

## Minutes of the Meeting of the Sinclair Mills Education and Recreational Club Held on Sunday, October 25, 2009

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Meeting called to order by President Ray Hourie @ 01:05PM

Present:

KEITH AMBLER / DARLENE DUNPHY / KEVIN DUNPHY / LISA GEORGE / LLOYD GEROGÉ / ROSALEE GEORGE / ELKE HIERL-STEINBAUER / RAY HOURIE / ED LORENCAS / ANNE MACINTYRE / LYN MUELLER / JERRY NOAKES / HARVEY SAWYER / FLORENCE SCHWARTZ / ERWIN STOLL / JUDY TINGLEY / DAVE YEREX / (17 PAX)

Minutes of the last general meeting on August 09, 2009 adopted as corrected:

**"VOTING AS PER EXISTING MEMBERSHIP/PER FAMILY UNTIL THE AGM"**

Motion / Second:

Erwin Stoll / Florence Schwartz

CARRIED / ALL IN FAVOR

Current Treasurers Report

QUESTIONS:

- Erwin Stoll = Why was the leftover meat from the Sep 13, 2009 BBQ used for the Potluck in October? For a potluck the community has never paid for supplies, but all participants are to bring something; this should not become a precedent
- Ray Hourie explains that the idea was to use the meat before it goes bad; can only be frozen for x amount of time and was not sold on September 13<sup>th</sup>, 2009
- Anne Macintyre suggests that as a rule meat and/or any usable food leftovers should be sold on the date of the function; if they are not sold, the community should be able to use them for the next upcoming function that is involving food, regardless whether it is a potluck or not

Motion / Second:

Anne Macintyre / Harvey Sawyer

CARRIED / ALL IN FAVOR

- Judy Tingley = How come that the expenses for the president are including ink for printer cartridges, but the secretary/treasurer does not claim such expenses; actually no SMERC BOD member has – to this date – claimed any expenses
- Elke Hierl-Steinbauer explains that she as the secretary/treasurer is donating all office **supplies (Is not Bon Voyage the donor?)**
- Ray Hourie explains that it is normal to claim expenses in a volunteer position and he does not feel his are over the top; if past and present BOD members decided to donate things, that was a personal decision;
- Anne Macintyre states that not everyone can afford to donate their expenses for a volunteer position
- Lyn Mueller feels Ray – as the president – claiming his expenses the way he does, is a slap in the face/offensive to her and her husband, Wayne Mueller, who have been donating time and expenses to SMERC for the past 17 years
- Example: Gazebo Project 2009
- There is a general assumption that the SMERC president / all SMERC board members are willing to donate their expenses
- **Lyn Mueller stated that "SMERC currently run like a dictatorship".**
- Erwin Stoll = no general objections to paying for fuel expenses, but again: So far it has been a taken that the SMERC BOD does not expect to be paid for expenses; will Ray claiming expenses be a precedent and will everyone now start putting in expenses?
- Ray Hourie "agrees to disagree" on the point of the expenses claimed by the president for 2009; he repeats that it is normal that in volunteer organizations board members can claim expenses;
- Lisa George suggests that it would not make sense to bring in/pay outside help to do things if members are doing it

- Anne Macintyre suggests to find volunteers that are prepared to do things without claiming expenses
- Ed Lorencas states that it is a given that no-one should be able to profit from being a part of SMERC, but that it is absolutely normal and acceptable that out-of-pocket expenses are being claimed
- Elke Hierl-Steinbauer states that in general – though members may chose to donate expenses – it is not unusual that expenses are claimed; however, she'd like clarification on the expenses for printer cartridges:
- She as the secretary/treasurer should be the one doing all correspondence as directed by the other board members and SMERC
- If she should not be able to do the paperwork and ask someone-else to do it, as the secretary treasurer she still must receive copies of every letter sent out on behalf of SMERC and also of every letter received on behalf of SMERC;
- Any outgoing/incoming correspondence must be filed by the Secretary/Treasurer for the public record, so any member can have a look at it if wanted
- What has Ray been printing that would justify two printer cartridges to-date? Elke to-date is not aware of ANY correspondence outside of what she has done
- Erwin Stoll, too, asks Ray Hourie as to where all the correspondence he claims to have printed / is claiming the expenses for the cartridges for is at this point, since it does not seem to be available to SMERC
- Ray Hourie assures everyone that the secretary/treasurer will receive copies of everything shortly
- Ed Lorencas and Florence Schwartz suggest that from now on SMERC should purchase / store gas to be used for snow-plowing/lawn-mowing etc.
- Lyn Mueller suggests that the community lawn-mover should be used instead of privately-owned lawn-mowers
- A motion is made for SMERC to buy/store gas for SMERC use; whoever is doing the job will arrive at the job with a full gas tank and then fill up with SMERC gas when the job is done; thus there won't be any more out of pocket gas claims

Motion / Second:

Ed Lorencas / Anne Macintyre

CARRIED / ALL IN FAVOR

- Kevin Dunphy / The Willow River General Store will donate \$30.00 in gas to SMERC
- In connection with various supply purchases for the hall, Keith re-iterates that it has been agreed upon that the SMERC BOD has the ability for discretionary spending of up to \$100.00 per purchase
- Anne Macyintyre makes a motion to accept Ray Hourie's expenses / the Treasurer's Report as is for the moment

Motion / Second:

Anne Macintyre / Ed Lorencas

CARRIED / Show of Hands:

11 in favor

05 against

01 no vote

- Erwin Stoll wants it noted that he is against accepting Ray Houries out-of-pocket expenses as is

Old Business

Update on the status of the Hall Management Committee appointments

- Ed Lorencas explains the current status quo
- When SMERC discussed appointing Ed Lorencas to the Hall Management Committee in February, there was confusion on how things actually work
- At this point, SMERC president Ray Hourie, not Ed Lorencas, is the Hall Management Committee representative for SMERC
- The SMERC president is an automatic member of the Hall Management Committee, unless he/she passes this position to someone-else
- All Hall Management Committee positions – except for the one Ray is currently holding - are appointed by the RDFFG;
- SMERC has no power to appoint anyone to the Committee

- According to the RDFFG there are no further vacancies on the Hall Management Committee at this point
- Requests to change the current Hall Management Committee in accordance with existing bylaws, and to include Ed Lorencas into the Hall Management Committee have been made by Ray Hourie during a presentation he gave to a RDFFG sub-committee on October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2009
- Said bylaws are on file with the SMERC secretary/treasurer and can be viewed by/copied for interested SMERC members
- Ray Hourie also has requested that a financial report for the Hall Management Committee should be made available to the members on a regular basis
- Lyn Mueller states that there is no such thing, because the Hall Management Committee would be a part of the total budget of the RDFFG, which is being audited on a yearly basis anyway;
- Normally there will be only one meeting of the Committee per year where the committee will request budget \$\$\$ from the RDFFG to do whatever is necessary for the upkeep/maintenance of the hall
- To date Ray Hourie and Ed Lorencas have been unable to arrange for a meeting of the Hall Management Committee to discuss the above issues
- An update on what has been decided by the RDFFG in regards of the current/future structure of the Hall Management Committee will be available by the RDFFG by November 18<sup>th</sup>, 2009
- Lyn Mueller apologizes for being part of creating the confusion about the Hall Management Committee membership; when Ed Lorencas was suggested as SMERC representative for the Hall Committee in February, she was not aware of all the above / that basically Ray Hourie's position was being "given away"
- Kevin Taylor, has been a Hall Management Committee member for several years, appointed in lieu of then-president Lyn Mueller; at this point he still is a Hall Management Committee member; proof of residency may be necessary to keep him on the Committee
- Elke Hierl-Steinbauer suggests that Hall Management Committee issues should be discussed in a meeting of the Hall Management Committee / have little to do with SMERC ... can the meeting move on to the next agenda item?

#### Correspondence

- Elke Hierl-Steinbauer reads a letter of the RDFFG approving a grant-in-aid of up to \$1,000.00 for the purchase of a large BBQ, patio furniture and other community hall equipment for the hall and gazebo
- The BBQ has already been purchased, as have some hall items; the patio furniture for the gazebo still has to be bought
- Erwin Stoll questions whether the BBQ had to be as big as it is
- Keith Ambler / Ray Hourie explain that the origin of the suggestions to put in for the grant was Kevin Dunphy experiencing that small BBQ's were not appropriate / taking up too much time to do the job during a community function, so yes: The BBQ does need to be big; it will be there for the entire community to enjoy in functions for years to come

#### Quote for Floor Stripping & Waxing

- Keith Ambler gives a quote/estimate on the cost of stripping / waxing the hall floor:
- \$46.00 rental per day for the machine OR, more economical: \$161.00 for a seven day rental
- Cost of wax / material estimate \$150.00
- Total estimate approximately \$300.00
- Ray Hourie suggests that this should be put in front of the Hall Management Committee
- Erwin Stoll advises that SMERC is responsible to pay for hall maintenance / the renter is responsible for cleaning
- Lyn Mueller advises that there is wax stored at the hall that can be used
- Motion to go ahead with the floor stripping & waxing / budget of \$400.00

Motion / Second:

Anne Macintyre / Florence Schwartz

CARRIED / All in favor

An update on the status of the \$6,000.00 term deposit that per membership decision of February 2009 was to be put into the bank by the SMERC BOD is requested

- Elke Hierl-Steinbauer explains that it cannot be done until Ray Hourie has signed the BOD signature sheet for the SMERC bank account; once Ray has left his signature with BOM, the deposit can go ahead
- Ray Hourie says he has not had time as of yet to drop in at BOM and leave his signature for the SMERC file; he promises to take care of this ASAP

#### New Business

- Ray Hourie informs that a C.O.R.E. Course for hunters will be coming to Sinclair Mills
- The Hall-use will be donated to C.O.R.E.
- Participants to expect roughly \$70.00 fee to sign up for the course
- Minimum age 14
- Two-day course
- No shooting, just gun handling
- Info about the date will be available well in advance of the course
  
- Jerry Noakes informs that he will hold a slide-show featuring hikes in the local area
- Date: Sunday, November 15<sup>th</sup>, 2009
- Time: 07:00 PM
- Location: Sinclair Mills Community Hall
- Coffee to be sponsored by SMERC
- Everyone please bring desserts
- Invitations will be sent out ASAP
  
- Lyn Mueller offers to enlarge a historic aerial picture of Sinclair Mills to a poster
- A second poster should be made, explaining what is visible on the picture
- A budget of roughly \$100.00 is agreed upon

#### Motion / Second:

Keith Ambler / Elke Hierl-Steinbauer

CARRIED / All in favor

- Event Planning / Christmas Dinner
- Ray Hourie informs that Diversified is donating a school bus for the evening that will be used as shuttle bus between Willow River and Sinclair Mills; Rose Faucher has volunteered to be the driver
- Christmas Dinner on December 13<sup>th</sup>, 2009 / Start @ 05:00 PM
- All participants who would like to use the bus shuttle service MUST sign up by latest Sunday prior to the event (December 06<sup>th</sup>, 2009)
- To ensure that there are not more people than seats on the bus, Anne Macyintyre and Keith Ambler will be organizing the reservations for the shuttle service
- Elke Hierl-Steinbauer to find out maximum seating capacity of Community Hall as per insurance
- All participants must reserve seating in advance, so maximum hall occupancy is not exceeded / a second date could be put in place if necessary
- The meat for the function will be purchased by the community based on the projected number of participants
- All participants will be asked to bring side-dishes / co-ordination will be done by Lisa George / [mrs-george@hotmail.com](mailto:mrs-george@hotmail.com) / phone: 250-962-8688
- [Invitations will be sent out by early November 2009](#)
- Ray Hourie suggests a fundraising / winter-events committee
- Ed Lorencas puts forward a motion to
- Form such a committee in the future
- People who would like to be a part of the committee should step forward asap
- Ideas welcome
- Present committee / ideas at AGM

Motion / Second:  
Ed Lorencas / Ray Hourie

CARRIED / All in favor

- Erwin Stoll puts forward a motion to reimburse Lyn and Wayne Mueller for their SMERC expenses in the past 17 years
- Anne Macintyre states that Lyn did not want to be reimbursed in the past, so why now?
- Lyn Mueller thanks Erwin for the respect this motion shows to what Wayne and she have done for the community in the past, but she will waive to take advantage of such a motion

**Lyn Mueller asks for clarification about the membership / voting status for the AGM 2010**

**After referring to the old and new Constitution and Bylaws and after lengthy discussion, a motion is made to proceed as follows:**

- **2009 membership has to be paid up by December 31, 2009 to be able to vote at AGM**
- **As per old C&B the 2009 membership is still a "FAMILY-membership" = every member of the family can vote up until to and including the AGM of January 2010**
- **Immediately after the 2010 AGM, the new C&B will come into effect = every person who would like to vote at an AGM must have an individual membership paid up by December 31 in order to be able to vote at the January AGM**

Motion / Second:  
Lyn Mueller / Keith Ambler

CARRIED / All in favor

- Ray Hourie would like it on record that the Motion is not in accordance to the new Constitution and Bylaws
- New members that signed up on/after the September 13<sup>th</sup>, 2009 membership drive were told their membership was for 2010 AND they could vote at the AGM
- This is not correct
- The BOD will apologize / inform all new members about the situation in writing and the new members will be able to choose whether they want to
  - be 2009 members in good standing and be able to vote at the January 2010 AGM
  - be 2010 members in good standing and be able to vote at the January 2011 AGM
- Ray Hourie introduces a campaign to collect Campbell Soup labels to fundraise for the support of Giscome Elementary School
- Meeting adjourned at 03:30PM

October 27, 2009

Elke Hierl-Steinbauer  
SMERC Secretary / Treasurer