

Meeting of the Morningstar Lake Association - Minutes

Monday, May 25, 2009

10:00 a.m. at Lot #27 - - Eldon and Pat James

(Action items underlined)

1. Meeting called to order by President Dan Pleasant at 10:15 a.m. - - 23 of 37 lots were represented.
2. Minutes of the May 26, 2008 annual meeting - - motion by D. Loschen to approve, second by J. Crawford, approved unanimously.
3. Treasurer's Report: Beginning balance in checking account \$1247.93; Receipts of \$14,800 (annual dues); Expenses of \$13,168.09; Ending balance checking account \$2879.84. Savings account balance \$6748.02. Total balance \$9627.86. Treasurer Jim McCabe recommended no increase in Morningstar dues for this year (\$150.00/lot). Motion to approve by J. Clarke, second by E. James, approved unanimously.
4. The new Summerwood Lakes Association Directory was received by all present.
5. D. Loschen presented the report from the Summerwood Board of Directors:
 - Problems with the front gate. All had received an e-mail from President Russ Bayer, and were familiar with the problem. No concerns about the Summerwood board action. Discussion about leaving the gate open during daylight hours and closed after sundown during the summer months. Motion for Morningstar to go on record as favoring this option was voted down. Another motion for Morningstar to go on record as approving leaving the gate open during the daylight hours during the weekends and holidays for the four summer months passed unanimously. This will be presented to the Summerwood Board for their consideration.
 - New Road. Loschen presented this topic. No concerns were expressed by those present.
 - Collection area. With the recent new person retained to care for this area, no concerns were expressed. All were appreciative of this service.
 - Fireworks. Fireworks will be on Saturday, 4 July. (Rain date Sunday, 5 July). Some expressed that the fireworks should start sooner than they have in the past few years - - many children have been in bed before the display starts. This will be referred to the Summerwood Board for their consideration.
 - Surveillance cameras. Loschen acknowledged that there continue to be problems with resolution, lighting, etc., and that the Summerwood Board continues to work on it.
 - Water quality. Loschen reviewed the problems experienced by Bucktail and Sundance lakes. So far, Morningstar has checked out OK, although some concern was expressed about the turbidity of the water this year, and the fact that there seems to be more algae and plant growth in the past two years than in the past.

Loschen assured the group that Summerwood would continue periodic sampling of the lake to assure water quality. In the meantime, the following recommendations were made to decrease the likelihood of deterioration of the Morningstar water:

- Control the use of fertilizer on lawns that drain into the lake.
 - Use only phosphate-free fertilizer
 - Recommend pumping septic tanks every two or three years
 - Recommend mulch-mowing to decrease the need for fertilizer
 - All lot-owners should be careful about the kind of detergent utilized.
 - When using Roundup-like chemicals, the suggestion is to use “Rodeo” brand, which is safe for lakeside use.
 - Everyone should check with their custom lawn care services to be sure they use only appropriate phosphate-free fertilizer.
- Gate keys. Anyone who does not have a gate key for the north front gate should contact Loschen or R. Bayer.
 - Maintenance of the front gate commons area. Loschen reported that the Bucktail Lake Association is taking care of this in return for \$200/month for the four summer months, paid by the Summerwood Lake Association.
 - Watering system for the commons area. Put on hold at this time, in light of the anticipated expense of rebuilding/repairing the front gate.
 - Tree donations. Anyone desiring to contribute a tree to the commons area is asked to contact Merlin Hansen for specific instructions.
 - Road grading and snow removal. Loschen reported that Don Watt is taking care of snow removal for all Summerwood roads. Clint Hoffman (Heron Point) is taking care of the grading of all lake roads except Bucktail, which Watt is doing. Clint will do the grading whenever he thinks it is necessary, but if anyone has a problem, or if they think it needs grading earlier, they are asked to contact Eldon James (lot 21), or the Summerwood representatives (Bayer or Loschen), rather than contacting Clint directly. Also, if anyone wants to do special grading on the road adjacent to their own property, that will be satisfactory.
 - Gravel. Summerwood board was under the impression that Merrick County was donating 100 yards of gravel annually to the Summerwood community. However, Dennis Walker has talked with a Merrick County supervisor, and was told that they didn't know anything about it. Dennis will follow up on this.
 - Summerwood “Marshall”. Loschen reported that no definitive action was taken by the Summerwood Board on this issue, although it had been discussed at length. Morningstar lot owners were asked to report names, license plate numbers, etc., to their Summerwood representatives serious violations of Summerwood Lake Association Rules (included in the Summerwood Lake Association Directory).
 - Fiber-optic program of Clarks Telephone Company. No definitive communication has been received by any of the lot owners about exactly what services are to be offered, although rumors abound. Summerwood Board was asked to look into

this and ask the Clarks Telephone Company to communicate with Morningstar lot-owners. Any damage caused by the placement of the fiber-optic cable (cut power or telephone lines, damage to underground sprinkler systems, etc.) should be reported to Jerry Brown at (402)670-0304.

6. Boat ramp. Much concern was expressed about the ongoing problems with Morningstar's boat ramp. Russ Bayer has been unsuccessful in finding a contractor to resolve the situation. Several suggestions were forthcoming. Dennis Walker volunteered to speak with Jerry Westring (of Stromsburg), to see if he would consider contracting with Morningstar to definitively correct the problem.
7. July 4th Celebration. Linda McCabe and Evelyn Herbig will be in charge again this year. Due to lack of response, several events will not be held this year (pedal-boat races, fishing contest, boat parade, book exchange, golf cart decoration). Those events with excellent participation will continue (noon cook-out, scavenger hunt, kiddies games at James cabin). New events will be shore decorations, pony rides at McCabe's cabin, and other surprises. This year's theme will be "The Wild, Wild West". Further information will be forthcoming to all lot-owners from Linda and Evelyn.
8. Golf outing. Deb McCarty is in charge of this. She will check on the availability of a golf venue and a date. It may not be possible to hold this event this year. Discussion was held about a catered dinner in lieu of a golf outing. Jim Crawford and Deb McCarty will check on this and notify all Morningstar lot-owners.
9. Discussion about the break-ins that occurred at Summerwood. Culprits have been apprehended.
10. Speeding along the south side of Morningstar Drive. Much discussion was held about this problem. Apparently one or two individuals from other lakes have been repeat offenders, and there was genuine concern about safety in this area of Morningstar Drive. There was discussion about installing a "dip" in the road, and it was pointed out that only the Summerwood Board had the jurisdiction to consider doing this. Additional signage was also discussed. Loschen (Summerwood Board member) suggested that the Morningstar President, speaking for the Board, generate a letter to the Summerwood President, asking the Summerwood board to address this issue, since Summerwood is responsible for all roads in the Summerwood complex. There was discussion about closing the "shortcut" from the pavement to Morningstar drive south of the refuse pit area. It was moved, seconded, and approved to install posts at the beginning of the Morningstar commons area by the refuse pit, to allow golf carts only on this road. There was concern expressed that Morningstar not do anything to disturb the general good relationships that are enjoyed with other lake associations in the Summerwood complex.
11. Cleanup on and around the Big Island. Discussion was held about some policing of dead trees, etc., along the lake and on the Big Island. Morningstar President will pick a day (probably a Saturday morning) and notify all lot-owners. It was thought that 2 hours would be plenty time to accomplish this, if enough volunteers came forth.
12. Issue of shallow spots on the "back side" of the lake. Eldon James volunteered to look into a solution.

13. Election of Officers. Eldon James moved and Clarke Woodruff seconded to re-elect both board members for an additional 3-year term. Bob Herbig and Deb McCarty were therefore re-elected for terms to expire in 2012.
14. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:45 a.m.
15. Meeting of the Morningstar Board of Directors.
 - a. A meeting of the Morningstar Board was held immediately following the Annual Meeting.
 - b. The dues for the coming year were set at \$400 (\$150 for Morningstar and \$250 for Summerwood). Checks to be mailed or taken to Jim McCabe (lots 17, 18) or to 3303 Gettysburg Drive; Lincoln, NE 68516.
 - c. Linda Robinson-Rutz was elected President for 2009
 - d. Jim Luethje was elected Vice-President for 2009, to ascend to the Presidency in 2010.
 - e. Russ Bayer was re-elected Secretary.
 - f. Jim McCabe was re-elected Treasurer.
 - g. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

D. J. Loschen (for Russ Bayer, Secy.)