

Minutes
Young Road Association Annual Meeting
July 14, 2014

Board members present:

President – Margaret McFadden

Treasurer – Tim Wing

Road Commissioner – Bob Pomerleau

Member at Large: Jane Coryell

Board members absent:

Secretary – Ann Buxton

Member at Large: Jim Murphy

11 YRA member households present

16 Proxy votes cast

1. Margaret presented an update on the Board's work this year. First, last August, we received a new road management plan written by Josh Platt of the KSWCD, which made us eligible for 319 grant money. Second, we were able to implement Josh's top recommendations, which were the same as those of last year's board—to repair the stretch of road between the Finnegan's garage and the Smith's house. We did this work in October, using a 60/40 match from the KSWCD. Third, the board met with Robin Tobey in May, and he recommended a less expensive method for dealing with the stretches of road that became so bad in April. Instead of completely rebuilding the road as we have in many places, we will build up the road on top of the existing surface with coarse gravel and then add crushed stone that compacts better as a top layer. Josh Platt agrees with Tobey's recommendation, and the board plans to rebuild as much of the problem areas as possible, given our funds, before the winter freeze. Unfortunately, there is no more money available from the 319 grant, so we are on our own.

Betty Harvey asked whether we would have the same problem of expensive stone having to be pushed off the road during mud season; would we lose our investment in road repairs? Bob Pomerleau and Tim Wing explained that the fabric was designed to keep the new road surface from sinking down into the mud during the thaw. Betty also asked if there were any examples of this more expensive stone being used successfully, and Bob P. explained that Buck and Doe Trail had used this stone and had no problems this spring. Tim Ellis asked whether we shouldn't do a section with fabric and a section without, to see if one was better than the other? Dean Smiley explained that he had done precisely that with two stretches of road near the Murray property and could see no real difference between the two sections now. We agreed that we would discuss this possibility with Robin Tobey. Bob P. has asked Tobey to give us a price per \$100 feet of road building, so we can have some sense of how much we will be able to do. Dean also noted that when we raised the height of the road, we needed to attend to the potential effects on driveways that are now lower than the road.

2. The Secretary's report from 2013 annual meeting was read and a motion to approve the minutes was passed unanimously by the members.

3. Tim Wing presented the Treasurer's report for 2013-14.

Checking: \$4616.92

Savings: \$1775.88

Petty cash: \$ 77.73

Total funds on hand: \$6470.53

Total Deposits: \$7700.00

Total expenses paid 2013: \$7630.14

A motion to accept the Treasurer's report was seconded and passed unanimously.

4. Bob Pomerleau presented the Road commissioner's report. Further discussion of road conditions ensued. Jane Coryell asked if the potholes always appeared in the same locations, and Dean and Bob MacDougall agreed that the answer was yes, and there wasn't much to do about it, as the road surface needed to be rebuilt in many places. Bob M. also noted that the road didn't drain properly because of berms created by the grader, which added to the problem. Bob P. noted that Tobey had explained that raising the road surface would provide adequate material to create a proper crown that would drain well, and that would eliminate the berms. Tim Wing noted that the city was unlikely to approve the road for plowing, given the large rocks that had emerged in recent grading. Bob M. also explained that the large amount of pine needles on the road surface made grading and smoothing the road surface much more difficult. Dean has been using a blower to move some of them, but if every resident could blow or rake the needles off the road near their property, that would be very helpful. This led to a discussion of how best to communicate with residents, many of whom don't use email. Betty suggested calling those residents as the lake association does, or putting flyers in everyone's mailboxes. That also led to a discussion of the low attendance at the meeting, which concerned many present.

A motion was made to accept the Road Commissioner's report as read and all voted to approve.

5. Old business

The ongoing problem of non-paying owners was discussed. We have three year-round homeowners, two part-time homeowners and two non-resident homeowners who didn't pay this year, as well as all 5 island owners and three who own only land. Bob Pomerleau has been investigating our options and has learned that we could also form ourselves into a Statutory Road Association, while still maintaining our status as a non-profit corporation. These would then be one organization, governed by two different sets of laws. The advantage of remaining a non-profit corporation is that it limits our collective liability for damages on the road. The advantage of becoming a Statutory Road Association is that this is a relatively new type of organization, which now has the power

to levy mandatory road fees. We couldn't force anyone to pay, as now, but if anyone didn't pay, by law we could attach a "notice of claim" to their deed each year, and they could not sell or refinance without paying these back fees. These claims also show up on credit reports, which many will want to avoid. This is different from our existing option to put a lien on non-payers' homes, because this new model comes with the power of state law behind it. There was some discussion of this and a motion was made to ask the board to look into this further and bring a proposal to the membership. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously. Dick Harvey pointed out that if we decided to do this, we would need a whole new organizational meeting, to which everyone on the road would have to be invited; this is what the statute requires.

6. New Business: Election of officers and board members

Margaret asked for nominations from the floor, and surprisingly, there were none. A motion was made and seconded to pass the slate of officers and members at large for next year, and was passed unanimously.

A motion was made to adjourn at 7:46.

Respectfully submitted by Margaret McFadden, President