



SKY MEADOWS RANCH

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

DECEMBER 19, 2009 UNAPPROVED MEETING MINUTES

President – Colin Ferrin

509-674-4667 - home

colinf@wildblue.net

Vice President – Jay Schmid

360-871-9414 – home

360-689-3359 – cell

jays@wavecable.com

Secretary – Joyce Munson

360-779-8279 – Poulsbo

509-674-0210 – Cle Elum

joymuns3@aol.com

Treasurer – Linda Wood

253-678-4305 – cell

linwd64@hotmail.com

Water – Vacant

Firefly - Pierson Smith

425-303-1838 – home

425-418-9926 – cell

piersonkjr1@verizon.net

Roads – Vacant

Fire & Safety - Jay Schmid

360-871-9414 – home

360-689-3359 - cell

Buildings & Grounds – Kris Johnson

509-674-4910 – home

509-304-8458 - cell

bkjohnson1@aol.com

Architectural – Licia Miller

425-766-6282 – home

liciabrown50@hotmail.com

Info Liaison & Activities – Julie Ring

253-630-6637 – home

redhogz@MSN.com

WEBSITE –

www.skymeadowsranch.org

The meeting minutes are available online

Caretaker phone #s

Lodge – 509-674-7753 message only

Shawn – cell 509-304-8459

(days off Wed/Thurs)

Bunkhouse reserv. 509-304-8458

TO REPORT A FIRE – 911

800-562-6010 - DNR

REMINDERS:

If notification of a members wish to speak at the board meeting is not received by the president by Friday at 5 pm one week prior to the meeting, you will not be on the agenda and will not be asked to speak.

Anyone wanting minutes e-mailed, please contact the secretary.

All meetings are taped and kept for history purposes.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Colin Ferrin, Jay Schmid, Linda Wood, Julie Ring, Licia Miller, Kris Johnson

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Joyce Munson (surgery)

The meeting was called to order by president, Colin Ferrin at 9:03 a.m.

PRESIDENT'S REMARKS:

1. Board meetings will be semi-monthly until spring. Julie agreed if all board members are more responsive about their e-mails and address the issues promptly. Julie also feels that every other month is the most we can go between board meetings. This will be readdressed in the spring.
2. Colin asked Bruce Polenske to join the board. Bruce accepted as part-time, as he is gone 6 months out of the year. Board does need someone for more input on roads and water. Julie Ring states she has had conversation with another member who may be interested in being on the board to work as part time road in conjunction with Bruce. Scott Combs suggested having more than one person on some committees. Colin stated that people do not even offer to help on the board.
3. Received letters from Trent Ely, Exe LLC, & Elk Mountain LLC – the gates will be open in the winter if people will stay on roads. Two chances and they will close gates again. A copy of the Exe, LLC letter is included with minutes.
4. Colin understands that the West entrance will be open also.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Joyce Munson (Absent)

October Minutes corrections:

Dale Degour

1. Treasurer's report was incorrect concerning fire wise dollars.
2. Also fire wise pile cut off date was incorrect. Fire wise forms for hours worked may be sent in all year.

Motion 09-050 was made by Jay Schmid/2nd by Linda Wood to accept October meeting minutes. Passed unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Linda Wood

1. Last month's bills approved by e-mail vote (no meeting)
2. This month, wrote two checks after last detail. Check number 9220 for \$77.55 to Shawn for mileage to Yakima for water class he attended and check 9221 to Simplified Technologies for \$312.14 for our 1st month's internet and upgrade of equipment.
3. Linda explained checks for new water meters, repair parts for meters due to frost plugs blowing out in freezing weather.

4. Colin – reminded that Sky Meadows will no longer be a Wi-Fi spot for members. Old provider gave service for free. New provider charges fee we cannot afford to do. It would be \$128.00 a month plus \$400.00 to upgrade equipment so we opted to discontinue this service. We must have internet in office for Fire-fly. Linda asked about paying the bill monthly, semi-annually, or annually. It was decided she would talk to bookkeeper and make the decision.
5. Joe will research with provider and see if anything can be done to provide the Wi-Fi service in lodge for members.

Motion 09-051 was made by Linda Wood/ 2nd by Kris Johnson to approve checks 9207 through 9221 for monthly bills. Motion passed unanimously.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

WATER: Given by Colin, Shawn, & Kris.

1. 24 water leaks reported. Taneum tank is recovering and now has 200 inches. Sawmill tank is empty again.
2. Shawn, Kris, Bob have been chasing frozen/broken water meters – 23 so far. Discussion regarding insulation on meters – 80% freeze up on non-resident meters. Verne & Linda have gone thru Div IV turning off all water to lots of members who are not here or not expected to be here.

ROADS: No report.

ARCHITECTURE: Licia Miller Licia reminded that topping trees is the same as removing and needs approval of Architecture.

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS: Kris Johnson – no report.

ACTIVITIES: Julie Ring

1. Christmas party with Santa – not many kids in attendance but it was fun for all those present. The kids decorated cookies made by Amy Casto.
2. We want to send a special thank you to Amy for the cookies and Kris for decorating the lodge.

FIRE & SAFETY: Jay Schmid (**deferred to Dale DeGour**)

DALE –

1. Posted evacuation I-90 signs from Eastgate to I-90.
2. Completed tree canopy cleanup alongside about 90% of Sky Meadows roads.
3. Received a check for \$12,000, which will give to Linda, from the conservation district. We just need to cosign it and send it on.
4. Sent Jay an e-mail, which he will do again, of all his contacts, e-mail addresses, and a list of the fire-wise hours not submitted since the last grant that we can put on the next one and also sent a spreadsheet of an example of how to fill it out from the last one so that we can just make a copy of it and just start filling in the numbers.
5. I will no longer be on the fire-wise committee (he resigned). I need my name removed from the meeting minutes cover sheet. I will be done with that. I will be available if there are any questions about anything – how to get it done – grant wise and what not. Jay, I also sent you a pretty wordy e-mail describing how to do the grants. We won't go over that now though. I will continue to be the Fire-wise Community USA President unless someone else wants to do it. One thing that this does – you are asking why we are even involved in this. – 1) it helps us get grant money to a destination. 2) There are definite benefits. As an example, when they start to prioritize a disaster plan in case there is a fire, we get 1st priority. So there are definite benefits to having this designation. I have a copy of all this stuff. Jay, since this is a slow time of the year, I will contact the lady that sent me all that stuff and have her send us a whole other folder with everything so that you can read up, so that you can get educated on what that is all about.
6. The Conservation District wants to come to our next meeting, which is going to be February, if it is okay with you. They want to come to discuss the Fire-wise Community USA - what that all means and whatnot. It is pretty interesting. (Julie asks if this is for the membership.) Dale – yes, for the membership to know what that is all about would be great. The more the membership knows what they are providing to us, sure. (Linda asks if this is a confirmed event so that it can be put in newsletter portion). Dale will confirm – it is actually Suzanne's district manager, Anna Lael who wants to come. That is who I should ask and contact to get _____ (not audible on tape, 2 people talking). She said she can call me about that.
7. I have bills for payment that I am submitting to Linda, all except for one. I already talked to her about that. I just could not get copies of that very last bill we have. I will submit those to Linda for payment. It looks

like we are going to have somewhere in the neighborhood of just under \$5,000.00 cash going into next year along with I will give all the finalized hours that did not go on the last grant and then I will have to give you my green book of all the people who that I have tracked down and put down their names but they haven't given their _____ (not audible on tape, 2 people talking) yet. That is all I can think of right now. I left my minutes on the computer at home and I have just jotted down what I can think of.

8. Kris – "how it is determined which trees go and which trees stay. We say it is fire-wising for in case there is a fire along the way. I feel that there is a lot of unnecessary trees taken that and one that I can think of in particular is going up two-springs road just before the big tank, there is a trailer on the right hand side as you are going up and he had his driveway kind of with one giant tree – there is no other trees anywhere. Prime tree – HUGE – it is gone. And if it is for fire-wising to prevent the forest fire from taking over our property, why aren't the dead trees being removed along the right-away also.

Dale - "as far as I – along all the roads I did, anything I saw dead, even though sometimes they like to keep the snags, if I felt they were going to fall over the road like they did last year, I marked them to be taken down.

Kris – "but they are not just ones that are going to fall down.

Dale – "I mean if they are potentially dead or diseased, and that tree may very well have been diseased.

Kris – "Okay, but I can go along and find you a lot of dead trees that have never been removed that are a hazard. And none of that kind of stuff went and there are not dead trees on our pile down here that were ground up and they obviously did not haul them away with the prime log. I am real dissatisfied with the fire-wise, with the way –

Dale – (Dale's answer is not distinguishable as he was talking while Kris was talking) maybe if they could have contacted me when all this stuff was going on, maybe I could have come over. All I can say, is I marked the trees, the dead or diseased came down and in some cases as on Memory Lane as you are going down, up on the hill, those things were deader than doornails. Were they outside the distance from the center of the road – yes! But because they were so dead, I mean they were dead from the ground up to the tips.

Kris – "we have a real unhappy person down there because of the not dead ones that were removed that were on part of his property.

Dale – "1) everybody knows, I put it in the newsletter for months – not once, not twice – at least five times. Only one person, and you know who was the one phone call I got. So if anybody had any concerns, it was their responsibility to call me. If during this, anybody was home, I knocked on the door and telling them this is what I am doing, marking trees, do you have any concerns? Only one case, down Memory Lane, 2nd or 3rd lot on the right, _____ (not audible, 2 people talking. He asked me not to take down the one tree. Other than that, I did not have anybody that I spoke to that said don't do this or don't do that. (Rest of answer and person who spoke is not audible on tape).

OLD BUSINESS:

1. E-mail from John Hanson regarding the use last month of 'the Hanson brothers'. He asks that we be specific about which brother is being quoted. John also owns power sports business and is interested in putting something on our website for advertising.
2. Colin – camera used for pictures of Sky Meadows did not belong to Sky Meadows. It is privately owned and not maintained by Sky Meadows.
3. Colin – chip pile in lower lot is to be placed on berm in the spring for soil retention.
4. Julie – fence on berm – straw bales will be put in front of two posts.
5. Trailer in lower lot has been moved. Board has given their permission for now.
6. Eileen Polenske asked about poles Cindy Thomson donated. This project is on Jay's list for spring and summer.
7. The dog issue at 1011 Sky Meadows Drive was discussed. Five letters have been sent to the property owner who declines to pick up the certified letters from the postal service. Another letter will be going out addressing the fines. Licia stated that the sheriff has asked that we call them with any incident and they will contact Christina. Officer McBride's number is 509-962-7525.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. The Sky Meadows logo that Shawn designed is ready:
 - a. If we provide sweatshirts, our cost is \$20.00 for logo.
 - b. If business provides the hooded sweatshirts, our cost is \$37.00; windbreakers, our cost is \$47.00.
 - c. The logo can be reduced to 4 1/2 inches for patches, which has not been done at this time.
 - d. We will display a sweatshirt in the lodge and members may contact Shawn to order.
 - e. The Shirt Shop in Ellensburg has done the logo work.
2. Colin – per John Hanson, can we include classified section on the website? Joe Porkka will set it up so that members can post ads themselves. Small classified ads for members are cost free.
3. Advertising for businesses was discussed. A charge to defray the cost of the newsletter/minutes. We will use a business card or small picture. It will be \$25.00 per month. It will be on both minutes and website on a trial basis. Business only for ads. .
4. Linda – discussion regarding property management for association in the future. Colin has looked into this previously – the cost is high but members want more now and are not willing to be on the board. This may be an option. Linda will be looking into costs for future reference.

Motion 09-052 was made by Kris/2nd by Colin to adjourn meeting at 10:58 AM. Passed unanimously

NEWSLETTER ITEMS --