

POINT O'WOODS
BOARD OF GOVERNORS ANNUAL MEETING
6/2/11 – 6:00 PM
Old Lyme Middle School
Old Lyme, CT 06371
DRAFT MINUTES

Type of Meeting: 2012 Annual Meeting
Secretary: Mary Ann Ruud
Treasurer: Mario Ciampi
Board Attendees: Fred Callahan, Bill Griffin, Beth Kelly, Kathy McKeough, Bud Phelps, Greg McKenna, Harry Ritson, Ken Russell
Absent: Peter Roberge, Mario Ciampi
Guests: William Lacourciere, Jeff Londregan, and >50 POW residents

Kathy McKeough called the meeting to order at 6:10 PM. Ms. McKeough reviewed how the meeting would run and how voting would be conducted. Volunteers checking people in were thanked and a special thank you was extended to David Tousignant and Harry Ritson for the work they had done for the community of the Board. The WPCA was also thanked. She noted that there was a quorum present and that the meeting was legal.

Women's Club: Women's Club co-Presidents Danne Pineo and Jan Tonucci reported the first meeting for the Women's Club is June 22nd at 7:00 at 16 Oak Rd. The July 22nd Craft Fair vendors are being accepted and should contact the members in interested. The Welcome Back Social will be held on June 23rd at the Pavilion, with a special new member drawing.

Minutes: A citizen from the floor motioned to accept the minutes of the 2011 Annual Meeting (June 6, 2011). A citizen from the floor seconded the motion. There were no questions from the public. A vote was taken of the property owners, the motion carried.

Commissioners Reports:

A citizen from the floor motioned to hear and accept the reports of the Governors of the Association. A citizen from the floor seconded the motion. There were no questions from the public. A vote was taken of the property owners, the motion carried.

A citizen from the floor motioned to ratify and approve all actions undertaken in the name of the Association by the Board of Governors and Officers during the fiscal year 2011-2012. A citizen from the floor seconded the motion. There were no questions from the public. A vote was taken, the motion carried.

WPCA: William Lacourciere reported on the actions of the Point O' Woods Water Pollution Control Authority. He thanked those who are on the WPCA Board for their hard work. Mr. Lacourciere reported only three homes had yet to be hooked into the sewer system. There have been some problem with the grinder pumps and efforts are being made to resolve them. Delinquency rates are high, so he asked people pay in a timely fashion. Forty-two home owners paid in full to hook into the system and as a result significantly lowered the amount due to the state. He requested the community step up and volunteer for positions.

Mary Lennon, 48 Ridgewood Rd., reported there were cracks in the pavement near Ridgewood and Champion Rd. Mr. Lacourciere reported he would pass that to the Board.

Roy Johnson, 21 Massachusetts Rd., reported the likely culprit of those cracks was the crane from the dredging project.

Ronald McEvoy, 10 Sargent Rd., inquired whether the manufacture of the grinder pumps was being asked to pay for repairs. Mr. Lacourciere reported that insurance covered some of it and there are geographical factors that affect those pumps and that the other pumps will not likely face those problems. Mr. McEvoy inquired whether they were standing behind their product and Mr. Lacourciere reported they were.

Budget: Kathy McKeough reported the treasurer Mario Ciampi was not able to attend this meeting but the budget had been prepared by him. Ms. McKeough reported that taxes had been lower three years earlier to offset the sewer expenses the residents were facing. The mil rate presented this year is the same as last year but she reported they will need to rise soon because it was not good to run deficits and use cash reserves. The floor was opened for questions.

Alanine Harris, 44 Hillcrest Rd., inquired why in the proposed budget the fees were so high. It was reported that was revenue generated from recreation, the boat basin and from golf cart registration.

Beth Kelly motioned to adopt the annual budget for the fiscal year 2011-2012 as submitted by the Board of Governors at this meeting. Ken Russell seconded the motion. There were no questions from the public. A vote was taken, the motion carried.

Tax Rate: A citizen from the floor motioned to levy a tax, due August 1, 2012, to meet the expenses provided in the budget. Beth Kelly seconded the motion. There were no questions from the public. A vote was taken, the motion carried.

Ordinances: William Lacourciere motioned to adopt recommended change to the ordinances requiring two representatives from the Board be on the WPCA Board as proposed within the 2012 Annual Call. Ken Russell seconded the motion. There were no questions from the public. A vote was taken, the motion carried.

The floor was open to discuss the proposed gold cart guidelines as presented in the 2012 Annual Call.

Michelle Morin, 6 Massachusetts Rd., suggested the proposed guidelines be broken into separate item to vote on, especially the curfew recommendation. Ms. McKeough reported that most incidents with golf cart occur after 11 PM and noise is also been a complaint that was shared in a survey, as was speed and under age driver driving. Kenneth Robert, 5 Stanhope Rd., inquired about what the fines would be. The fines were reported, and are posted on the POW web site.

Lyn Menard, 4 Ridgewood Rd., inquired why electric. Ms. McKeough reported the gas golf carts would be grandfathered in, but that the main reason was noise and pollution control. Mr. Menard reported that motorcycles do not have pollution controls and Mr. Menard built a gas golf cart that he will now not be allowed to bring in if this passes. He continued that two stroke engines make the most noise of all.

Roseanne Tynan, 11 Ridgewood Rd., reported that parents should step in and that all should not pay for the sins of others. Ms. McKeough reported that security would maintain a zero tolerance policy for golf cart violations.

Anne Fedus, 35 Massachusetts Rd., inquired that there a so many other more pressing issues, why this. She also inquired why the insurance requirement was so high. It was reported that that was the home owner minimum policy requirement for golf carts. Ms. Fedus inquired whether it applied to mopeds. It was reported it does not because they had not had trouble with them. Ms. McKeough reported that police can not be called for golf cart moving violations because POW has private roads and there had been three accidents last summer.

Susan Bookman, 12 Oak Rd., stated that all should not be penalized and that increased enforcement should be enacted first before moving to more rules.

Bob Mongo, 6 Hough Rd., inquired whether all items were being discussed. It was reported yes they were. Mr. Mongo continued to report that terrible behavior at the cemetery with golf carts.

Jospeh Piecuch, 26 & 28 Massachusetts Rd., motioned to delete the sentence 11 about the curfew. Michelle Morrey seconded the motion. The floor was open to discussion.

Alanine Harris, 44 Hillcrest Rd., suggested a curfew for underage drivers. She suggested breaking the items in the proposal down to be voted on individually. Ms. McKeough inquired whether she was in favor of eliminating the curfew. She reported she was.

Bill Griffin, reported that putting in a curfew was not an easy decision and they had to consider all input and the Board had heard many complaints about golf carts and there irresponsible use.

Sally Scully 15 Shore Acres Rd., suggested the board look at a curfew for youth. Ms. McKeough that underage drivers should not be driving at this time anyway if following CT State law.

Ross Baiera, 38 Hillcrest Rd., suggested they go by the law for teenage drivers who have restrictions. Bill Griffin reported that is in the proposal too tonight.

Carol Bartlett, 39 Connecticut Rd., inquired whether a curfew for non-owners only.

Audrey Schaller, 9 Oak Rd., supported getting rid of the curfew.

Jeanne McCarthy, 11 Walnut Rd., drop the curfew.

Ross Baiera, 38 Hillcrest Rd. suggested dropping the curfew but to mirror state law.

A vote was taken on the motion to strike out the curfew, 54 were in favor of the motion, 42 opposed the motion. The motion carried.

Audrey Schaller, 9 Oak Rd., suggested golf cart use should be encouraged. She also reported that lights should not be required if not using at night.

Susan Bookman, 12 Oak Rd., inquired whether electric golf carts could have governors. It was unknown. Ms. Bookman reported that Hawks would provide letter that a governor was not needed on electric golf carts because they are so slow.

Lyn Menard, 4 Ridgewood Rd., reported electric golf carts could be easily modified to go fast. Ms. McKeough inquired whether he was in favor of getting rid of the governor. Mr. Menard reported no, just that electric carts can be modified and governors are ineffective in this case.

Roy Johnson, 21 Massachusetts Rd., reported he never had any problems on the golf course with 70 carts.

Beth Kelly, 23 Ridgewood Rd., reminded people that golf carts are a privilege and not a right.

Kathy McKeough took an informal survey to determine how to move the topic forward. To break the measure into individual pieces or by issue.

Sonya Cassaroto, 35 Connecticut Rd., spoke of support of removing the requirement to have lights. Ms. Cassaroto suggested she might make a motion to strike out the requirement for lights on a golf cart. It was reported that this was an old rule already in place and could not be voted on at this meeting.

Sonya Cassaroto, 35 Connecticut Rd., motioned to strike out the requirement that only electric golf carts be allowed. A citizen from the floor seconded the motion.

Bob Mongo, 6 Hough Rd., reported this was not gas vs. electric but about speed and enforcement.

James Griswold, 25 Champion Rd. stressed that we needed to treat each other with respect.

A vote was taken on the motion that all golf carts be electric, 59 were in favor of the motion, 59 voted in favor of the motion, 24 opposed the motion. The motion carried.

A vote was taken on striking out the requirement to have a speed governor. 55 voted in favor of the motion, 20 opposed the motion. The motion carried.

Kathy McKeough reported there is an amended motion on the floor to approve the recommendations of the Board of governors as related to golf cart regulations. The recommendation has been amended to remove the requirement that all new golf carts be electric, remove the requirement there be 11:00 PM curfew and to remove the requirement for a governor.

Ross Baiera, 48 Hillcrest Rd., inquired whether there was a fine for allowing a child to sit on a driving parents lap and hold the steering wheel. Ms. McKeough reported no there was not but that people are left to be responsible.

Mary Barry, 67 Connecticut Rd., motioned we move the question on the floor. A citizen seconded the motion. Ms. McKeough consulted Mr. Londregan whether this was permitted, it was reported it is allowed. So voted, 73 voted to move the question. The motion carried.

A vote was taken on the amended recommendations of the Board pertaining to golf carts on the floor. 76 voted in favor, 14 oppose. The motion carried.

Security: Ken Russell motioned to authorize the Board of Governors to appoint and remove security officers for the protection of the Association as needed. Beth Kelly seconded the motion. So voted, the motion carried.

Nominees: Kathy McKeough reported three present Board members were up for re-election, Bud Phelps, Beth Kelly and Fred Callahan. The three nominees were presented to the community for election to the Board of Governors. There was a motion to nominate the three mentioned individuals. The motion was seconded.

Ross Baiera, 48 Hillcrest Rd., inquired whether these were selected by the nominating committee. Ms. McKeough reported they had, and that finding nominees was very challenging. Kathy McKeough asked for nominees from the floor three times. There were none. A citizen motioned that the secretary cast one ballot for the slate of candidates. The motion was seconded. A vote was taken, the motion passed unanimously. The elected officers are as follows: Beth Kelly, Fred Callahan and Bud Phelps.

Other Business:

Mary 8 Pimentel, 85 Connecticut Rd., inquired whether any progress had been made in defining fences, as she was expecting to vote on this matter to night. Ms. Keough reported that they did not have anything to present tonight,

as it requires a great deal of detail because a complicated issue. Ms. Pimentel explained that the original ordinance followed a heated topic and passed with little consideration but has yet to see ugly fence in POW. Thinks ordinance is misinterpreted and her own request was wrongly denied before full consideration had been given to her situation.

Mary Stitham 49 Ridgewood Rd. reported the Wave deadlines are June, July and August 24th.

Ken Robert, 5 Stanhope Rd., inquired about the survey done on Anderson Park, he had noted the Rec report stated would be used for rec activities. Kathy McKeough reported that the survey was inconclusive, there was not overwhelming support of any particular thing except not to spend money.

Alanine Harris, 44 Hillcrest Rd., inquired whether fireworks are outlawed. Kathy McKeough reported it was not legal to use on POW property. The police could be called but they are too busy. Ms. Harris inquired whether it was accurate that only clear bottles could be used. It was reported that was the case so that alcohol could not be consumed. Ms. Harris suggested it would be more ecological to use reusable bottles.

Susan Bookman, 12 Oak Rd., inquired whether the parking area for golf cart parking was designed only for golf carts and could not park elsewhere. It was reported they could park elsewhere but that cars could not park in golf cart parking.

3Wayne Ashton, 2 Hillcrest Rd., requested an update on Stanhope Beach. Ms. McKeough reported that a permanent solution had yet to be reached. Their Board supports a permanent solution but they can not get a vote in their community. The POW attorney will be consulted further about this to try to reach a permanent solution

Beth Kelly motioned to adjourn. Bill Griffin seconded the motion. The motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:58 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Ann Ruud