewords and we thank her a lot for that. And now we will move on to Eric to talk about the website.

h. Website

Eric Geupel spoke for the website:

- Very briefly, just to say that the website exists. It's pinewoodscamp.org. If you go to pinewoods.com it takes you somewhere else. I try to keep it up to date with all of the back issues of Pinewords and minutes from this meeting and various other administrative information. What the dining hall rates are for the year, when the annual meeting is, fire warning levels. Pretty basic information. One thing I am often asked is why the directory is not on there. The reason for that is because of different data security we would have to install. Some type of log in would have to be in place otherwise all of your emails would be available to hackers and that kind of thing. If there is some young person who is up to date with IT who would like to take on the project, that would be good.

Q: Could family trees be shared on the website?

Paul Brown: Would people generally favor having family trees on the website? We would need to have the security first.

Q: But we could do it as a secure link perhaps?

Jane Hoey: We will explore that. We can find out from a high tech person if it can be secure. Does anyone feel strongly about having the genealogy on the website?

Paul Brown: We are about to publish the definitive book on Pinewoods and those genealogies will be in there.

Q: Would it be possible on the Pinewoods website to have 2 links that are secure, one to the Pinewoods Directory and one to the family trees?

Paul Brown: For now we'll send the links and look into security for this year.

Jane Hoey: Maybe we could add these other links to the website to entice more people to go there.

i. Tennis Courts

Ann Cass spoke for the Tennis Court Committee:

- First of all I wanted to thank, Amanda Geupel and Curt DeVoe gets the prize for being on the most committees. As you know the courts have been in a sad state for many years. Back in 2013 Grace Flintermann and John Fink got quotes for repair ranging from about \$16,000 to \$12,000 for power washing, crack repair and new paint.

- Then five years later, last summer, after playing numerous games and slipping on the black mildew that is not really removable, Mary Highberger connected us with a gentleman in Cottage Grove to find out about who recently resurfaced theirs. We spoke to Van Sandstrom who lives in the house next to the tennis courts. He reported that this company called McKerney Asphalts redid their tennis court in 2010 for the price of \$32,000. So the prices have gone up. That was for resurfacing two of their courts and the third court was repainted. Then I did some research last August and September and contacted several of the companies Grace and John had worked with back in 2013, and Ed was really helpful being the point person here.

Basically there are two options that we could do.

1. Power wash and use some type of crack repair process or system and paint them. Most of the companies use this thing called Right Way Crack Repair. Regarding the price range for that, Nick Dewey connected me with a company from Grand Rapids and I contacted a couple of other companies. The price range for that is \$19,000 - \$40,000. Quite a range. With the caveat that the crack repair process does not prevent new cracks from forming outside of the membrane system. It also does not prevent existing cracks from extending. Any movement caused by moisture from underneath the base can cause lifting of the system and possible failure in that area. So in a way, the price of \$40,000 may not be the way to go.
 2. Then I reached out to a different company that did say that if we wanted to just fully take out the asphalt and lay new asphalt and start from scratch we would have fabulous courts. There is a company called Mid Michigan Asphalt Pavement that came up here in September. They said from the total review it would be \$41,000 and that does include painting. So once I got to those numbers I didn't even ask about painting because we can't afford this right now.
- I talked with the other committee members and someone had the idea of talking to Cottage Grove because they have fabulous courts but they are never really in use; nobody is really playing tennis down there. So our committee talked about partnering with cottage grove, possibly even offering them a rental fee for the day use, and an annual stipend to help with their maintenance or something.
 - Folks were generally in favor, so I spoke with Van, and he said these courts are never in use, you guys should just come down and use them. If anyone gives you a hard time, just say that you are my guest. I wanted to have something a little more official to present at the meeting so he connected me with the current president of Cottage Grove, Christy Ferris. I talked to Christy who grew up in Cottage Grove. She said just come down and play, we don't need anything official, we just want the courts to be in use. That would be great if we could have some inter camp play. I got her email and will email her later today to formalize things for this year. Things could change next year. This could be our pilot year. Christy gave me some names and maybe we could have a league or tournament matches or a rat race or something.
 - So that is my report for this year, my proposal is to not spend any money. There is the pickle ball court and I know people are playing. It seems like that court is safe. It's not the best but you are less likely to hurt yourself from mildew, etc. Seems like folks can just keep playing pickle ball.

- The other topic for future discussion, if we decided not to pursue the paving of the courts, is that Ed did mention to me the possibility of putting some type of boat storage structure back where the tennis courts are. He wanted me to mention this. Just wanted the board to know that there are options back there. So if we have a big windfall of money, I have the names here.

j. Trails

Howie Schultz spoke for the Trails Committee:

- The trails committee would like to tell you that the three c's are always welcome: criticisms, comments and compliments. We want to hear from you and are always looking for ways to improve our trails. The trails are a way for you to enjoy nature during your stay at Pinewoods. Some folks have run on our trails for exercise. They are only three miles long in total. At the beginning of the summer, we check our trails. At this point in time they all seem to be in pretty good shape. Even though we call them our trails, they are located for the most part on Cottage Grove's property.
- Cottage Grove last year engaged in a forestry project on the west end of the Cottage Grove forest. Fortunately our trails were spared from the effort. Years ago we made a map of our trails and we have copies available. You can see Larry or me later for your copies. If anyone is interested in joining our committee, help is always welcome, see either Larry or me. That concludes our report for the trails.

k. Centennial Committee

Kate Eubanks spoke for the Centennial Committee:

- This will be our 100th summer at Pinewoods. Our Centennial Committee who are Bitsy, Alex Eubanks, Kate Eubanks and Amanda Geupel have been putting together a summer full of celebrations and activities.
- The main party will be this weekend next year, but if you can't be here that weekend, we will have smaller parties throughout the summer which will give you the opportunity to tour some of the hundred year old cottages in camp. If you want to volunteer to have your cottage as one of the ones to be toured, please come to the committee. We will also have ping pong tournaments. We don't want to overwhelm you because we know that people like to spend time with their families, but there will be something for everyone.
- Also Paul and Alyssa, his sister, have written *Pinewoods the Musical*, a tribute to camp which will be put on during their time in camp. So there is a call for thespians if you are interested.
- So as mentioned, we have a beautiful book that Ann has been working so hard on; it is a labor of love. That will be available next year. There will be one copy for each cottage as a gift from the camp, but more will be available to purchase.
- The last thing is Alex has been putting together t-shirts and other Centennial merchandise ideas and we are going to have some of that. That will be available for pre-order this summer and we will send out those links in every venue possible. We encourage you to preorder so

we have all of the sizes and quantities for everyone. So when you get email, take a look at it. If you would like to get involved please get in touch with the committee.

Fire and Safety

Jean Lawrence spoke for the Fire and Safety Committee:

- Call 911 for any fires or emergencies. If it is stormy stay inside. There are many dead limbs around. Each cottage owner needs to arrange with Ed Babcock to have dead limbs removed. I am concerned about the main trail. It has to be a cottage owner that takes on that responsibility.
- The 911 team or EMT team here is superb. They show up in a group and many of them have years of experience. They have recently purchased an expensive piece of cardiac equipment. They were all there in uniform at the town board meeting.
- In camp when I was young, we had a rule that you never hollered for help unless you need it. We have a lot of kids coming into camp and that might be a rule to keep talking about.
- The EMTs come from the Parrish Offices over on East Higgins Lake.
- We all have to be careful about candles, whether they are wax paraffin or whatever, they are dangerous.

Jane Hoey: Be cautious about the fireplaces in front of houses.

Paul Brown: If it's windy be cautious about making fires and using fire works.

Bitsy Fitzsimmons: Always have a water bucket by your fire pit.

Hugh Lawrence: If you have not changed your smoke alarm batteries in a few years, I highly recommend the Costco 2 pack of batteries with a ten year life.

Mary Highberger: I just wanted to remind you about the defibrillator over here. If you have never been trained, I will be happy to do it, today, tomorrow, or whenever. When your heart stops, it's for that. The dining hall is open 24/7 so you can come over in the middle of the night if you need to.

Q: if I dial 911 on my cell phone, is 911 smart enough to know where I am or will they go somewhere in Texas?

Comment: I think that if you dialed 911 on a cell phone, they have GPS so that they should be able to find you.

Comment: This only works if you have your location services activated on your phone.

Paul Brown: Make sure that you have your location services activated on your phone.

Old Business and New Business

New Business

Paul Brown spoke regarding the Dining Hall Annex:

- The building that used be called the dorms is now called the Dining Hall Annex.
- The question was how can we allocate use to the campers and use to the staff. We came up with a great solution. We've converted one room now into a staff lounge. There will be a sign that says staff and that will be for staff only. That door is not for us.
- The other three rooms have been improved thanks to the efforts of some of the people in the camp, my mom, Mary Taylor, Bitsy and Kate. If you have not seen it, stop by at the end of the meeting for a two minute open house. It's really nice now. It's a great resource if Aunt Harriet who never comes to the lake is suddenly coming.
- Several families have used it this year, and it has been very beneficial as we have heard. It's not expensive, we ask for a \$25 dollars per room, per night donation. You can send it directly to the accountant, it's a donation.
- The reservations are done through me, I am the permanent volunteer. I'm responsible for it, contact me, I will reserve it for you. All we ask is that you clean up after yourself; clean the linens, make the beds, empty the trash, let me know about anything that needs to be repaired. We had three families stay there this year. It is non smoking. Also, keep the public area tidy. It is part of the association dues that you pay. Three rooms, two twin beds and one double bed. Each one has its own bathroom.

Old Business

Jane Hoey spoke on the subject of roots:

- Last year there was discussion of roots that are tripping people. It is not possible to saw off roots on other peoples property. If you've got roots that people are tripping on you can do something about it.
- In Cottage Grove people have started to use wood chips and it looks very nice. Some people use pine needles. Some people want to shave it off and that works too. It's all about how you feel about the roots on your property.
- We will keep an eye on the root problem coming up to the dining hall and see which system is working best in Cottage Grove. So if you have roots on your property that people are tripping over, you may want to take care of them.

Comment: Curt DeVoe said that when he was here in the spring that there were leaves covering the path so the roots were not exposed. Ed blows the leaves off of the path exposing the roots.

Comment: When Ed blows the leaves downhill it kills the understory.

Duncan Lawrence: The leaf blowing that Ed does is paid for by dues for leaf removal. You would have to negotiate with Ed if you wanted anything further done.

Nick Dewey: I have considered for years that the leaves should not be blown off the path, and I think that this is something that we as a camp have to decide.

Paul Brown: Does anyone have any objections to us telling Ed not to clean the leaves off the path? Maybe Building and Grounds can have a discussion.

Jane Hoey: We will review this.

Louise Bennett: Has there been the presence of lyme disease around the lake in the past?

Jane Hoey: Lyme disease has been seen again in Michigan.

Louise Bennett: What are the recommendations? You should wear long clothing that covers your body. Spray, check your skin for ticks and take a shower. Remove ticks carefully without pulling the head out. Lyme disease will show a bullseye mark.

Curt DeVoe: All of the local urgent cares are trained in treating this.

Beth Schultz: I think that Louise should write up a statement about Lyme disease and put it up on one of these posts.

Phil Will: If you got an email about Lyme disease, it probably came from the North Shore Environmental Group. If you get it together I can send it out again.

Comment: I like seeing sand on the path rather than covered in leaves.

Jane Hoey: One other new business item is that our bylaws need to be updated. Curt did a marvelous job of interpreting the laws when a new person comes in. We need a committee to interpret the bylaws.

Paul Brown: There are a lot of gray areas and no guidance when someone wants to sell their cottage, in terms of who they can sell it to. We are forming an exploratory committee this year with an attorney involved.

Curt DeVoe: If you sell your cottage, you can't just give your shares to the new owner. You have to give your shares back to the Association, and then the new owner has to buy them from the Association. If you are selling to someone within the association, it is a totally different process.

Jane Hoey: If anybody wants to be on the Bylaws Committee speak to the upcoming president. Is there any other new Pinewoods business?

Comment: There are at least four members of my cottage who wear hearing aids. I think the association should purchase a microphone to use for the Annual Meeting.

Phil Will: There is a technology that broadcasts to a hearing aid.

Comment: Could some noise reducing systems be installed in the Dining Hall?

Reports from Outside Organizations

Roscommon Community Foundation

Kathy Lawrence spoke for the Roscommon Community Foundation:

- The meeting for the Roscommon Community Foundation was held at Sarah Morley Lacroix's cottage. Sue Morley reminded us of the history of how her husband, Ralph Morley, Jack Wade and Ted Braun formed the Higgins Lake Foundation and how the Roscommon Community Foundation came about. The Roscommon Community Foundation has 8 million dollars, helps students go to college and helps the lake and the community.

North Shore Environmental Group

Phil Will spoke for the Higgins Lake North Shore Environmental Group:

- HNSEG is an unincorporated association that was created to address environmental concerns of the north shore of Higgins Lake, from Camp Cordelia to Flag Point. The premise is that this area has concerns that are different from other areas of the lake, and issues having to do with erosion. The Lakeside, Cottage Grove and Pinewoods Associations need to take on more of a role in addressing these concerns.
- The HNSEG seeks to create a forum for providing a productive environment to learn about and decide about issues affecting the lake. It has created a library of materials on its website, hnseg.org.
- The HNSEG has supported the election of Ken Norman to the Roscommon County Commission where he oversees the Higgins Lake Cut River Dam. It is also supporting those opposing a lawsuit brought by Citizens for Higgins Lake Legal Levels, headed by a group organized by Eric Ostergren. Ostergren's group is trying to force the Roscommon County Commission to install a restrictor plate in the Higgins lake control structure to bank waters above the legal summer level in late spring and early summer.
- The group that is opposing this effort, called Save Our Shorelines, has hired an attorney and has made a filing in court as interveners.
- Amongst those most involved with HNSEG to date are Phil from Pinewoods, Ethan Brand from Cottage Grove and William Lamb from Lakeside. Ethan is responsible for the website, and Bill Lamb for finances.
- Twenty-one people are currently participating in SOS in this legal intervention. These include Liz and Jack Wade, Howie and Tammy Schultz, and Karen and myself from Pinewoods and Rick and Ann Meeks, who some of you may know. A \$5000 retainer was put up for the Traverse City law firm of Olson, Bzdok and Howard, P.C. Anyone willing to make contributions can give them to me with a check made out to SOS. Contributions may also be made online by credit card by going through the link that I have.

Jane Hoey: I want to thank my Board for all of their hard work and we do have a resolution for the meeting.

Kate Eubanks read the Resolution:

Be it resolved that all acts done, actions taken, contracts entered into and all matters of things done on or performed by the members of the Board of Directors of record, individually and or collectively in the performance of their duties as Board members and in furtherance of the business of the corporation, we hereby approve and ratify as the acts of and for Pinewoods Association stockholders. And further, the purpose of the association hereby authorize the Board of Directors to expend and commit such amounts that they deem necessary and proper to conduct the efficient and legal operation of the Dining Hall through a period between the Annual Meeting and the next Annual Meeting. Also such amounts as they may find necessary and proper for maintenance including but not limited to the emergency repairs for all association property not to exceed the amount of \$5000. The Board of Directors is authorized to manage and to engage and direct Robin Smith-Martin and Jamie Snyder of Smith and Associates, *[or such other accounting firm as may be approved by the Board]*, as the association's accountants to manage all necessary accounts with Chemical Bank or such other bank as the Board may select from time to time and to execute all resolutions, other documents and to provide all information required of such bank for this purpose.

Jane Hoey: All those in favor?

The Resolution was affirmed and seconded.

Jane Hoey: This Resolution is required by the bank.

Q: Nick Dewey - The Resolution which has added the wording about approving the accounting firm and so forth. I thought that that whole issue was going to be looked into. So my question is, if we approve the Resolution as presented, are we locked into this particular accounting firm or can we we decide something different with regard to the accounting expense?

Paul Brown: Why don't we add a small phrase saying "or such other accounting firm as the Board deems." We will look into changing that language.

Curt DeVoe mentioned that the specific reference to Smith is required by our bank because Smith and Associates is directly with Chemical Bank. Most of this Resolution comes from the bank. But that's a good point, we ought to leave it open and if the accountant changes, that accountant is authorized.

Nick Dewey mentioned that he thought the wording should say, "or such other accounting firm as may be approved by the board."

Curt DeVoe: We take that as a motion to amend the Resolution. A motion was made that there would be an amendment to the Resolution. It was seconded.

Paul: All those in favor of amending the Resolution say aye.

Resolution was amended to unanimous ayes.

Paul Brown: All those in favor of the amended Resolution say aye.

Amended Resolution was approved to unanimous ayes.

Board was thanked for all their work to applause.

Paul Brown: Meeting is adjourned.

Minutes submitted by Jody Foster, Secretary of the Pinewoods Association