

REFLECTIONS FROM THE HILL

JUNE 2014 EDITION

Office Telephone (570) 595-7771

Web Page: sprucehillfarms.org



SPRUCE HILL FARMS, POA

PO Box 208

Canadensis PA 18325

ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting of the Spruce Hill Farms Property Owner's Association was held at the pool pavilion on Saturday, June 7th, 2014.

The minutes were read from last year's meeting. Reports were made by the various committee heads, which will be explained further.

Three board member positions were up for election, Mike Aleksich, Grover Cleveland, and Gloria Brady. Nominations were requested from the floor. No nominations were submitted. There was a motion for a white ballot in which it was accepted. No vote was taken and the above were re-elected to a 3-year term.

BOARD MEMBERS AND ELECTED OFFICERS FOR 2014-15

President: Susan Gebase

Co-Vice President: John DeLisa, Legal

Co-Vice President: Richard Bubb, Insurance

Recreation: Mike Aleksich

Newsletter/Corresponding Secretary: Leslie Bates

Roads: Grover Cleveland

Civic Liaison & Recording Secretary: Gloria Brady

Treasurer: Bert D'Ambrosio

Member-At-Large: Eileen O'Toole

Non-Board Member Appointments:

Webmaster: Peter Ruggiero

Financial Secretary/Bookkeeper: Wendy Robinson

FINANCIALS

The Financial Secretary, Wendy Robinson gave her report with an overview of our expenses. She stated we had a good year as we were well within budget. She stated the budget this year is lower than last year. She stated the cost for snow operations was about \$9,000 due to the winter we had, but we stayed within budget for the roads.

ROADS

The Roads Chairman, Grover Cleveland, could not be present so Rich Bubb presented the roads report. Snow plowing expenses exceeded budget. The roads are in pretty good shape despite the plowing. He reported pot holes were filled in and roads look good. In a few weeks a contractor will come in and replace the stone that was plowed off over the winter. A contractor will be here in a few weeks to give us a quote for chip and tar. The plan is to start with Birch Rd. The pothole in the paved area of Pine Tree will be repaired. In addition, we will look into sealing the paved section of Pine Tree. A member asked about the manner in which chip and tar breaks down and will it ruin the road underneath. Rich stated that will be asked of the contractor. Another member asked about maintenance of the drainage before chip and tar on Birch. Rich stated that any issues will probably be addressed before the work is done.

INSURANCE

The insurance report was presented by Rich Bubb. He stated the premiums have been pretty steady and there is not much to report. He stated there have been no increases in budget relating to the insurance. No members had any questions.

POOL

Open June 21, 2014 Hours: 12-7 PM

The pool report was presented by Mike Aleksich. All the work is done on the pool and it looks good. He stated the coping was not done quite right by the contractor so instead of the contractor redoing it, we were given a \$1,000 discount.

There is going to be a Facebook page under Spruce Hill Farms Pool.

It will let people know whether or not the pool is open.

It will be updated daily in the morning as long as no issues arise.

Lifeguards will be paid \$10/hr instead of \$12/hr. At the end of the season there will be a \$2/hr bonus as long as the lifeguards came to work. The bonus is an incentive to have the lifeguards show up when they are suppose to. The Board decided to eliminate the use of Pocono Personnel for the paying of the lifeguards; this will save us \$3/hr. Wendy Robinson and Chelsea Aleksich will handle the paperwork for the lifeguards as 1099 employees. A member asked if they wanted to have a family reunion at the pool, who would they contact. If you want to have an event at the pool, please contact Mike to set that up.

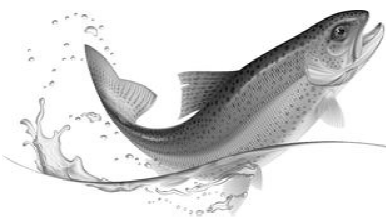
Some members asked if we could change/expand the the hours of the pool. Mike stated we can discuss it and stated that we haven't because of overtime and labor issues. He stated for now, those are the hours.

He stated a decision will be made based on facts and data gathering. He stated, ***if you have an opinion in regards to the pool hours or the pool in general, to please make it known by going on the Facebook page.*** Based on the information they receive, they will make a decision.



NEW BUSINESS

Gloria Brady wanted to make it clear that Board members are not paid. We follow the rules and regulations, and by-laws, which can only be changed by votes. The enforcement of the rules is not personal, and we have to the follow the rules.



Susan Gebase stated that there will be a delivery of fish in the next two weeks for the Association's pond. There will be 100 bluegill, 100 trout, and 100 bass fingerlings. It will probably be a few years until the fish are big enough for fishing. A contractor will be coming in to clear an area to gain access to the pond. The pond is for community member to fish, but a PA fishing license will be needed and PA rules and regulations should be followed. PA inspectors will be spot checking the area to make sure rules are followed. When using this area please keep it clean.

A member asked about the money in the Community Project Fund; this money will be used for the chip and tar of the roads.

Another member asked if we were having a pool party this year. Unfortunately, we will not. A member added that there used to be pig roasts, clam bakes, etc to raise money for the community. It was very well attended and that is how a lot of things were paid for in the community. This is something for the community to think about doing. Mike Aleksich stated if you have opinions about the pool party and like, to put those comments on the Facebook page.

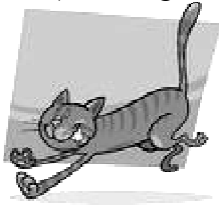
Association Website: We are in the process of having an email on the webpage so members can contact board members in regards to requesting information, complaints, etc. The email will direct your message to Susan Gebase, John DeLisa, Rich Bubb, and Wendy Robinson. The website for our Association is for all community members. If there is something you want to see on the website or a message you would like posted, contact our webmaster at webmaster@sprucehillfarms.org.

In addition to this, if you don't let the board know about any suggestions, comments, problems, and/or changes you may have in regards to our community, we can't do anything about it. If you let us know, we will do the best we can to act upon it. Community members are welcome to attend the regular board meetings, usually held at the pool pavilion. The meeting dates and times are posted on the Association web page.

Please contact us if you would like to help out or get involved. We could always use assistance from time to time, especially if you have a skill that may help out the board carry out our various duties.

Loose Animals:

There have been reports of loose dogs/cats visiting members of the community on a regular basis. Barrett Twp Ordinances (124-Dogs, 140-Animals) states no dogs/animals can run at large and people are to call the police.



SPEED LIMIT SIGNS: Comply with our 20 MPH speed limit and keep our roads safe for our children, pets, and our wildlife. Please keep the dust down.

**NEXT ANNUAL MEETING
JUNE 6, 2015 @ 11 AM
TO BE HELD AT THE SHF POOL PAVILION**

