

## **Siteholder Meeting July 3, 2010**

The meeting was called to order in the Red Barn at 10:05a.m.

Roll Call: 60 sites were represented

Minutes from the August 9, 2009 Siteholders Meeting were approved. (Frank Calkins made the motion)

### **General Announcements –**

-On June 18, 2010 the Camp was hit with a large rain/wind storm. Volunteers who helped clean up the damage were asked to stand and be recognized by those in attendance. Siteholders were asked to be patient during the summer-long cleanup process that will be led by Bill Pratt and other volunteers. Siteholders are responsible for cleaning up the debris at their individual sites.

-Caretakers:

As of June 1, 2010 our current caretakers, Jeff and Rhonda Murray resigned from their positions. They will be leaving their residence by July 24, 2010. A committee, John Clancy, Tom Luthy, Janice Johnson, Marilynn Gorawara, and Larry Bergman are in the process of interviewing potential caretaker replacements. Resume's will not be accepted after July 10, 2010.

The job description/contract for the caretaker position was updated last summer by the Contract Committee consisting of Janice Johnson (chairman,) Larry Bergman, Ellen Elrick, Marilynn Gorawara, Leo Krusack and Tim Wixted. During this revision process the committee examined all the necessary tasks for maintaining the camp and concluded that The Prairie Club continues to need a resident caretaker at Camp Hazelhurst and one that is present full time between May and October. This caretaker position can be filled by a couple or single person but there is a preference for a couple. It is important that the caretaker keep a daily log and perform camp work before independent work for the siteholders. During the off-season it is important for the caretaker to handle PC rentals, walk around the camp weekly and after a storm to notify siteholders of any damages or potential harm to cottages. Health Insurance will be up to the caretakers to obtain for themselves. The siteholders may wish to offer extra compensation for this insurance. Laurie Kagann asked that there be a review committee for the caretaker position with a revolving committee member each year. The Camp Chairman replied that the Contract Committee is already in place for this process. A copy of the caretaker job description will be placed in the Hazelhurst Library for those who desire to review the document.

Salary for the new caretakers will have to be increased from the current caretaker salary. After checking with other local organizations, salary guides, and Tom Meyers, the Club Treasurer, the estimated salary could be above \$20,000.00. Our current caretakers receive \$15,000.00 a year, with no health insurance, and are provided with their own

apartment. Siteholders will vote on a caretaker candidate and proposed salary at the August Siteholder Meeting. Finally, the Prairie Club Board will need to approve of the siteholder choice and salary package.

**-Beach Host:**

Janice Johnson hired Joyce Geary for -0- dollars to be our Beach Hostess. Her duties will include welcoming people on the beach and checking status of membership, as necessary. The intent of having a 'Hostess' is to assure, as much as possible, that those who use the Prairie Club beach are siteholders and or/their guests, renters, or season pass holders. . Any problems with uninvited visitors will be referred to the Beach Chair, Larry Bergman.

**-Birchwood:**

Janice received a letter once again from Birchwood to remind us not to walk up the ravine, play in the Birchwood ravine area or take clay from Birchwood, which is private property. Janice will acknowledge their letter.

Suggestions to post a notice on the Beach and Mail House bulletin boards were made. The life guard will be asked to advise kids to stay away from the creek. Highlights will post a notice also.

**-Volunteering:**

Carol Gapen has a list of suggestions for volunteer hour requirements. Storm removal can also be included on this list. Look for this list in the Mail House.

Each site is to volunteer a minimum of 5 hours/year or pay \$100.00 in lieu of volunteering. Extra hours may be given to others.

**-New Siteholders:**

Former Holmes cottage	Matt & Lisa Heller
Ball cottage	now belongs to son Randy
Shales cottage	now belongs to son John

**Presentation and Discussion of Proposed Entrance Plan**

Gerry Donnelly and Deb Kenny presented ideas to improve the entrance to the Camp, including the area behind the barn, and Monday Morning Coffee space. The goal is to improve the appearance to the Camp and to widen the entrance, making it safe and wider for fire truck access.

The intent is to:

- 1 Keep the character of the club in mind
- 2 Move majority of parking behind the barn
- 3 Control dust at the entrance

Briefly, the presentation included moving the current columns back 15 feet and making the entrance wider. (30ftwide), using a possible stone face. The asphalt pad would be made wider not longer. The use of a split rail fence connected to the columns to match other split rail fencing in the club. A stop sign would be installed inside our right of way

with needed approval and permits from Chikaming Township. The area behind the barn would be for guest parking and still have room for the dumpsters. Questions about a need for temporary parking for mail pick up, Bulletin Board reading and loading/unloading for the guests of the Farmhouse were discussed. Suggestions of using the old entrance to empty dumpsters were mentioned, but the area did not have enough room for turning. This area could be evaluated at a later time. The last area of the presentation involved the Monday Morning Coffee area. Wood decking, grass, brick walkways, stone rings with a terrace, a wall with a low seat, or picnic tables were some ideas. The area was to be used in addition as a place for commemorating a loved one either on the brick walk ways or on the wall itself. The designs here would coordinate with the new entrance. These were ideas that Gerry and Deb had come up with and those in attendance were able to ask questions and make comments on what they liked or did not like.

In order to come up with some costs for these improvements a Site Survey is needed to have a better idea of what can and can't be done with this area. An approximate cost for this survey is \$1,500. Janice Johnson has \$3,000 in the budget so the money is available for this expense. Frank Calkins motioned to approve having a Site Survey made so plans to proceed with this area can be made. Motion was seconded and approved.

### **Dudley Painting**

Sally Craig has had the painting restored and appraised for insurance purposes. The estimated value of the painting is \$17,500. Currently the painting is insured for \$11,000/\$12,000. Sally will make sure the painting is insured for the new value. The committee for this painting will decide about storage for the winter and what will be done with the painting as far as keeping it, selling it, or donating it. Where the painting is taken and how it gets there is subject to insurance issues. The plan was to place the painting back in the Hazelhurst library for the summer. Some discussion took place as to whether that would be a good place to be?

### **Committee Reports**

-Fourth of July, Ed Millermeier needs help for before and after set up for the beach cookout.

-Beach and Boats, Larry Bergman reported that the water level was down and there is more beach at the north end of the beach. Caroline Spurgin is the Water Front Director this season. Beach items are to be placed behind the green stakes on the beach path. There are 86 water craft on the property. On the beach board there are drawings for boat spaces. New Beach Rules are located on the back table.

-Beach Walk, John Clancy said the walk is in place and no costs were incurred this season.

-Roads, Don Gray reported that the roads are in good shape and there is a report at the back of the room. Bill Pratt volunteered many hours to put the roads into the good shape

that they are in now. Improvements to be made with regard to depressions, materials used, and dust.

-Red Barn, Many expenses and repairs were made to improve the barn. North wall repairs, water line re-routed, bathroom repairs, and the exterior of the barn was painted. Posters, some new some old have been put up. Damage from the Pileated Woodpecker was discovered. Calendar for July is on the Bulletin Board. Check with Carol Gapen for use of the barn. Spare micro-wave in the kitchen.

-Camp Council, The Camp Council met June 19<sup>th</sup> with a discussion of possibly more gas grills due to over crowding at the Farm House. A suggestion was made to place additional grills near the Memorial Rock by Buena Vista. Costs for grills being sought, and will be brought for a vote at the August Siteholder Meeting.

-Highlights, Fran Graef takes care of printing and typing up the paper. Sue Tingle puts the paper together for distribution. She will put up a sign up sheet for help the Thursday before the issue is to come out.

-Trash, Large dumpster will be located behind the barn May 1<sup>st</sup> till the beginning of November. You may throw what ever into this dumpster. Off season there will be no dumpsters and only a few of the garbage totes for household waste.

-Conservation, Native plants in the legacy garden are attracting butterflies. Mondays will be work days and there are gloves/tools in the barn for working on the garden. Red Barn program July 10<sup>th</sup> will host a conservation speaker. Bitter sweet is taking over at Sun Set Point and several areas in the Camp. Conservation Walks posted on the Bulletin Board.

-Monday Morning Coffee, Coffees are held July 5, 2010 to September 6, 2010 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00p.m. (Michigan Time) You can bring your own cup.

-Entertainment, July 17<sup>th</sup> is the only open evening for the season. Check the Bulletin Board and Highlights for programs and times.

-Tennis, Courts are open and ready for business. Clean up times will be posted.

-Library, New books were purchased in the amount of \$450.00 and there is still \$50.00 left to spend. Please return books in the return box or on days that the library is open.

-Grounds and Equipment, Repairs of new wood slates were made to the footbridge. The Old Beach path was also worked on.

-Building and Sites, No requests have been made at this time.

-Historical, Patty Craig gave Carol Gapen posters for the Red Barn that was from programs from 1935 to the 1970's. Pictures were taken of all the cottages and updated in

the Historical files for the Camp. Patty still needs life guard records from the past. New Siteholder information needs to be given to Patty.

-Memorial Service, The date for this will be sometime in August.

-Treasurer, The current bank account balance is \$4091.77.

-Recreation Area/Jr. Clubhouse, Two new swing sets have been installed. Candy Longo and Ann Cilla are chairs.

-Ice Cream Social, Diane Spurgin to chair, social to be held the second week in August.

-Jr. Events, Cindy Rapp Kilborn has things planned. Look for times on the Bulletin Board.

-Farm House, The inside of the Farmhouse has been renovated. The outside of the building was painted also. The Farmhouse is open for renters.

-Buena Vista, Paula Flannigan has concerns about proposed grills. She and her co-chair are gathering information.

-Family Cottage, Rented for most of the season. A plaque will be hung up in August.

Motion by Marilyn Gorawara to adjourn, seconded. Meeting adjourned at 12:34p.m.

June Wehmer from Semco Energy spoke briefly at the end of our meeting with regard to Siteholders having an option to install natural gas in their cottages. Everyone was given a hand out and could meet with her after the meeting for questions and information.

Respectfully submitted by,  
Karen Rosenthal