

MT. HOOD FOREST HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION
Board of Directors Meeting
At 5665 SW Meadows Road, Lake Oswego
February 3, 2014

Members Present: President Paula Hoiland, Mark Beckius, Vonnie Condon, Joel Grayson, Ken Hoiland, Scott MacCaskill, Secretary Carolyn Raz, Tom Reynolds

Members Absent: Michael Halligan and Treasurer Daryl Philippi

Guest: Amelia Wilcox

7:00 pm - Meeting was called to order by President Paula Hoiland with an introduction of a potential new Board member, Amelia Wilcox.

The minutes of the November 4, 2013, Board meeting were approved with no corrections. With the absence of the treasurer, there was no Treasurer's Report.

OLD BUSINESS

Forest Watch Update: Paula continues to receive requests from members for the Forest Watch decals, which she mails. She will make decals available at the Annual Meeting in June.

Liability Insurance: Fortunately, there has been no increase in the premium for the coming year.

NEW BUSINESS

Highway 26 Construction Project: Carolyn reported on the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) public open house at the Resort at the Mountain in January about the coming changes to Hwy. 26. Request for Bids will be issued in March with construction to begin in May. The portion of the highway between the Kiwanis Camp road and the trailhead to Mirror Lake has been the scene of nearly 400 accidents in the past ten years with four fatalities and 38 seriously injured. The objective of the changes is to mitigate the accidents which will include widening and the installation of median barriers. The construction will last three years with the work periods between May and October. There will be long traffic delays at times, up to an hour, particularly when blasting is in progress, which will be done in the evenings starting about 5:30 pm. There will be no construction on holidays or Sundays.

Committee Assignments and Chairs:

Event Planning: Ken Hoiland and Scott MacCaskill. Their duties will include the highway clean-ups and the Annual Meeting.

Security: Mark Beckius. No specific duties were discussed.

Membership: Ken Hoiland. Ken will work on a packet for new cabin owners and a method to update when there are changes in Forest Service regulations.

New Board Member: The Association Bylaws dictate there be 11 members of the Board of Directors. Currently, we have only 10 with the resignation of Jim and Jennifer Cline. Also, the Association should have a representative to the Oregon Forest Homeowners Assn. A long-time cabin owner, Amelia Wilcox, has volunteered to join our Board as well as to be the representative to OFHA. There was a unanimous vote to accept Amelia for both positions.

Membership: Paula said the membership seems to hold steady between 62-65% of the 551 cabins. (The Forest Service recently razed a derelict cabin on Road 20 for lack of permit payment for many years and the condition beyond repair.) It was suggested that each Board member bring a non-member neighbor to the annual meeting to boost membership.

Membership Card: Paula passed around a large postcard-sized sign produced by the Lake of the Woods Association. The attractive sign is for association members to place in their cabin window to indicate they paid annual dues. At the bottom of the sign is an offer of \$1,500 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of anyone breaking into or vandalizing the premises. The money would go to the person responsible for getting a license number or description that leads to the arrest. A Lake of the Woods spokesperson said the implementation of these signs and the \$1,500 reward led to a dramatic increase in membership.

It was decided that our association would follow suit with a similar sign. It was suggested that membership benefits and important phone numbers, such as the Fire Dept. number to ascertain if burning is permissible, Clackamas County Sheriff's non-emergency number and the Forest Service be placed on the reverse side of the sign. Scott volunteered to do a mock-up of a sign and the verbiage. Mark will get printing bids. We would like to have this in time for the annual meeting.

Spring Newsletter: Paula asked that articles for the spring newsletter be submitted by May 5, or earlier. It was suggested that each newsletter contain an interview with a cabin owner. Amelia volunteered to do the interview for publication. She has some people in mind and asked for suggestions of cabin owners with a good story to tell about their cabin history or interesting stories.

It was proposed to place an ad in the Mountain Times announcing the annual meeting and encouraging each member to bring a non-member fellow cabin owner. Paula will check on the cost and place the ad.

Highway Clean-up: In the past, the Kiwanis Club was in charge of highway clean-up in the stretch past the Kiwanis Camp road. This clean-up has not been done by them in recent years though the MHFHA has included most of the area up to Road 34. Paula has permission from ODOT to assign the new area to MHFHA and we will be allowed two more highway signs showing MHFHA as the responsible organization.

For the past two or three years, the MHFHA has only done the spring clean-up. However, it was decided to resume reviving the fall clean-up.

Clackamas County Property Tax: Vonnie volunteered to contact the Clackamas County Tax Office to ascertain what the cabin owners get for our property (cabin only, not the land) tax dollars. It was noted the Sheriff's Dept. will not respond to Forest Service regulation violations such as gun fire near

cabins or the resultant trash and destruction from firing at trees, signs, etc.

Financial Planning: There was a discussion about what to do with Association monies, of which we have about \$25,000 on hand. Paula said the National Forest Homeowners suggests that each tract have a "war chest" to cover potential legal or lobby expenses, if necessary. The following are some upcoming uses:

1. Additional donation to the NFH. To date, our association has donated \$20,000+ to the NFH for the Cabin Fee Act enactment and more money will be needed to push through the legislation.

2. Updating the website.

3. Replacing the former carved wooden signs at each road entrance. Examples of sign names that could be used are Road 35 - Mile Bridge Tract, Road 32 - Camp Creek. In any event, Forest Service approval would be required.

Joel made a motion to increase the dues from \$20 to \$30. Seconded by Scott. Motion approved with a nay from Paula.

Annual Meeting: Paula asked for suggestions for topics and speakers at the Annual Meeting. Among the suggestions were a representative from Dump Stoppers, the Public Relations person for the Forest Service, definitely Fran Lanagan and Leanne Veldhuis of the Summer Homes program, and maybe one or two representatives from insurance companies that will insure cabins, such as SAFECO and State Farm. Paula mentioned that a number of cabin owners have asked about insurance companies willing to insure cabins since many companies will not.

It was agreed to again use the Welches Grade School as the venue.

9:00 pm - Meeting adjourned.

2014 Calendar:

May 5 - Board Meeting

May 5 - Deadline for Spring Newsletter articles

May 24 - Highway clean-up

Jun 21 - Annual Meeting

Aug 2 - Board meeting at a cabin followed by social time

Oct 15 - Deadline for Fall Newsletter articles

Nov 3 - Board Meeting