

**PINEWOODS ASSOCIATION  
MINUTES for ANNUAL MEETING  
JULY 26, 2015**

The 96th Annual Meeting of Pinewoods Association was called to order at 10:00AM by President Louisa Lawrence in the Pinewoods Dining Hall.

**Births and Deaths**

Several moments of silence were observed in memory of those beloved Pinewoods members who had died in the past year:

Sharkey Fink  
John Baumgartel  
Rip Taggert  
Judith Foster  
Vreni Bennett  
Liz Cochran  
Sam Highberger

We also acknowledged and celebrated the births of Calder Bulleit Baumgartel on June 30, 2015 to Heather and Luke Baumgartel and of Declan Coghlin on August 25, 2015 to Miceail and Alyssa Dilworth Coghlin.

**Notice of Meeting**

It was noted that President Lawrence mailed the Notice of Meeting and proxy forms to all shareholders on June 35 of this year. Bitsy Fitzsimmons read the results of the roll call for the Annual Meeting: 210 shares were shown to be present at the Meeting, giving us a quorum of 61.5%.

**Minutes**

The Minutes of the 2014 Annual Meeting were approved with one amendment: that the word "forum" in the fifth paragraph be changed to "quorum."

## **New Members**

Ashley Dilworth and Alyssa Dilworth Coghlin were nominated and approved for membership in the Association by unanimous consent.

## **Treasurer's Report**

The Treasurer's Report, presented by President Lawrence, was approved by a majority. She noted that our total income for 2014 was \$137,152.22, down \$16,237.20 from the previous year. The total expenses for 2014-2015 were \$140,186.21 (down \$15,201.80 from 2013). The net income for the year was \$3033.99. The meal count for last year was our lowest in years, and it is a great relief that it is up this year. Acceptance of the Treasurer's Report was moved and accepted.

## **Committee Reports**

### **Nominating Committee**

In the absence of Phil Will, President Lawrence, on behalf of the Nominating Committee, moved that Curt DeVoe be accepted as the Secretary and new member of the Pinewoods Board of Directors. Curt's nomination was accepted with acclaim.

### **Memorial Fund**

Ann Sloan indicated that her report was both "sad and happy." "Sad" because of the loss of so many beloved members of Pinewoods, but "happy" because the Memorial Fund has been made the richer. She noted that a very handsome ramp has been constructed between the Dining Hall's east door and the library porch which should facilitate access to the Dining Hall for those with walking disabilities as well as encourage use of the library.

### **Library Committee**

Lucy Cochran, chair of the Library Committee, applauded the new ramp. She also noted that a new file cabinet had been added to the library to be used by an Archives Committee. She explained that so many books have recently been contributed that she had been

weeding them. She expressed her gratitude for contributions of books in good condition.

### **Archives Committee**

Frank Cochran, along with Mary Highberger and Beth Schultz, have spent many hours organizing the Pinewoods Archives, in an attempt to tell a consecutive and consequential Pinewoods story. In addition to shares, the archives will contain previous minutes and files as well as Pinewoods histories. He encouraged people to submit past Pinewoods documents to him or to the library so that they might be added to our archives.

### **Family Trees**

Mona Baumgartel, who has worked assiduously to compile and to keep track of changes in Pinewoods' families and geneologies, asks that we 1) submit nicknames to her so that she may record them along with more formal names, and 2) identify a person from each cottage who could ascertain that the information she is preparing is correct for the families in that cottage.

### **Dining Hall**

Bitsy Fitzsimmons and Kate Eubanks indicated that the number of meals in the Dining Hall at the end of July, 2015 is much higher than it was at this time last year. Last year as July 25, we had served 4856 meals, whereas by July 26 of this year, the meal count was up to 5352, an increase of 496 meals. Kate expressed special concern that people remember the Tip Fund. Bitsy and Kate then called for Cathy Piehl to come forth and introduce her staff. They were greeted with applause.

### **Building and Grounds**

Duncan Lawrence reported that \$9300 was spent during the past year, much of it on the Dining Hall in repairing doors, the second floor, windows, and screens and in rebuilding an access to the second floor. The tennis court was also power-washed (a project which lasted a week) and its posts re-set. Thanks to Duncan who washed the Dining Hall's windows himself. The Dining Hall's largest problem this year

seems to be chipmunks.

Duncan asks for \$9600 for the forthcoming year. He expects that the Dining Hall will continue to demand more work--on painting and putting the windows, on new gutters, on staining the exterior, and on handles for the upstairs. He also envisions costs for road and raft repairs. Frank Cochran recommended that gravel might be used on individual cottage roads. Duncan will investigate this latter possibility.

Duncan asked for a motion to approve that the Building and Grounds Committee be allowed to spend \$9500 in the following year. The motion was made, and a vote taken with the motion approved.

Eric Geupel, commenting on the work of our generator, said that it was tested monthly and had monthly oil changes. It went off once in 2014 and worked, indicating that it is functioning well. He also noted that the generator has the capacity to re-check itself. [A week following the Annual Meeting, on August 3, a severe storm caused power to go out throughout Pinewoods; the generator worked beautifully, with Cathy Piehl serving dinner and breakfast, and people staying in the Dining Hall late at night with lights glowing to talk and to play cards and board games. Many came to the Hall in the morning for water.]

### **Higgins Lake Property Owners Association**

Liz Will reported that the HLPOA now allows one vote per lake-front property. She noted that Nick Dewey was very instrumental in bringing the HLPOA to this significant decision. She stressed the fact that each Pinewoods cottage needs to notify HLPOA who its voting member is. Pinewoods will now ask for each cottage's payment in the Fall rather than the Spring.

Liz also spoke at length about the conflict between two groups on the Lake concerned about the swimmers' itch problem. They have, she reported, unfortunately been working at cross purposes. She believes that the problem is coming closer to being resolved as a result of our

understanding the relationship between the Lake's snails and merganser geese, but remains concerned that money is being squandered uselessly.

### **Roscommon County Foundation**

The Foundation is doing well and making a difference in the County, reported Kathy Lawrence. As a result of several successful grants, the Foundation now has raised seven million dollars.

### **Fire and Safety**

Jean Lawrence encouraged us all to call 911 immediately in the event of any emergency. Mary Highberger also encouraged us to put our medical information on the SMART 911 website. Jean also urged us to check our fire extinguishers regularly, noting that they only work at the outset of a fire. The defibrillator in the Dining Hall, which is never locked, may be used at any time. (Beth Schultz and John DeBeer checked it following the Annual Meeting, and indeed it is in good working condition.) The emergency number for fibrillation problems is 989-275-0911.

### **Communications**

#### ***Pinewords***

Everyone expressed gratitude to Kristen Larkin for doing a wonderful job with *Pinewords*.

#### **Directory**

Burr Loomis hopes that everyone will let him or Phil Will know of changes in addresses and phone numbers.

### **Trails**

According to Howie Schultz, unlike most things, when it comes to our trails, "the more you use them the better they are."

### **Old Business**

#### **Tennis Courts**

John Fink noted that there have been four bids made on repairing the tennis courts. He suggested that people who are interested in the courts should come together to support them. He hopes that someone

will come forward in this regard. We have made no progress on integrating a discussion of paddle-tennis, pickle ball and tennis courts.

### **Policies for Cottage Use**

In response to the motion at last year's Meeting to table discussion of these policies, Beth Schultz once more brought them forward for discussion, noting that these policies were a set of guidelines for the Pinewoods Association, which had been endorsed by the community not as by-laws but as guidelines whereby we might spend our time together in peace and harmony. She strongly suggested the importance of sharing the new policies detailing the importance of fire safety with renters, but noted that everyone should heed them. Discussion ensued regarding time-limits for fireworks, and a decision was made that they should might be displayed until eleven o'clock throughout the summer with an exception made for the Fourth of July celebration when they might be displayed until midnight on that night as well as the two nights preceding and the two nights following. The new policies regarding fire and fireworks were accepted, and it was agreed that Beth should present each cottage with a copy in a folder of Pinewoods Policies.

### **New Business**

#### **Centenary Celebration for Pinewoods**

Everyone was enthusiastic to begin to contemplate this significant and celebratory event. Bitsy Fitzsimmons mentioned that both the *Rainbow* and the E.B. Taggart cottage will be celebrating their 100 anniversaries. It was immediately suggested that Erik Geupel put out a the Pinewoods website and that Kristen Larsen put a spot in *Pinewords* about this exciting forthcoming event. George Wilson recommended that a committee be formed to plan the event.

### **President's Report**

President Lawrence explained that Pinewoods helps her find her "inner child and that she loves Pinewoods wholeheartedly.

A resolution authorizing the Board to spend up to \$5000 in unanticipated expenses was made and approved.

Kate Eubanks moved the ratification of past actions, to effect: "The membership hereby ratifies all actions, contracts entered into, and other matters performed during the past year by members of the Board, either individually or collectively, in the performance of duties on behalf of the Corporation." This was passed unanimously.

A movement to adjourn was seconded and approved.

Respectfully submitted, Beth Schultz, Secretary (on behalf of John DeBeer)