

Road Four

NEWSLETTER OF THE GOLDENS BRIDGE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION



Spring
2009

From the Editor

"Road Four" is now available in electronic (PDF) format. If you, or any friends or family would like to get the electronic version, which is now in color, contact us with the recipient's e-mail address. Road Four is also available on the GB web site: www.goldensbridge.org/GBsite/roadfourmain.htm

Road Four is a community newsletter. If you have any news, be it personal or whatever that you would like to share, please send it to us.

Road Four publishes 4 issues per year.

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Birth Announcement

The latest addition to the Goldens Bridge community, Katherine Allison Camporeale was born on March 13th. The happy parents are Michelle Lynn and Nicholas Edward Camporeale. Best Wishes.

Presidential Thoughts

The feelings expressed at the dedication of the Plaque honoring Chaim Dubno for his contributions to our Community were very moving. They reminded me that while communities involve many individuals and families who devote varying amounts of time, energy and resources to their community, there are a few people, and sometimes just one person, in each group who are pivotal to the life of that group. Chaim was just such a person in the 80-year history of our Colony.

I knew we've similarly honored Mac Arons for his singular

contribution to our community's cohesiveness, so I asked Frieda, "Who else has made contributions in the past equal to these two people?" There must have been others who were critical to the Colony at times in the past. She thought of two others. Mr. Kalish, who was the President for many years before term limits. He navigated us through perilous financial times and enabled us to survive. The other person she mentioned was Ilya Tiship: the "Johnny Appleseed" of the Colony. He selflessly planted beautiful flowering shrubs throughout our community, and we continue to come upon them in unexpected places. I fondly remember him, when I was a child, walking on the roads unself-consciously singing Italian operas in full voice. I also consider Pearl Klainberg who devoted her self as our Secretary for so many years, to be in that category as well.

I think it is normal for a group to be made up of people with varying levels of involvement in their communities. At different stages of our lives, we have more or less time to devote to our "civic" life. All of us aren't Chaims or Maxies. But I think all of us who participate in the life of the community need to reach out to our neighbors and remind more of them to join in the work and pleasures of the Colony. There are 110 families here. At the last Membership meeting there were 35 families represented, and that was unusually high. I'm not saying that everyone should go to meetings (although some of us know how much fun they really

are). I'm suggesting that we have many inactive members who we need to get involved in the work of the community. We all need their opinions, energy, input, and ideas.

I know many people feel that the more people you get on a committee, the more difficult it is to just get something done. But we don't just need to get something done; we need to accomplish things that are done well. I think a diversity of opinions leads us to better outcomes.

Thank you,
Eric Stand

THE FOLLOWING ARTICLE IS COURTESY OF THE LEWISBORO LEDGER, HERSAM ACORN NEWSPAPERS

Dire outlook for town budget

Written by Matt Dalen and Ken Mastro
Thursday, April 30, 2009

The first information about the town's 2009 financial position is in, and it's not good: There's a half a million dollar hole, as revenue is projected to be significantly lower than expected, and the town has discovered that its fund balance is more than \$400,000 lower than the Town Board had thought. The town's expenses are also lower than expected, but not enough to offset the lack of revenue.

"If we want to have a balanced budget, we have to get rid of a half a million bucks," said board member Al Perruzza. "I think we should reopen every line of the budget. Let's look at everything."

Using numbers from the first two to three months of the year, revenues for this year are projected to come in about \$848,000 lower than had been forecast in

November, of which planned cuts would counteract about \$337,000. The two largest drops are in the mortgage tax, which is expected to come in almost \$300,000 lower than initially projected, and the fund balance, where the town is unable to allocate the full \$900,000 it had earmarked to lower taxes.

Last year, the town received \$1,054,000 in mortgage tax revenue. It budgeted revenues of \$1.2 million for this year, yet the revenue to date is not only lower than this year's estimate but is also projected to be lower than the amount it garnered last year. Through the first three months of the year, the mortgage tax revenue is \$89,000 — \$126,000 less than the \$215,000 that had been budgeted for that time period.

In addition, the board had proposed in its budget to use about \$900,000 out of an expected \$1.18-million fund balance to lower taxes. But when the year-end review of the town's bank accounts came in, it was discovered that the town only had \$742,000 on hand — less than two-thirds of the projected balance. Because of the shortfall, the board now proposes to use only about \$562,000 of the balance to lower taxes, a revenue loss of about \$337,000. This would leave the projected fund balance at about \$179,700 at the end of this year.

Town Supervisor Edward Brancati said that the shortfall had primarily been caused by drastically reduced revenues in the last quarter of 2008 — mortgage tax and sales tax were both down significantly over previous periods — and higher than expected expenses in some areas. He said that expenses in 2008 had still been lower than what was budgeted, but ended up being higher than projected in November.

In addition to these two large deficits, the town is down a pro-

jected \$149,000 in interest payments and \$72,000 in building fees. A handful of revenues are up slightly, including cable television fees, but these increases are expected to amount to less than \$10,000 in total. First quarter revenue from the county sales tax, which was budgeted at \$1,850,000 for the year, is expected to be released soon, and could change the overall projections.

Approved cuts

"If we are going to realize cuts this year we're going to have to act real quickly," said Town Board member Dan Welsh.

On Thursday, April 23, the Town Board unanimously agreed to approve a number of cuts suggested by Mr. Brancati that would reduce expenses by \$275,394. These cuts, combined with a \$62,000 cut that is in the works but not yet ready to be approved, are expected to counteract the \$337,000 reduction in the fund balance allocation, leaving the town with a revenue shortfall of \$511,000 remaining.

The cuts include \$51,394 for the recent elimination of a parks groundskeeper position; \$34,000 for not filling a vacant maintenance worker position; \$10,000 for a recent decision by the board to lease two police vehicles instead of buying them; and reducing the amount it pays on two outstanding bond notes by \$30,000 that it owes for open space and radio and tennis work. The memo also requires the town to increase the amount it spends from the debt service fund by \$150,000 to cover that amount that it had planned to spend from the general fund balance to make principal payments on borrowing for open space and pool projects.

Looking for savings

To offset the remaining revenue shortfall, Mr. Brancati has asked the heads of the town departments to consider areas where their expenses may be reduced, prefer-

ably by changes to programs, and to meet with the Town Board at future meetings to discuss those proposed cuts. He also wants the department heads to see if there are areas where revenue may be increased. He said that Highway Supervisor Peter Ripperger has already made some changes that are expected to result in savings.

Town facilities manager Joel Smith on April 23 submitted a proposal to reduce maintenance and shared service costs by about 6.6%, or about \$42,200, according to Mr. Brancati, including Mr. Smith volunteering to tape board meetings without pay, a savings of about \$3,000 annually. The proposal has not yet been accepted as the board wants to look at the other departments' proposals before deciding how deeply to cut.

"I'd much rather see us lose some programs for the summer that can be brought back again than lose another person," Mr. Welsh said. "We have to look as hard as we can at anything that's slightly optional and is sort of a luxury."

Board member Bruce Pavalow suggested that the board set a target fund balance at the end of the year and work backwards from that to decide how many cuts to make.

Mr. Brancati said that while the board needs to make cuts that will immediately impact this year's budget, it also has to look at reducing costs for the "long term." Because next year's fund balance will not have the \$562,000 that is being used to lower taxes this year, that amount would need to be made up in increased revenue — which, at the moment seems unlikely — significant cuts in the 2010 budget, or an increased tax rate. In total, \$562,000 is about 13% of this year's total tax levy, and about 5% of the town's total spending. This may be coupled with additional decreases in revenue, like there is

this year, or increases in expenses next year.

A Passion For Dance

by Bira Rabushka

My interest in dance started in Goldens Bridge when I was a little girl running along the dirt roads of the Colony to folk dance in our red barn. The passion continued as a violinist with the New York City Ballet orchestra where I strained my neck trying to catch a glimpse of the magnificent dancers twirling above me as I played in the “pit” of the New York State Theater at Lincoln Center. After 45 years of devotion to my job and the beautiful musical repertoire of the company, I finally retired this April. However, an exciting thing happened to me on the way to retirement...I discovered Ballroom and Latin dancing. Three years ago I started taking lessons at the Fred Astaire Studio at 172 Harris Road in Bedford Hills, and I am now thoroughly addicted.

My teacher Yuri Tsarev has shown me that age is no barrier to the pleasures of Ballroom dance. In fact, it's about the healthiest form of exercise, enhanced by the pleasures of the music and rhythms. I am again a child, twirling and challenging my athletic, musical and creative being. As many of you know, I was Executive Director of the Northern Westchester Center for the Arts for 17 years, exposing area youth to all the arts, especially dance, but no Ballroom dance. So why not do it now? Ballroom dance fever is sweeping the country. Dancing with the Stars is watched by millions on ABC-TV. I have become very involved with the expert faculty of the Fred Astaire Studio helping them bring this exciting dance form to area youth. They are generously offering free classes during the month of June to children and teens, 8 to 16 years of age. Classes will take place on Tuesday afternoons and evenings and Saturday mornings. I

urge you to call the studio at (914) 242-9240 for further information and registration.

If any GB Colony adults or older teens would like to join me on the dance floor and enjoy a free sample lesson with one of the Fred Astaire faculty, call the studio and mention my name. You can find me there almost every day!

THE FOLLOWING ARTICLE IS COURTESY OF THE LEWISBORO LEDGER, HERSAM ACORN NEWSPAPERS

Steep Costs To Mend Lakes

Written by Jane K. Dove
Thursday, May 14, 2009

The good news is that all seven of Lewisboro's algae-compromised lakes can be restored to pristine, sparkling condition. The bad news is that the cost — depending on the size and state of the lake and the technology used — could run as high as \$24 million per lake.

Mark Arrigo, senior environmental scientist at EcoLogic, LLC, of Cazenovia, delivered the news to the Town Board and about 25 Lewisboro residents at last Thursday night's Town Board meeting, held at Increase Miller Elementary School in Goldens Bridge.

Mr. Arrigo made a detailed Power Point presentation based on his firm's new 180-page “Town-wide Comprehensive Lakes Management Plan” delivered to the Town Board on Feb. 6. The Town Board approved spending \$44,495 for the study, \$25,000 of which was funded by a grant from the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC).

He said that all of Lewisboro's seven lakes — Rippowam, Kitchawan, Oscaleta, Waccabuc, Truesdale, Timber, and Katonah — were in various stages of eutrophication, which means that phosphorus-driven algae are building up in the bodies of water, causing them to become green-tinged, lose depth, and become invaded by unwanted aquatic weeds.

Lake Katonah and Lake Truesdale

were deemed the two lakes most affected with eutrophication, but all show signs of the process.

“It took a long time for your lakes to get to this point and you aren't going to cure things overnight,” he told the audience. “You are not going to flick a switch and see your lakes become pristine. If you want to improve water quality, it's going to take a lot of time, effort, and the support of the community.”

The management plan presented by Mr. Arrigo had a broad scope and contained 10 sections: introduction; environmental setting; lake fact sheets; water quality — current conditions; reductions in phosphorus needed to meet state targets; townwide management options; recommended strategies; potential funding sources; priority actions for Lewisboro; and references.

Algae the culprit

Mr. Arrigo said that the majority of the problems facing Lewisboro's lakes were due to the eutrophication process. Eutrophication is a major water quality issue.

“Phosphorus drives eutrophication and the result is a green-tinged lake, filled with algae and rooted plants. The result can be almost clear to really green, even including scum on the water. The problem is accelerated by human activity surrounding the lakes.”

All of Lewisboro's lakes are in various states of eutrophication, with Rippowam and Kitchawan slightly affected; Oscaleta, Waccabuc, Truesdale and Timber moderately affected; and Lake Katonah highly affected.

“As a result, you need phosphorus reductions ranging from 9% in Lake Oscaleta up to 82% in Lake Kitchawan,” Mr. Arrigo said. “The end result of all of this eutrophic activity is lakes that are losing their appeal. With no action, the situation will accelerate.”

Options

Mr. Arrigo said the town had three general management options to consider. "You can do nothing," he said. "It is predicted that if no actions are taken, water quality conditions in the seven lakes will gradually deteriorate after time. Doing nothing will result in lakes that become increasingly green and shallow."

The second option is to maintain and/or slightly improve current water quality conditions. "Using this option, net loading of nutrients is maintained over time," Mr. Arrigo said. "This option is most warranted in lakes with minor levels of eutrophication and involves septic code revisions and possible replacements; and use of 'best management practices.'"

However, those practices apparently would not be enough to restore the lakes to conditions suitable to town officials.

"It seems like best management practices won't get us to the point we want to get to, right?" asked Town Board member Al Perruzza.

"No," said Mr. Arrigo.

The third approach would be to take actions to significantly improve water quality conditions. "Under this option, improved water quality conditions are noticeable to lake residents," Mr. Arrigo said. "This will require stronger measures to reduce, rather than maintain, phosphorus loading and erosion. This option is most warranted in those lakes that are currently either in a stable eutrophic state — Truesdale and Timber — or in a stable hypertrophic state — Lake Katonah."

Using North Salem's Peach Lake as an example, Mr. Arrigo said improving water quality was an expensive and long-term process. "At Peach Lake they are installing sewers, a sewer treatment plant, holding tanks and using the latest septic technologies," he said. "They have enacted code restrictions limiting the use of phosphorus in the watershed; spent a lot of time

on public education; and used best management practices to reduce phosphorus and algae."

Mr. Arrigo said the end result at Peach Lake is "gradually improving water quality that can take a number of years to see the full result. The final price tag will be \$24 million."

Recommended next steps for Lewisboro include convening public forums to discuss current water quality and obtain feedback; initiating a sewer feasibility cost study; discussing the creation of a water tax district to help fund improvement efforts; and continuing to expand the lakes monitoring program and creating a "Lewisboro Lakes Report Card."

After concluding his presentation, Mr. Arrigo took several questions from the audience and Town Board asking about different approaches that could be used, including dredging, and use of filtration systems. Mr. Arrigo responded that both would have limited or little effect in phosphorus reduction.

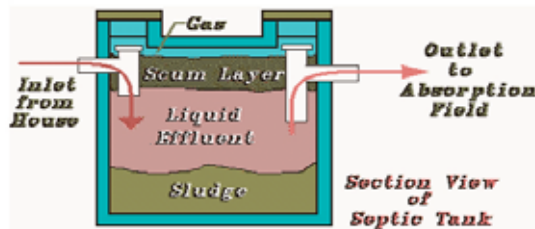
Mr. Brancati thanked Mr. Arrigo on behalf of the Town Board and the Lewisboro Lakes Committee. "I would also like to thank all of the volunteers who helped collect the data, he said. "This is a team effort and we will continue to work on this."

The full report may be viewed on The Ledger Web site, lewisboroledger.com.

Your Septic System

by Frieda Halpern

1. HOW DOES IT WORK?



A typical septic system has several components

A pipe from the home, A septic tank, perforated pipes that disperse discharge to leach field where discharge percolates into the soil below.

The septic tank holds the wastewater long enough to allow solids to settle (forming sludge) and oil and grease to float to the surface (as scum).

The wastewater exits the septic tank and is discharged to the drain field. Microorganisms in the soil provide final treatment by removing bacteria and nutrients.

2. HOW TO MAINTAIN IT.

PUMP EVERY THREE YEARS

Use water efficiently - fix dripping faucets and leaky toilets. Do not flush anything which can clog and damage septic systems - such as kitty litter, diapers, cigarette butts, coffee grounds and large amounts of household chemicals.

NO PESTICIDES!

REMEMBER—they can end up in our drinking water.

Maxie's Treasures

In preparation for an "attic" sale to be held in late summer, some of his "antiques" will be leaving from their beloved niche in his attic.

Are you interested in telephone insulators? How about penny rolls from the 40s-90s? Or maybe some Sacajawea dollars? Do you need some state quarters to complete your collection? He might have them. And how about some of those ubiquitous baseball cards from the 70s?

Call and let me know. And if there's some "thing" that will make your life complete, I bet Mac has it.

Mollie (914) 232-5552

Editor's note: We checked to find out if Mollie was putting us on but it's for real. We're going to take the opportunity to see Maxie's attic and maybe find a treasure or two.

Nominating Committee

The nominating committee of the Executive Board is looking for members in good standing to

run for the Goldens Bridge Colony Executive Board. If you're interested please contact Mike Brown at 232-9081 or email mbrownmw@aol.com; Georgann Stewart-Stand at georgann2@verizon.net; Fred Margolies at fred.margolies@cbmoves.com; Richard Tauber at richardtauber@msn.com; or Dan Fast at norfast@juno.com.

Trash Talk

Starting Saturday, June 20th, we will begin twice a week service from Somers Sanitation. This will continue until the week of September 15th, when we will go back to our standard once a week Wednesday pick-up.

Here are a few reminders to help

1. Garbage sheds must be enclosed so as to keep animals out.
2. Regular garbage must be in closed plastic bags.
3. Wednesday will continue to be our recycling day. Recycling containers must be placed outside garbage sheds for pick-up. Both newspapers and commingled items including cans, glass, and plastic will be picked up each Wednesday. Only plastic items with recycling numbers 1 or 2 on the bottom are acceptable. Cardboard will also be taken as long as it is flattened and bundled.
4. You are required to have your house number posted on the road. This is essentially for emergency services, but is also helpful to Somers Sanitation.

If you are experiencing difficulty with trash pick-up, phone Martha Levites at 232-4456.

Former Colony Resident Visits Cuba

Steve Mencher visits Havana to spread the word about GB; "you take your chances when you ask the shaved ice guy to take the picture - but he didn't do a bad job! I was in Havana working with the Finca Vigía Foundation (<http://fincafoundation.org>) which helps bring American expertise to help fix up Hemingway's house and library in Cuba."

Please join us in making the Goldens Bridge Colony Gala Art Opening an event to remember

*On July 25th 2009, at the Barn,
you are invited to be represented
in our collection of works by colony artists.
Please find enclosed an entry form ...
Fill it out and be part of a very special evening.*

*Work will be on display between 8:00 pm & 10:00 pm.
Wine and cheese will be served.
Some art will be for sale and 25% of the price,
along with raffle proceeds,
will be contributed to
Darfur Schools of Peace.*

*Artwork entrusted to the Social Committee will
be cared for with all due precautions.
We do not, however, have art specific insurance,
so enter this exhibit knowing you are at your own risk.*

*Please note that work should be brought to the barn
on July 25th between 10:00 am and noon.
All work must be picked up after 10:00 pm
by you or a designated representative.
Any work left at the Barn after 11:00 pm on July 25th
will remain there, under lock and key, until between
11:00 am - Noon, Sunday July 26th.*

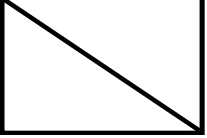
Gala Art Opening entry form on page 8.



Steve Mencher in Havana wearing Goldens Bridge 75th Anniversary shirt.



Above is photo taken on the streets of Havana

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|----------------------------------|---|--|--|----------|--|---|
| July 2009 | | Children's Movies (titles to be announced) 6:30 @ the barn | 1 Please Note.... Friday Nights: \$12.00 for non-residents Saturday Nights: \$15.00 for non-residents | 2 | 3 Folk Dancing 8:30 @ the barn with Jim Gold | 4 Opening Night BBQ 7:30 @ the beach |
| 5 Preliminary Schedule | 6 Chorus 7:30 @ the barn Professional Chess Instruction | 7 Children's Movies (titles to be announced) 6:30 @ the barn | 8 Movie Night "The Visitor" 8:00 @ the barn | 9 | 10 Folk Dancing 8:30 @ the barn with Jim Gold | 11 "Defiance" film & discussion with Belski Partisan 8:30 @ the barn |
| 12 | 13 Chorus 7:30 @ the barn | 14 Children's Movies (titles to be announced) 6:30 @ the barn | 15 | 16 | 17 Folk Dancing 8:30 @ the barn with Jim Gold | 18  |
| 19 | Chorus 7:30 @ the barn Professional Chess Instruction | 21 Children's Movies (titles to be announced) 6:30 @ the barn | 22 Movie Night "The Reader" 8:00 @ the barn | 23 | 24 Folk Dancing 8:30 @ the barn with Jim Gold | 25 Art Opening at the Barn @ 7:30 |
| 26 | 27 Chorus 7:30 @ the barn | 28 Children's Movies (titles to be announced) 6:30 @ the barn | 29 | 30 | 31 Folk Dancing 8:30 @ the barn with Jim Gold | |

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| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|---|--|--|----------|---|---|
| Preliminary Schedule | August 2009 | | Movie Night "to be announced" 8:00 @ the barn | | Folk Dancing 8:30 @ the barn with Jim Gold | 1 Volleyball Tournament BBQ 7:30 pm @ the beach |
| 2 Please: Check Bulletin Boards for Schedule | 3 Chorus 7:30 @ the barn Professional Chess Instruction | 4 Children's Movies (titles to be announced) 6:30 @ the barn | 5 | 6 | 7 Folk Dancing 8:30 @ the barn with the Beers | 8 Trio con Brio Classical Night 8:30 @ the Barn |
| 9 | 10 Chorus 7:30 @ the barn | 11 Children's Movies (titles to be announced) 6:30 @ the barn | 12 Movie Night "The Secret" 8:00 @ the barn | 13 | 14 Folk Dancing 8:30 @ the barn with the Beers | 15 Bearcats Dixieland Jazz 8:30 pm @ the beach |
| 16 | 17 Chorus 7:30 @ the barn | 18 Children's Movies (titles to be announced) 6:30 @ the barn | 19 | 20 | 21 Folk Dancing 8:30 @ the barn with Jim Gold | 22  |
| 23  | 24 Chorus 7:30 @ the barn 31 Chorus 7:30 @ the barn | 25 Children's Movies (titles to be announced) 6:30 @ the barn | 26 Movie Night "The Squid & the Whale" 8:00 @ the barn | 27 | 28 Folk Dancing 8:30 @ the barn with Jim Gold | 29 Pat Wicktor & Joe Crookston Folk Singers 8:30 @ the Barn |

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| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------|---------|--|----------|--|---------------------------------|
| Preliminary Schedule | Chorus 7:30 pm @ the barn | 1 | 2 Movie Night "to be announced" 8:00 @ the barn | 3 | 4 Folk Dancing 8:30 @ the barn with Jim Gold | 5 Banquet at the Barn |
| 6 | September 2009 | | Please check bulletin boards for schedule updates. | | Please note. Friday nights \$12 for non-residents. Saturday nights \$15 for non-residents. | |

READER ADS

Mother's Helper Wanted

July/August, Monday through Friday 9:00-11:30am & 3-6pm (some flexibility with times). Do you enjoy playing with kids? Is reading, listening, and talking to them fun too? We could use your help. Walk our 4-year old boy to and from camp, and assist me with our 2-year old girl, at our home, at the beach, local library, etc. Please call Le Lieman at (718) 666-6481.

GB House For Rent: \$1945 + Utilities

2 year lease; 2 months security -3BR, 2Bth, large LR, Deck, Skylights, Wood Stove, Washer/dryer. No smoking, no pets. Available July 1 or August 1 (August Preferred) Call? (212) 666-6626 or e-mail: rondressler@aol.com

Wanted: refrigerator in reasonable condition. Call Ron at 212-666-6626 or e-mail: rondressler@aol.com

The Goldens Bridge Colony

Gala Art Opening

*** Entry Form ***

Name _____ Phone # _____

Address _____

Media (drawing, painting, printmaking, photography, ceramics, sculpture, fabric)

Titles:

1 _____

2 _____

3 _____

Number of Pieces (max. 3) Approximate sizes (including mats)

Small (12"x12") _____ for sale @ _____

Medium(20"x30" _____ for sale @ _____

Large (40"x40"max.) _____ for sale @ _____

Need Assistance to transport work _____

I am willing to help with the show _____

I would like to donate a piece of work for the raffle _____

All artwork must be finished and ready for hanging.
The deadline to return this completed form is July 4th 2009.

Return this form in an envelope to Martha Levites
or Judith Fast with your \$5.00 entry fee.

Depending upon the response, we may have to further limit
the number of pieces exhibited by each participant.

25% of each sale & all proceeds from the raffle
will go to *Darfur Schools of Peace*.

Board Minutes

GBCA Membership Meeting Minutes October 26, 2008

Minutes of August 24, 2008 membership meeting were read by the president.

The president mentioned that Shelia Berkowitz passed away three weeks ago. There will be a notice in Road 4.

WATER COMMITTEE

Ron Arnstein contacted the Health Department and got them to reverse their position concerning the beach house. They had previously required the beach house to be treated as a potential source contamination to the community water system. The Health Department now classifies this structure as non hazardous. Therefore, annual inspections will not be required.

LAKE REPORT

Our lake was inspected and a preliminary report received. The inspection found nothing that would prevent us from dredging the lake. The town may recommend prohibiting the use of fertilizers in lake communities and that septic tanks be pumped annually or semiannually. Eric pointed out that the septic fields are old & clogged and that the "plume" moves about 30 feet a year towards the lake.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The Colony's financial position was reviewed;

Community checking \$22,876

Camp checking \$5,458

Capital improvement \$20,430

Water cap fund \$47,692

Outstanding dues \$7,829.

There was a discussion of options open to us to collect past due dues. Martha pointed out that we have had higher past due balances than this in the past.

The treasurer read a detail of the 2008 capital expenditures.

2009 BUDGET

The summary page showing the calculation of household dues was reviewed. All categories show a reduction of dues for 2009 from 2008 amounts.

The treasurer then reviewed the budget detail and explained various increases and decreases from the prior year.

Some changes from the prior year are as follows:

* Land Surveys of \$850 will be done due to a fence encroaching on Colony property by about 15 feet. A discussion ensued and Eric asked Jeremy Metz to organize a work group to move or remove the fence. Jeremy agreed to do this.

* Bank Charges includes credit card service fees. Last year these amounted to \$1,344. The benefits of having this facility are earlier collection of dues, more interest income and possibly less legal fees.

* Sanitation is up about 3%. They had not raised their fees in about two years.

* Landscaping is increasing due to the need for one extra cut early in the season.

The capital budget was reviewed. The treasurer pointed out that our past due dues will have to be collected in order to carry out all of the projects.

Freda Halpern made a motion to accept the budget as presented. The motion was seconded by Jerry Sircus and carried unanimously.

CHAIM DUBNO'S PLAQUE

Chaim's plaque was displayed and there was a discussion as to where to mount it. The water shed was rejected because no one would ever see it. Ron recommended that it be mounted somewhere in the barn and this is what will be done. A dedication ceremony will be held at the April membership meeting in the barn.

WATER SYSTEM RENOVATION

Because the water systems renovation is being treated as maintenance (a system users' cost) rather than a capital expenditure (a cost shared by the entire community) a question as to the fairness of the allocation of these costs has arisen.

It was decided that the allocation of water costs will be included as an agenda item for the next membership meeting.

CAMP

Judy Fast reported that the community is searching for someone to coordinate the camp activities next spring.

ROADS

Mark Schmidt gave a roads report. There will be no town leaf pickup this year. The membership thanked Mark for his work getting the town to install a guard rail on Pond Street. Now that the town has been given more control over speed limits, Mark will ask the town to reduce the speed limit on Colony roads to 20 MPH from the current 30 MPH. Lake Street culverts will be worked on by the town to lessen road runoff into the lake.

A member asked if something could be done to make the pedestrian walkway to the train more user friendly by removing the guard rail. It was pointed out the DOT is adamantly against this.

BEACH

The new rafts will be aluminum but have wood decking so they will not be hot to the touch.

BARN

The floor on the west side of the barn's basement is now cement slab. The teen center movie screen is up. The barn floor has been polyurethaned.

ROAD FOUR

Jerry Sircus displayed some old framed Colony maps. He suggested that these maps and other historical documents could be mounted somewhere

in the barn. Jerry would like to reconstitute the History Committee. Molly Arons, Freda Halpern & Pearl Klainberg agreed to be part of a newly reconstituted History Committee.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 1:00.

GBCA Board meeting minutes —March 22, 2009

Present: Stand, Fast, Rosedale, Brown, Sircus, Orr, Levites, Eisen, Arnstein, Gordon, Schmid

Absent: Finkelman, Callen [Ehnes position still vacant], Bergherr

The meeting came to order at 10:44 am.

February Board Minutes were read and accepted into the record.

Correspondence- none.

Committee Reports-

Finance- An updated report was distributed.

Up to \$15K (already budgeted) can be allocated, as requested, for the Water system repair project. This leaves ca. \$44K as a cushion for future repairs as needed.

Levites will contact our attorney regarding next steps on the Rios property.

Finkelman filed a lien on the DiAngeles property against unpaid 2008 dues. DiAngeles agreed verbally to pay several hundred dollars towards his 09 dues, but this has not happened. Water shutoff may be needed.

Hom/Mansfield: Hom does not want to pay full dues amount because his house is not suitable for habitation. He has been advised of our billing categories; he may be calling Stand to discuss.

Yalowitz objected to paying winter garbage fees since his house is unoccupied in winter- letter was sent explaining billing categories.

Barn- Date needs to be set for installing new floor and wall where demolition was done- probably a Saturday in May.

Beach/Lake- Season will run from June 27-Labor Day; rafts go out 6/27, back 9/5. Lifeguards have been hired. WSI is on board. Staffing at the end of August and beginning of September might be an issue. Raft options are under discussion. The Beach Committee will rent or buy a defibrillator- most likely a portable unit. Requests to the Maintenance Committee: need hay bales at top of path to contain runoff, mulch for path; remove broken playhouse. Cattails are to be removed from Danger Road area.

Town- No report

Camp- Judy Fast gave the report. Dawn (Camp Director) is aware of the traditions and foundations of the Colony and is trying to preserve and honor them in the running of the Camp. Parents are not generally motivated towards having the camp run overnight events. Sanitation, safety and communication are issues. Any overnight event would need a written plan and BOH approval. If there is enough interest among campers 9-11 and their parents, the Camp will make arrangements to have an overnight camping experience.

Trips require bus transportation for insurance reasons. Because this is so expensive, we are trying to bring experts and entertainers in.

The Camp Committee is cohesive; members work well together. Work is getting done asynchronously with brief face to face meetings. GBCA members are asked to attend Camp performances.

Notices of any vacant positions in the Camp (counselors, music and art educators, etc.) will be posted at local schools and colleges.

Rolling storage units have been suggested to replace shelving that was removed from the lower barn area. Camp Committee will spec out something and Maintenance will assist with delivery/installation.

Annual water test for the Camp will be done in May.

Environment- Cleanup day will be Sunday, April 19. Bags of trash may be left by the barn.

Hospitality/Social- No report.

Legal/sales- No report.

Roads- Some re-grading was done recently. A complete re-grading will follow later in the spring. Schmid hopes to be able to notify the Community before this happens. Dumping additional material on the road has buried storm sewer gratings and clogged up drainage systems. Schmid will try to drive through with the engineer ahead of time to point out trouble spots and address issues that he notices and/or that are brought to his attention.

Maintenance- Raft decisions to be coordinated with Beach committee.

Road 4: 12-page issue goes to print tomorrow. A notice asking for a volunteer to be on the Board will be included.

Water- 2 phases to repair project: Phase 1 is to change out the pumps to variable speed or rebuild spare pumps- plus computer controls (increases pump life, decreases power consumption, improves reliability).

Committee decided to install 2 rebuilt pumps and retain single existing pump operating in parallel. System will have to be shut down at least some of the time new pumps are being installed. Phase 1 repairs are to take place for a period of hours over several nights. There will be plumbing modifications to prepare for phase 2. Phase 1 work will begin in April.

\$10-15K estimated for phase 1.

Phase 2 is to replace piping and add valves.

Garbage- If garbage collection is not as neat, or if any personal property has been removed or displaced, please inform Levites.

New business- Phone notification system to be used for April membership meeting announcement.

Refreshments will be served at the April membership meeting.

Next meeting: April 19th, 10:30am at the Teen Center.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:00 pm.

GCBA Board Meeting Minutes —4/19/2009

Present: Stand, Rosedale, Brown, Schmid, Orr, Levites, Bergherr, Shulman, Arnstein, Finkelman, Callen

Absent: Gordon, Eisen, Sircus, Fast

The meeting came to order at 10:36 am.

March Board Minutes were accepted into the record.

Shulman was welcomed onto the Board. She will serve as the liaison for environment.

Correspondence- none.

Committee Reports-

Finance- An updated report was distributed. Request to the treasurer of camp committee for updated account status.

Appointment has been set with attorney to go over status of the Rios property.

\$12k spent so far on pump house improvements. \$3,000 more was budgeted and will be transferred in from the Money Market account.

19 members have not paid dues or made a payment plan (an increase of about 50% over the normal amount for this time of year). Final notices go out in June; July begins interest accrual.

Barn- Water to be turned on this week. Date in May for rebuilding wall in lower barn area to be set, materials to be purchased.

Beach/Lake- No report. Landscaping work at the beach to be decided at May meeting.

Town- No report.

Camp- Enrollment is up by 10 campers over last year! Still need two specialists (art, nature) and two counselors. Committee has decided to pay staff minimum wage (\$7.25/hr). Typical work week is 6 hours x 5 days.

Storage unit for supplies will be purchased/installed by maintenance. Shelving installation is budgeted as part of the lower barn floor refurbishment. Orr and Brown are specifying units and comparing prices.

Environment- Question about refurbishing basketball court. Have \$300 in the budget; proper repairs would cost ca. \$2000 per Orr. Power washing suggested.

Environment committee should meet and discuss priorities. Shulman will try to assemble an interested group.

Bergherr called road captains about Colony Cleanup (Sun. 4/19).

Hospitality/Social- Chess night will take place every 2 weeks over the summer. Calendars have been posted to the Wiki. Pearl will give the committee report to the membership meeting. Gross to provide food, Bergherr will provide coffee.

Per Levites' projections, Social Committee may be over budget this year by as much as \$1,000. Proposal to sell 2010 Golden Bridge calendars to help make up the difference. Banquet tickets might also be slightly more expensive this year. Question- is it worth hiring professional musicians for Colony events?

Legal/sales- Lien was filed on the DiAngeles property.

Roads- Hwy superintendent came, met with Schmid about 10 days ago. Schmid passed on a list of problem areas. Drainage boxes have been cleaned out. Requested notification before re-grading activity. The Board is pleased to note the positive relationship that Schmid has built with the highway department.

Additional tree was taken down around handball court area. Emergency expense, with tax, slightly exceeded \$500. Will bring to the next membership meeting.

Maintenance- Requests clarification on its charge. Understood to be maintaining infrastructure of barn and lake facilities. Process issue needs to be resolved: Committees have budget and independent leadership, Maintenance buys supplies, specs out items and does labor. Details, lines of authority need to be made clear since there seemed to be misunderstandings surrounding the refurbishing of rafts.

\$900 beyond originally budget amount for raft needed to include delivery; if membership approves, it should be done. If turned down, would need to be deferred to next year. We can repair existing rafts.

Eisen wants to document all committees, functions, projects, priorities- and areas of shared responsibility.

After the membership approves major expenditures, a timeframe for all associated decision-making and a person responsible (usually a committee chairperson) need to be assigned by the Board. This should be included in motions voted on by the Board, so as to be entered into the record. To broaden participation in getting work done, we could advertise in Road 4, membership meetings and on the wiki.

Environment- Hillside Ave. cleanup went well; Schmid coordinated; Bergherr, Callen, Arnstein, G. Levites, Brown, Metz, Slaven, and Broberg are recognized for participating.

A person-to-person approach is recommended for coordination across committees.

Shulman made a motion to repair existing rafts: not seconded, since a membership decision to replace them has already been taken. Orr will report to the membership on his raft proposal. Pictures of components and samples of material will be included.

Summer maintenance crew will be hired.

Road 4- no report

Water- Replacement pumps have been set up. A shutdown (in a couple of weeks) will be required to install components. We will also make repairs at that time. We will retrofit an old pump to serve as a spare that can be swapped in on demand, without shutting down the system.

Target date is fall, 2009 for making connections to the new 3" line on Hall Ave.

Garbage- no report

New business- Shulman agreed to serve out the remainder of Ehnes' term. Thanks to Ehnes for his service on the Board.

Voice broadcast notification system will be tested later this week by announcing the upcoming membership meeting.

Next meeting: 10:30am, May 17 in the Teen Center

The meeting was adjourned at 12:27 pm.:



Early one morning this past week I spotted this insect clinging to the side of my house (Kroun house), and ran back inside to grab my camera. This moth is called a Luna Moth or "Giant Silkworm Moth". Luna Moths are brightly-colored - lime green to yellow-green - and average 3-4 inches wide and 5-6 inches long, including the long tail. The size of this insect can best be appreciated by comparing it to the "normal" size moths in the top right photo.



Road Four
Spring
2009