

New Hope Improvement Association
Board Meeting Minutes
February 21, 2017

Present: Gail Boyarsky (President), Lindsay Carroll (Treasurer), Suzanne Sauter (Secretary), Walter Fowler, Steve Herman, Kay Tapp, Jim Worrell
Chief Mike Tapp, New Hope Volunteer Fire Department

Absent: Alice Freeland, Alison Windram (Vice President), Ed Tostanoski

Call to Order

Gail Boyarsky called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm.

Treasurer's Report

Lindsay Carroll, Treasurer, reported:

- Accounts reduced from three to two with the combination of the rental account with the checking account
- \$4000 has been received from the New Hope Volunteer Fire Department for rent for 2017
- The main expenses for the month were building maintenance, utilities and cleaning.
- Future expenses such as cost of the post office box were discussed briefly.
- The need for a debit card was discussed with the consensus that a debit card might be more trouble than help.
- Balances: \$27,248.12 in Checking and \$12,283.78 in Money Market.
- Continue to investigate cheaper options for banking needs.
- Applied for a new EIN number needed for filing annual tax report.
- Many 2016 members have not renewed for 2017 though the period for collections of 2017 dues is now January through March (not throughout the year).
- Fiscal year needs to coincide with calendar year for ease in reporting and tax filing.

Motion: Lindsay Carroll made the motion and Mike Tapp seconded. It was moved that the fiscal year be made concurrent with the calendar year. **Vote:** The motion passed without dissent. This is a change in the Standing Rules and a note of this change needs to be made in the online Standing Rules.

Fire Chief's Report

Mike Tapp reported in two items.

1. The first item is the status of the well liner and pump and quality of the well water. Well was chlorinated and then flushed. Water still needs to be tested but should be safe to drink and use. The cost to date is about \$3300-3400.

Motion: Jim Worrell made the motion and Kay Tapp seconded. It was moved that the New Hope Improvement Association share the costs of the well system repair with the New Hope Volunteer Fire Department. **Vote:** The motion carried unanimously.

2. There was a Fire Inspection of the NHIA building and several items requiring repair meant that the building was not passed. The batteries in the emergency lights need to be replaced and this will be done by Chief Tapp. The fire extinguishers are due for inspection as are the extinguishers in the fire station. Chief Tapp will see to this. Finally, a cover was missing from an outlet. Chief Tapp will repair this as well. Then the NHIA building will need to be inspected along with the fire station.

President's Report

Gail Boyarsky reported on the success of the Patterson Mill hike. About 25 persons attended, about half were NHIA members. Sign-in sheet captured names and e-mails of potential members.

Communications Committee

- Committee membership was reviewed and Mike Doub setup an e-mailing list for the Committee.
- The February newsletter was sent over the internet to members and recent members. No schedule for newsletters for 2017 has been created.
- Calendar of upcoming events reviewed including a birding hike with David Anderson on March 18th beginning at the Hollow Rock Nature Park at 9 am.
- Membership meeting is scheduled for March 21st at 7 pm at the NHIA building. It was decided that this should be a potluck dessert meeting and would include among other regular reports by the President and Treasurer:
 - Vote on a Nominating Committee charged with finding candidates for open offices by August 31st so the candidates can be presented at the September membership meeting.
 - Review of Patterson Mill Hike and March Bird Hike scheduled
 - Review events already scheduled for 2017
 - Recruit volunteers for the Country Breakfast on April 1st
 - Begin plans to renew the landscaping in the front of the NHIA building.
 - Discussion among membership what events that they would like sponsored by the NHIA.
- Members who have not paid 2017 dues need reminders. Former members need to be invited to rejoin. Number and frequency of reminders was discussed without definite schedule agreed upon.
- Availability of print newsletters (and memberships applications) at the NHIA building was briefly discussed without any plans made.
- Sign-in sheets and membership applications need to be available at NHIA sponsored events but methods for accomplishing this were not prepared.
- Communications Committee needs more regular meetings.

Building Committee Report

Steve Herman reported on the need for new faucets in the kitchen. Historical photographs are being mounted in the NHIA building. Landscaping required attention and there was discussion about volunteer effort or the use of professional services to accomplish renewed landscaping.

Building Rentals

Gail Boyarsky reported that she has received calls about building rentals even though Edward Tostanoski has handled this on a trial basis with an increase fees to cover this service. The success or failure of this arrangement will be discussed at the next Board Meeting.

Meeting adjourned

Gail Boyarsky closed the meeting at 8:15 p.m. with the request that the Board give serious thought to the long-term future of the NHIA building.