

MOUNTAIN LAKES DISTRICT  
COMMISSIONERS MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 14, 2009  
DISTRICT OFFICE 6:00 PM

Call to Order: Commissioner Rosalie Farr called the meeting to order at 6:00 P M.

Roll Call: Rosalie Farr, Commissioner; Beverly Jacobs, Commissioner; Chris Demers, Commissioner, absent and excused.

Residents in Attendance: Fred Harris, Brad Farr, Annemarie Godston, Joel Godston, Charles Heardman, Ed Rajsteter, Mike Bonanno, Pauline Bonanno, June Soule, Beverly Hasbrouck, Don Hasbrouck, and Peter Olander.

Guest: Paul Johnson, Security.

Minutes of Previous Meeting (08/10/09) Rosalie Farr made a motion to accept the minutes as written with the following corrections: page 1 under District Report line 7 should read: We are under budget in the summer program for salaries for our summer program; Page 3 under f. line 4 should read: It was also suggested that perhaps an advertisement be placed in the local paper, Bridge Weekly for the Labor Day and Oktoberfest functions; Page 5 under d. line 4 should read: Joel Godston replied that the system is set up in such a way as this would provide the information they are looking for.

Don Hasbrouck seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Joel Godston wanted clarification of the correct spelling of the last name of Bruce Starer. The clerk checked with the office and the Town of Haverhill property owners list and the correct spelling is Starer as written in the minutes of 8/10/09.

Commissioner Rosalie Farr requested that item a. under Recreation Report be moved to the beginning of the meeting so that Paul Johnson could give his report without staying for the entire meeting.

**Security Update:** Paul Johnson reported that one Saturday night there were 3 riders on ATVs on the ski slope and that the Haverhill Police were in charge of the situation. He said that he arrived early some afternoons to speak with several children that had given Beverly Jacobs some difficulty during the summer. Paul Johnson said that the one item that he is concerned about is the speed on the causeway and across the parking lot from Killer Hill. He suggested that something be done before next year. It also seems everyone has parking permits for Mountain Lakes, but they are in their other vehicle.

Paul Johnson is also very disturbed about a private meeting that was held with some of the residents that are questioning his background. A rumor started saying that he has a lengthy

criminal record etc. Paul Johnson states that he would gladly agree to a background check if the residents responsible for the rumors pay for it. Paul Johnson states that he is licensed to carry a firearm, he has driven for Raymond Burton many years, worked in all types of security positions for most of his adult life. Paul Johnson is very hurt by this.

Paul Johnson said he mainly wanted to come to the meeting to thank everyone for a wonderful opportunity. He also wants to know how strongly the District enforces the #1 rule of no dogs on the beach.

Commissioner Rosalie Farr and Beverly Jacobs offered an apology for the rumors on behalf of the District and the majority of the residents. Rosalie Farr stated that she hoped he would not judge every resident by the actions of a few.

Peter Olander thanked Paul Johnson for his assistance the evening of the fireworks.

Mike Bonanno asked if Paul Johnson thought that portable speed bumps would prevent the speeding on the causeway. Paul Johnson replied that a portable speed bump could possibly throw the vehicle into the water, which is not something the District would want to be responsible for, both legally and morally.

Charles Herdman suggested that the District leave the potholes, as they would keep the speed down.

Mike Bonanno asked if the rumor that picnic tables were thrown into the lake was true. Rosalie Farr replied that it was true and the portable outhouse was also tipped over. Paul Johnson said that it happened before he was hired for the summer and suggested that the District consider starting the security route before the official season begins.

Beverly Hasbrouck suggested that if residents have a complaint, they should address it to the Commissioners.

Don Hasbrouck said that he had heard good comments about Paul Johnson's work, even from some of the younger residents and that Paul was very helpful when asked a question. Don asked that Paul not judge the District by rumors from a few people.

Mike Bonanno suggested that the District do a background check on everyone who works on the beach. This would have alleviated this problem.

Joel Godston suggested that Paul Johnson prepare a one-page list of concerns he has for the District so that the Commissioners could assess them during the upcoming year.

Rosalie Farr thanked Paul Johnson again for his work this summer. Paul Johnson thanked the District for the opportunity to work this past summer.

## **1. District**

**a. Powers Land Sale:** At the March 2009 District Annual Meeting, the voters approved Article 6: To see if the District will authorize the Commissioners to sell an area of land to extend Map 203 Lot 50 into the green belt area in an easterly direction by 30' long and 100' wide to Dale & Patricia Powers for a price of \$500, with all District expenses, including any legal fees, to be borne by the grantees. Rosalie Farr made a motion to approve the Article and Beverly Jacobs seconded the motion. Joel Godston said that this was unnecessary as the article was voted on and approved at the Annual Meeting. Rosalie Farr said that the Commissioners wanted it on the record. Joel Godston asked if the sale had happened and if it had been recorded at the Town of Haverhill Deed Office. Rosalie Farr replied that the transfer had occurred but that it had not been recorded yet.

**b. District Report: Submitted by Renee Cota**

Our overall budget is in great shape this year. We were under budget in our summer program this year as a result of the tremendous amount of rain days. As of 9/11/09, the budgeted amount for the lifeguards is under 14.6% and snack bar help by 10%. There is a difference between the two percentages because we added a few extra hours in the snack bar for training purposes. The snack bar supply purchases and the snack bar sales were both under budget by 23.7%. Therefore, with the shortfall in sales we made the corresponding reduction in purchases of goodies to be sold. On a positive note, we have received unbudgeted income to make up for the shortfall and are on target for the year concerning total budgeted revenue. It is not all in the accounts we assumed it would be in but where there was a shortfall, other accounts made up for it.

In the Water Dept., we have 33% of the year left and 40% of the budget. Payments for the 2009-2020 water bills have remained steady but we still have 15,735 to collect. Partially because we have billed several new service connections and they have 30 days to pay. We continue to use little water from Woodsville Water & Light and the savings is a great boost to the budget.

**c. Financials:** Peter Olander questioned under expenditures on page 8, category 5018-2, Lifeguards. Peter said we budgeted \$7,851 and have remaining \$764, therefore we did use the majority of the funds even with rain days. Rosalie Farr said that additional night swims were added which used some of the budget as well as extending hours until 7:00 PM on the good days.. Peter Olander inquired about line item 5017-2 – Head Lifeguard as he thought the summer program did not have a head lifeguard this summer. Beverly Jacobs said that she had asked Renee Cota about that line item and Renee said that she had paid head supervisor John Guay from that line item.

**d. Maintenance Report: Submitted by Don Drew**

We are still going forward with ongoing projects but with the summer program over for the season, we will be starting to shift gears toward fall and winter items.

One note is all personal boats and/or canoes need to be picked up off the grass and shore line areas and put on the racks or brought back to your homes (if help is needed, please contact me – Don Drew – at the office). remember all storage on the boat racks is the responsibility of the home owner not the District.

We will be putting rafts, docks and misc. water front items away soon. Work on the district office and the lodge is coming along very well and we will be rapping it up this fall as well.

**PLEASE MAKE A NOTE TO PICK UP AFTER YOUR DOGS AROUND THE DISTRICT LAWNS, BEACHES, TRAILS AND ROADS TOO. NO MATTER WHAT SIZE THE DOG IS, EVEN A LITTLE MESS CAN GO A LONG WAY.** We have kids playing and people walking and enjoying the entire area. We have seen plenty of sign that this is not being done by all dog owners.

**Water Department Report** – Submitted By Don Drew:

**Fire Hydrants** – Commissioner Rosalie Farr said that the issue with Fire Hydrants has been first with the Water Committee and then the Planning Board which no one was comfortable with. Rosalie Farr said she contacted Glen English to ask who was in charge of the Fire Hydrants in the Town of Haverhill. Glen English informed Rosalie Farr that the Town had just set up a “Hazard Mitigation Committee” which Annemarie Godston was a member of.

Annemarie Godston said that she was asked to be part of the Hazard Mitigation Committee as she is a member of the Board of Directors of the Chamber of Commerce to represent the business community. Annemarie Godston said that every 5 years the Town must have a new Hazard Mitigation Committee. The Committee will devise a plan which would go into effect should there be a major disaster in the Town, such as fire, heavy storm damage, pandemic, floods, which would place residents in peril. Police, Fire, Medical personnel would then have emergency plans in place. Annemarie Godston said that Rosalie Farr had asked her if she would represent the District of Mountain Lakes and Annemarie said that she would do so.

Rosalie Farr said that Glen English had also informed her that the Town of Haverhill is applying for a Federal Grant which Mountain Lakes would also benefit from.

Rosalie Farr said that the Commissioners and Ed Rajsteter would be meeting with Donald Hammond, North Haverhill Fire Chief on September 24, 2009 to discuss and begin a emergency plan for the District of Mountain Lakes as well as the best location of the fire hydrants.

Joel Godston said the Commissioners should be sure to get the recommendations on paper to avoid future problems.

Don Hasbrouck said that a few months ago Don Hammond met with the District during the June 2009 Commissioners meeting to discuss the location of several fire hydrants in the District and why they are not located in the best possible location. Mike Bonanno asked if the District could clear the brush from the fire hydrant located on Killer Hill.

There were several additional comments from the residents attending the meeting.

- e. **Wildcat Garage** – Rosalie Farr said that the Commissioners have decided to start legal proceedings as nothing else has caused the owner to address the problem on her property. Peter Olander said that neighbors are not only complaining about the condition of the garage, but that children have been seen playing around the building, if you can call it a building, which is dangerous.

Note: Joel Godston asked if the Commissioners have the list of minor issues with the pool that he requested at the last meeting. Rosalie Farr said that she did not but would get the information to him. Joel Godston said it would be ok to have the info at the next meeting.

Joel Godston also said that the Town of Haverhill is responsible for maintaining both the Causeway and Killer Hill. Rosalie Farr said that the Town has maintained the causeway but legally they do not have to. Joel Godston said that the maps in the town office show that these roads are maintained by the Town. Rosalie Farr said she would look into it.

- 2. **Planning Board Update** – Commissioner Rosalie Farr said that the Planning Board was unable to meet at the announced date. A meeting will be scheduled within the upcoming week.

**Zoning Officer Report –**

- 1. garage – T & C Way – variance given, permit issued, driveway graded, but no new work to date.
- 2. house – 93 Vernon, septic still not complete, some work done during summer, no water has yet been turned on.
- 3. house – Hilltop View, project is complete but water issue still unresolved, owner using holding tank to supplement but will need approval.
- 4. house – Rogers Road, house remains for sale by the owners but septic not totally complete and there is no water service.
- 5. house, Swiftwater, house is essentially complete, water in but needs apparatus, no septic to date.
- 6. house, T&C Way, nearing completion, water service recently installed. 204,30
- 7. house, T&C Way, nearing completion, water service recently installed. 204,34
- 8. porch addition, Adams, permit has been issued, no work to date.
- 9. shed, French Pond Road, shed no work started yet.
- 10. garage, Wildcat, site has been prepared, work expected to start late September.
- 11. addition, Gateway Drive, permit recently issued, site checked, no real start yet.
- 12. sheds, Kearsarge, permit has just been issued.
- 13. house, Hilltop/Haverhill, permit just issued.

### 3. Water Committee Update -

|                               |               |                |       |
|-------------------------------|---------------|----------------|-------|
| a. Water Usage                | Artesian Well | 4,165 gallons  |       |
|                               | Gravel Well   | 27,387 gallons |       |
|                               | WW&L          | 0 gallons      | GREAT |
| Total for the month of August |               | 31,552 gallons |       |

**Chairman Ed Rajsteter** reported that the water committee met to discuss the portion of line replacement on Bear Road. It is the recommendation of the committee that we go ahead with the project and to utilize Horne Excavation and our own materials. It was discussed if the project should be put out to bid, but decided to prepare a single source document for the excavation and replacement of a portion of the line on Bear Road with our own materials that we have on hand. Don Drew has obtained pricing for the additional materials needed.

Joel Godston suggested that the committee prepare the paperwork listing exactly what requirements were necessary for the work to be done as well as who is responsible for each part of the project.

Ed Rajsteter said that it had been prepared and will be on District letterhead and will be signed by each of the Commissioners.

Commissioners Rosalie Farr made a motion that the project be approved and Beverly Jacobs seconded the motion.

Ed Rajsteter reported that they have scheduled a pump and well draw down test for the Bedrock Well with Carr Well and Pump to be done on Wednesday the 16<sup>th</sup> of this month. Water usage is down to an average of 20,000 to 25,000 gpd with no major problems or issues to report.

### 4. Recreation Update –

**a. Security Report** – Paul Johnson gave his report at the beginning of the meeting.

**b. Summer Report** – Commissioner Beverly Jacobs said that the summer program was a great success. We were always fully staffed unlike years past. Unfortunately, the weather got in everyone’s way, but we made use of the extra hours from the rainy days to keep the beach and pool open later on several occasions. We also added lifeguards for 4 additional days over Labor Day. We had many events of the beach this year from sundaes and potlucks to a fishing derby. The derby was a big success thanks to our volunteers. Fourth of July was slow as a result of the wet weather, but we still had lots of fun with great people at the potluck. Activities were not what the children wanted this year, they wanted to swim instead on the few nice hot days. Finally, the Labor Day weekend of activities was a great way to wrap up the summer. We had wonderful weather, fantastic fireworks, and a delicious potluck besides the amazing turnout at our pancake breakfast/opening of the hiking trails.

**Pancake Breakfast** - Beverly Jacobs reported that after expenses, the pancake breakfast cleared \$349.00 due to the wonderful turnout and the volunteers. Ed Rajsteter reported that the volunteers served 130 people. Ed said that the next pancake breakfast can be scheduled for 8:30 to 11:00. Beverly Hasbrouck said she had one complaint – chocolate chip was only offered to the kids!

**Hiking Trails** - Rosalie Farr said that the hiking trails were a success and Bruce Starer had all the signs posted

**Pumpkin Patch** - Peter Olander asked what was the status of the pumpkin patch. Beverly Jacobs said unfortunately the weather did not co-operate. A suggestion was made that for the children, we perhaps should purchase pumpkins and place them in the patch.

**Fireworks** – Peter Olander reported that Ryan Battisto spends all Friday night and Saturday preparing for the event as well as planning the event and the sequence on a computer. Peter Olander said he spent \$2,700, \$900 of his own money and travels to four different states to obtain the fireworks. Ed Rajsteter suggested that the District write a thank you letter to him.

Don Hasbrouck said that he enjoyed the fireworks, but was very upset that when he came down to the beach the next morning to find that the beach was a disaster and there was no clean-up detail. The District does not hire lifeguards to clean up after the fireworks. Rosalie Farr said that a clean-up committee should consist of families that enjoy the fireworks and not just the Recreation Committee as they are busy with the pancake breakfast. June Soule suggested that a donation be collected to assist in the cost over and above with the District budgets for the fireworks. Several suggestions were made.

Mike Bonanno recommends that a sign be placed by the canoe racks or somewhere stating that all canoes/kayaks be rinsed with bleach to prevent contamination of our lakes if they have been used elsewhere. Pauline Bonanno said that the spay bottle could be available in the office during office hours Monday thru Friday.

5, **Executive session** - Pauline Bonanno said that she had requested an Executive Session with the Commissioners for a personal issue.

Commissioner Rosalie Farr and Commissioner Beverly Jacobs called an Executive Session with Pauline Bonanno and Mike Bonanno.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:20 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cynthia Harris

MOUNTAIN LAKES DISTRICT  
COMMISSIONERS MEETING  
EXECUTIVE SESSION  
SEPTEMBER 14, 2009

Enter executive session at 7:12pm.

Commissioners present: Rosalie Farr and Beverly Jacobs

Residents present: Pauline and Mike Bonanno

Topic: Summer program Personnel Issue

Pauline Bonanno had a complaint about an employee with the summer program.

Discussion followed

No decision was made.

Executive session adjourned at 7:19pm

Respectfully submitted,

Rosalie Farr  
Commissioner