



Mt. Gretna Campmeeting Association  
Annual Meeting  
Saturday, July 28, 2018 at noon

Meeting called to order by Ted Martin at 12:02 pm

1. Introductions of board members: Ted Martin, Mary Kopala, Sally Marisic, Margaret Hopkins, Pam Bishop, Larry Bowman, Kevin Burd, Lisa Carr, Tammy Travitz, and Esther Mefferd. George Resh was excused from the meeting.  
Special thanks to employees Debby Erb, Ed and Cindy Neidigh
2. The minutes of the Annual Meeting from Saturday, July 29, 2017 were provisionally approved with a motion by Rick Andrews (401 Bell) and seconded by Larry Bowman. The printed minutes will be presented for final approval at the 2019 Annual Meeting.
3. Nominations – Esther Mefferd  
President Martin asked the Nominating Committee Chair, Esther Mefferd, for the Committee's nominations for the Board of Managers. Mrs. Mefferd reported that there are four positions open for election to the Board of Managers. The Committee has four individuals on the ballot: Larry Bowman (incumbent), Lisa Carr (incumbent), Sally Marisic (incumbent), and Barbara Myers. George Resh is retiring from the Board; the committee thanked him for his service.
  - a. Hearing the committee report, President Martin asked for nominations from the floor. Hearing none, he asked the Secretary to cast the ballot. A voice vote recorded unanimous approval.
4. Financial report: Sally Marisic
  - a. Sally discussed the board's budgeting process from September on
  - b. She noted the capital improvements fund which has allowed us to make improvements such as the 1<sup>st</sup> Street sewer project without having to raise the assessment
  - c. Also noted were the many non-negotiable items in the budget such as taxes on Campmeeting lands, utilities, trash removal, wages
  - d. Ron Hontz, 309 7<sup>th</sup> St., questioned where the funding would be provided from for the capital improvements, the budget report did not list all the restricted and designated funds. Mrs. Marisic stated that she would follow-up with a report to Mr. Hontz.



- e. Ben Wiley (507 Second St) moved to approve; Robin May (507 5<sup>th</sup> St) seconded.
5. Report from Superintendent – Ed Neidigh was not present; Board president Ted Martin asked that members express their appreciation of Ed and Carol's hard work
    - a. Ted introduced Mark Sheffy, new superintendent
  6. President's report – Ted Martin
    - a. The January 2018 survey of members had a 76% return rate and provided valuable information to the Board for the development of the strategic plan
    - b. One result: Public sessions have been scheduled to present the board's strategic plan, to review Rules & Regulations
    - c. Ted reminded members of his regular office hours on the first Saturday of each month (at the pizza restaurant or the library)
    - d. Review of activities undertaken by the Board of Managers
      - i. Undertook and nearly completed sewer work on First Street, near the library; thank you to Dave Lloyd and previous boards for their foresight to plan for capital projects
      - ii. Established stronger communication between the Tabernacle Association board and the Board of Managers.
        1. Purchase of new sound system
        2. Looking into maintenance, restoring benches
      - iii. Initiated a system to better notify members of tree work
      - iv. Organized a successful community Earth Day clean-up
      - v. Ensuring new cottage owners are visited by board members who outline rules and regulations
    - e. What the board will have to grapple with over the next 6 months
      - i. Rentals
      - ii. Tree canopy
      - iii. Water system
      - iv. Rentals – Mary Kopala
        1. Board identified this as a critical issue to be addressed: noise, parking, trash
        2. Board recognizes that there are diverse rentals in the Campmeeting (year-round, seasonal etc)
        3. Concerns about maintaining the tradition and atmosphere of the Campmeeting and need to educate renters



4. Need to figure out how many cottages are rented routinely
5. Board plans to establish a special committee of community members to review the rental environment and make recommendations or any necessary changes in rules or regulations.
- v. Trees – Margaret Hopkins
  1. Trees are stressed by multiple factors (age, invasive insects, soil-borne organisms, human actions)
  2. Inspections done by arborists with 3 dozen + trees identified for removal
  3. 65 trees removed in the last 3 years; 6 planted
  4. challenges in determining ownership of trees
  5. future plans: TreeVitalize grant from Department of Conservation and Natural Resources; planned plantings in fall and spring especially in areas where a hole in tree canopy exists and where we anticipate trees will be removed
- vi. Water system – Ted Martin
  1. Water system maintained by daily testing by Superintendent and by certified company
  2. Water usage has skyrocketed from an average of 24,000 gallons to 32-36,000 gallons in month of July
  3. Campmeeting faced with two options:
    - a. Upgrade existing system (work needed on water tank, temporary pump needing replacement)
    - b. Join Borough Water Authority
  4. Applied for a grant with DEP to help underwrite cost of options
  5. No decision yet on which way to go: waiting on word about the grant and then will discuss the alternatives
7. Community comments
  - a. Barbara Mark, 709 6<sup>th</sup> St.: Set of stone steps off Pinch Road are dangerous and questioned who has responsibility if someone is injured using them; Barbara Hoffsommer, also 709 6<sup>th</sup> St., advocated closing off the stairs
    - i. B&G will investigate
  - b. Janelle White, 203 Markwood: Concerned about what she considers financial inequity of current assessment system by cottage when owners who rent their cottages are making a profit



- c. John Hoyt, 609 2<sup>nd</sup> and 693 1<sup>st</sup>: Provided some general comments and responded to Ms. White's comments regarding assessments to rental properties.
  - d. Don Miller, 610 4<sup>th</sup> St., asked about a petition circulated by Chic Rhoads about speed limits on Pinch Road
    - i. Dave Lloyd reported the request was submitted through West Cornwall Township to the county and PennDOT; no word from PennDOT
  - e. Nancy Rogers, 200 Otterbein: Asked why the fire alarm next to the Campmeeting still sounds when the Chautauqua alarm has been silenced. Ted Martin responded that he would investigate this Member question.
  - f. Dick Gardner, 205 Sixth St.: Signage for Sixth St. We need to determine if it is one or two way traffic. Ted Martin responded that he would investigate this Member comment.
  - g. Kay Heberling, 210 Third St.: Discussed inappropriate behaviors in the Tabernacle (children throwing balls into the trusses supporting the roof)
    - i. Larry Bowman, pres. of Tabernacle Association board, responded that signage about prohibited uses of the Tabernacle under investigation; also asked for volunteers to help with refinishing benches in the fall
8. Meeting adjourned at 1 pm