



Tuesday, June 18, 2019

At the regular monthly meeting of the Mt. Gretna Campmeeting Association Board of Managers, held on Tuesday evening, 06/18/2019 in the United Methodist Church, Mt. Gretna, Pennsylvania, Ted Martin presided and Margaret Hopkins acted as Secretary.

A quorum was present including the following: Ted Martin (President), Mary Kopala (Vice-President), Sally Marisic (Treasurer), Margaret Hopkins (Secretary), Pam Bishop, Kevin Burd, Mary Kopala, Esther Mefferd, Barb Myers, Tammy Travitz, and Justin Williams. Larry Bowman was excused.

I. Call to Order, Ted Martin

The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM, Ted Martin opened the meeting.

II. Approval of Minutes

- i. Since the Minutes were distributed to Board members prior to the time of this regular monthly meeting, the reading of the Minutes was dispensed with and the revised May Minutes were approved.

III. Treasurer's Report

- i. Kevin Burd requested attorney fee update. It was reported that the last invoice received was in March for contract review and for research to answer questions about D&O insurance.
- ii. On a motion from Tammy and seconded by Mary, a resolution was adopted unanimously as follows: RESOLVED, That the Board of Managers accepts the May P&L report presented by the Treasurer.

IV. Superintendent's Report

- i. The Superintendent's report is attached to these minutes. Some highlights include:
 1. Art school is volunteering some time to help with improvements in the Heritage Park area, especially the shuffleboard court.
 2. Mulching around the MGCA grounds should be complete in the next few weeks.
 3. Working on an inventory of all tools and equipment.
 4. Sticks will continue to be picked up every other week from now until November 1st. No leaves or pine needles will be collected until November.

V. Committee Reports

A. Finance Committee - Sally Marisic

- i. Nothing to report.

B. Communications Committee – Kevin Burd

- i. Newsletter articles are due by the end of day, June 19th. Plan to have the newsletter out by June 24th if not before.

C. Community Activities Committee – Tammy Travitz

- i. The Heritage Festival is going well.
- ii. The Porch Sale went smoothly, participating Members appeared to be pleased.
- iii. The picnic and annual meeting will be operated as it they have been before. Plans are progressing as expected.



D. Parks & Recreation Committee – Margaret Hopkins

- i. Climb High completed its annual inspection of MGCA trees and have made a list of their high priority trees. This list could change at any time based on updated information.
- ii. Climb High has not removed wood from downed trees in the past; it was taken by someone who heats their house with wood. To have Climb High remove wood would increase our costs dramatically. Margaret suggested that we develop a list of people who would like to be “on call” to come remove wood from MGCA grounds when a tree is taken down. Contact the office if you’re interested.
- iii. We have planted three additional trees. Thanks to Paul McMullen and Jim Schlenker for their assistance, and to Nelson Lawrence for his help in staking.
- iv. Climb High has identified several trees that need to be reviewed by Met-Ed. These trees will be ribboned for Met-Ed identification and review.
- v. The trees that were identified for work in the May minutes are not listed by priority and this is not a fixed list. Inspections are performed by both Climb High and Houser’s Plant Health Care. However, trees can be missed – so if you see something regarding a tree that you are concerned about in an MGCA area, please let us know.

E. Property Ownership Committee – Pam Bishop

- i. There were two properties that sold in June. The first was 107 6th Street sold to John & Patricia Brosious.
- ii. The second property at 511 1st Street was purchased by Paul & Sarah Thibault.
- iii. There are two more properties that are scheduled for transfer in the near future.
- iv. The Committee will be meeting to discuss the information in the New Member packet to review its contents.

F. Ad-Hoc Policy & Procedures Committee – Margaret Hopkins

- i. No meeting, nothing to report.

G. Nominations Committee – Esther Mefferd

- i. As of this evening there are three vacancies for the 2020-2022 term. The nominees are Don Dale, Karrie Hontz, Margaret Hopkins, Mary Kopala, Val Swarr, Tammy Travitz, and Pat Wilmsen. Merrit Neale removed his name from list of nominees. Information about the election and bios of the nominees will be in the newsletter, on the website, and also posted several days before the election in three locations around the Campmeeting (The Fire hall, Library, and Tabernacle bulletin boards).
- ii. The election will be held on July 27th after the annual meeting which starts at noon. Again, details will be in the newsletter. Absentee ballots are available by written or e-mailed request to the office. Please read the newsletter for additional information and deadlines.

H. Tabernacle Association – Esther Mefferd

- i. New signs are up in Tabernacle indicating that the building is not a playground and is an area for worship.
- ii. Some stage chairs have been cleaned. Benches will be worked on in the fall.



- I. Ad-Hoc Archives Committee – Barb Myers
 - i. Will be having a meeting with George Resh.
- J. Ad-Hoc Library Committee – Sally Marisic
 - i. Staining work has been completed at the library.
 - ii. Are likely to be adding evening hours if there are enough volunteers to staff.
- K. Buildings & Grounds Committee – Ted Martin
 - i. The B&G Committee report is attached to these minutes. Highlights from the report are below.
 - ii. The letter from the Board to Amy Elder regarding the construction at Rockledge is attached to these minutes. Amy’s response to that letter is attached as well. The County will be reviewing the project to ensure that the project has complied with the permit given.
 - iii. The Mount Gretna School of Art reached an easement agreement with their neighbors, no MGCA land was affected.
 - iv. Proposals for an engineering infrastructure review were looked at by the Committee. The committee is still getting revisions to the estimates from the interested companies.
 - v. The committee continues its careful investigation of the different trash pickup opportunities for our contract.
 - vi. The committee continues to discuss the problem of water being pumped onto Batdorf Drive. The committee recommends the Board of Managers contact the owners through our attorney to require a solution that does not involve pumping water onto MGCA property.
 - vii. The B&G recommends approval of the building permits presented by the Kantmanns and Don Dale, both for tree trimming.
 - viii. The B&G recommends the Board of Managers write to the owner of the property at 2nd & Boehm to request removal/trimming of bushes and vines that are creating a hazard to walkers.
 - ix. The B&G discussed closing the steps at Pinch Road across from Brown Ave. Ownership of the steps needs to be determined first.
 - x. Question from Margaret Hopkins – Members have contacted her about growing feral cat population and related problems from noise and odor.
Answer: We had worked with someone last year who had grant money to trap, neuter and spay, and release. She received some pushback from the community and then was unavailable for a time. Will reach out to her again to find out if she still has grant money to pursue this project.
- L. Executive Committee – Ted Martin
 - i. A green waste update was sent via e-mail or USPS mail to all Members.
 - ii. We also sent a summer reminder to the community that addressed parking areas, grill use, rental permit applications, and quiet time dates.
 - iii. A warning was issued via e-mail to the owners of 609 6th Street about trash violation. A warning was issued to the owners of 702 4th Street regarding possible noise violations. A warning was issued to the agents of 103 1st Street about noise violations during quiet hours on a Sunday. There was also concern about noise from a party at 105 3rd Street; the owner was contacted.



- iv. Rule 20 and the FAQ has been available online for several weeks. The application, FAQs, and Guidelines will be available as of Thursday and mailed to all Members via e-mail and USPS.

VI. New Business

- i. On a motion by Tammy Travitz, a resolution was adopted unanimously as follows: RESOLVED, That the Board of Managers agrees to make the annual New Year Buzzard Drop part of the Community Activities to be run by Tom Heberling. The next event will take place in the Tabernacle.
- ii. On a motion by Margaret Hopkins and seconded by Barb Myers, a resolution was adopted unanimously as follows: RESOLVED, That the Board of Managers approves the building permit submitted by Don Dale to remove dead limbs overhanging his property as outlined/pictured on his permit application.
- iii. On a motion by Pam Bishop and seconded by Margaret Hopkins, a resolution was adopted unanimously as follows: RESOLVED, That the Board of Managers approves the building permit submitted by Dean & Jenn Kantmann to remove dead limb(s) overhanging their property at 202 Boehm according to the plans submitted.

VII. Old Business

- i. Mt. Gretna Borough has installed flashing speed signs. The Borough Council has passed on information for their plans to control speeding on the main road in Mount Gretna. They are working on line marking for crosswalks and speed control radar signs. There will be a cost of \$20,000 to install four of them. On a motion from Sally Marisic and seconded by Margaret Hopkins, a resolution was discussed and unanimously passed as follows: RESOLVED, That the Board of Managers votes to release \$2,000 from the Seiders fund to support the Borough speed control project as it benefits our community as a whole.
- ii. The Mt. Gretna School of Art reported that they had a late-night home invasion at their property at 411 5th Street. The police were notified; the school does not believe anything was stolen and most importantly no one was harmed.

VIII. MGCA Community Member Comments

- i. Fred Swarr, 301 Bell Ave. Spoke regarding the trash issue. Appealed to the Board to make a decision soon as the dumpster that was originally supposed to be there for a trial period of 3 months has been there much longer.
- ii. Katcha Neale, 502 6th Street. Spoke firstly regarding the dumpsters – she has been using them but finds that they are full by mid-week and not available by the weekend for those who can't put their trash out on Sunday night. Secondly, she is very glad that there will be an absentee ballot. Questioned why the ballot cannot be mailed to the entire MGCA to make it easy for all Members to vote. Finally, she has some experience with feral cats and could offer her help towards that project.
- iii. Irene Rollman, 109 5th Street. The Pot holes on Markwood are dangerous not only for cars but also for pedestrians. Please patch as soon as possible.



- iv. Don Dale, 505 Mills. Is highly supportive of the Borough's efforts to increase pedestrian safety. Would it also be possible to add crosswalks from Boehm to Muhlenberg and from Mills to Brown Ave.?
- v. Christine Slotznick, 507 3rd Street. Noticed a neighbor pulling out building materials from under home and putting in dumpster. Ted responded that the Member should have contacted TNT to make arrangements for the building materials to be disposed of. Christine also asked how the Board would determine who gets rental permits for those Members who are not grandfathered. Ted responded that those specific guidelines have not yet been developed. The committee may wait to see how many applications there are before they address that concern.
- vi. Chuck Erisman, 705 3rd Street. When it is time to work on the 2020 budget, suggests that the line for the Superintendent hours is increased so he can accomplish what he needs to.
- vii. Robin May, 507 5th Street. Asked for more information on the Art School property invasion. Ted did not have further information, but agreed to send a notice to the entire MGCA community at Robin's suggestion.
- viii. Val Swarr, 301 Bell Ave. Asked about dumpster signs. The B&G is still working on getting appropriate signage, were partially waiting until a decision was made regarding trash contracts before deciding on the wording for signs.

Adjournment

On a motion by Ted Martin, the meeting was adjourned at 7:55 pm.

The next regular meeting will be held Tuesday, July 16th at 6:30 pm.

Attachments:

May P&L
Superintendent's Report
B&G Report
MGCA letter to owners of Rockledge
Rockledge owner response

Community Comments presented at meeting:

None


Secretary


Chairman