

Honoco Road Association Annual Meeting

May 3, 2014

Meeting open 1:05pm

In Attendance: Christina and Stephen Morse, Teresa and Larry Lipfert, Ed Ausborn, Maureen McNamara, Monica Moll, Marge Callahan, Jim Orman, Tom Holland, Bill Kramer, Deb and Tom Yaeger, David and Faye Schwartz, Craig Lounesbury, Keith and MaryAnn Vincent, John Kittredge, Teresa Michel, Jim Ambrose, Joe Clare, Bruce and Carol Wolf, Rob Kramer, Bill and Eleanor Button, Barb Siany

Review of Last Year's Meeting Minutes 2012-2013

- Note was made to adjust minutes under **General Discussion** ~~Mr Button~~ to Christina Morse trying to collect information regarding town and county taxes on area homes to present with the 2012 tax information collected on our homes and to prepare presentation to towns to ask for help with road costs. Mr. Button and Mr Kraus offered to assist

- Maureen McNamara requested, on behalf of Irene Grant that minutes to be sent after the meeting, feels it is not enough to have them posted. – will move discussion to new business

Motion to accept last year's minutes

Deb Yager 1st, Barb Siany 2nd, all in Favor – no objections. Minutes stand as read with noted correction.

Treasurer Report

2013 – 2014

Total dues collected – \$15,340

Total expenses – 15,290.86 (included 2 bills from 2012-13)

2014 - 2015

Total Dues collected –\$3,695 to date

Bank Summary:

Beginning Balance May 1, 2013: \$1,055.51

Positive revenue \$49.14

4/22/14 Balance \$1,104.65

5/3/14 Current Balance \$4,799.65

Question was asked regarding: What is equipment and labor? What is road work paving? Paving \$3700,

Request by Bill Kramer to have labor and equipment separated out in Treasurer's report in future.

Motion to approve

David Schwartz made a motion to approve, second by Tom Holland, All in Favor with no objections

Potholes were filled on the road, multiple 10 wheeler loads in December and once again a few weeks ago. It is important for all homeowners to keep road area open and passable for emergency vehicles & fire safety.

Thanks to many residence who volunteered and dropped everything in order to help clear slides and sluices – Larry, Craig, Lewis

The Road Committee has become more robust and the comradriere demonstrated will make work easier and completed faster.

Road Committee Report

Residence are very pleased with paving improvements from last year – if there are any problems will need to fix, please contact Lambert.

There is an interest in continuing the paving initiative as a way to reduce long term maintenance costs for the Road Association. There are already benefits being seen from the work done last year (more potholes filled by fewer people in less time and less cost). We know that stone is not the long term answer and that it does not last – Motion was made to offer incentive for individual homeowners who are interested in paving their section of Road, The Road Association will come forward and waive 2015-16 and 2016-17 dues (\$300 incentive), a discussion ensued.

Mr. Button raised a concern that the dues were originally set up not exclusively for maintenance, but if incentives were being offered, that it would seem that that was the purpose.

Larry Lipfert pointed out that where we pave we don't have to repair, we have a drivable surface and the Association saves money with the paved surfaces, and this year there was approximately 4,000 feet of blacktop that required no maintenance.

Mrs. Button pointed out that speed is a concern. She feels that a blacktop surface increases the speed of the drivers. She witnesses, all winter, people speeding in and out. Comments were made about speed bumps and speed humps. The viability of speed control humps and the need for having them be uniform and of reasonable height. If they are, then they serve a good purpose.

Terry Mitchell raised a concern about the road being raised 3–5 inches and needing to spend \$ to raise her door. She also raised a concern about people speeding on the blacktop.

Speed bumps/humps are an option – but the Road Association will control the size and amount of speed bumps/humps to be used.

Proposal of Sealing for those who did it last year –
And Waiving 2 years of dues for those who pave –

Road is essentially broken down into 3 sections

A – 1/3 has the majority of all the traffic

B – 1/3 middle section 1/2 again of that amount of traffic

C – 1/3 past Town Line Gully has very limited use

In a few years – if individuals continue to choose to pave their properties, the Road Association will be able to reduce the dues.

Questions about the proposed stipend for those who had paved previous discussed...

Larry Lipfert commented that this year, we were able to filled potholes in 2 days with fewer people and fewer loads of stone, this presents a savings in time and dollars for the Road Association.

Vote for stipend for those who blacktop –

John Kittredge made a first motion, Jim Ambrose 2nd, In Favor 22, none against, the motion was passed

Mr. Button – stated, “Stipend has to be agreed upon”, clarifications were made. Stipend in form of waived dues of 2015-16 and 2016-17 (@\$300, with 2016-17 dues amount unknown until next year’s meeting)

Ditches will be cleaned, at the end of May beginning of June this year.

Statements were made about needing to support Steve and Christina Morse and the work they contribute to Honoco Road. If anyone can find others who will do the work on Honoco Road – cheaper than Steve – Please hire them or let Association’s Road Committee know. Steve has \$45,000 of equipment, tied up on the road many times, he generally does not charge for his labor. He does however, charge for hours on his equipment.

Mr. Lounsbury and Mrs. Moll have had Steve Morse help with their culverts.

Discussion Mr. Jim Ambrose, he suggested the water cooler talk be stopped. He said Steve’s wife is the Treasurer and he is not suggesting mistrust but Steve Morse own construction business – issue Honoco Inc invoice itemizes for work done ... trucks ... machines, labor. Steve Morse stated members who work on road are paid out of Association – Steve Morse reiterated if committee can find the work to be done cheaper he is all for it. Christina Morse has all the bills and checkbook available for anyone to look at and are available at today’s meeting or anytime.

Decision made that Ed Ausborn, Chair of Road Committee, will sign off on all bills and invoices to be paid.

President Report

The Association needs to put in sluices and improve drainage in multiple problem areas which have been identified and prioritized. It should reduce overall maintenance costs in landslides and erosion. New drain tile also needs to be put in.

The Road Committee has developed and purchased 14 signs for \$240.00, they will be going up. The concerns about steel cleat tracks/ wheel vehicles was discussed.

Mr. Button raised the question of how to enforce the weight of vehicles?

Steve Morse suggested when a homeowner is working on a major project, perhaps they send a permit form to Association, a form of awareness. Making the contractor responsible for clean-up and consideration for use and scheduling of Honoco Road. Providing a means of notice to the Community. Establishing a network of people working together look out for neighbors – friends / family -

It is a sign of courtesy and good faith. Eventually weight restriction will be imposed to prevent damage to the road. None of us intentionally want to cause damage to the road.

Trucks have become an issue and are doing damage to the road. Suggestion of implementing a permit with a cost possibly \$20 (amount would be agreed upon)? If you are a homeowner and you see problem it would be helpful to call Road Chair, Ed Ausborn or call Road President, Steve Morse. We all need to do diligence – it all starts with us, our community. If we have a project – ask the contractor to bring material in on small trucks, instead of one large one. Our road cannot take the heavy trucks and some season's heavy truck use/work should be avoided due to a soft road base.

Culvert cleaning has become an issue for several residents. Requests from several homeowners with culverts asking for help with general maintenance of the culvert. Culvert maintenance has always been the responsibility of homeowner, but in slides the Association has cleared the debris without back billing individual homeowners.

Moll's, Cunningham's, Huntley's, Kittredge's and other property owners have been paying on a regular basis as well as working to keep the culverts clean. Does anyone think that the road association should pay partial perhaps 50% of one cleaning per year? While the official responsibility is to the homeowner, there is a benefit to the road and the association to keeping the functionality of these culverts.

Robert Kramer made a motion, Ambrose 2nd, all in favor – passed to help with 50% cost of one maintenance cleaning of culvert per year, however cost needs to be approved prior to work.

Discussion about cliff issue and slides. With paving should the DEC be involved? Farmers are changing the land – cleared logs above Steve Green's land, last year's

NYSEG tree trimming removed a lot of our foliage that protected cliff from flash runoff as some examples discussed.

Mr. Lambert discussion about sealing oil & stone versus blacktop. Annual sealing not as important with blacktop. Discussion that blacktop cost similar to the stone and oil cost. Cost of blacktopping at \$2 a sq foot, all pay the same price – Lambert & Sons (607) 327 – 1890 is one of the options for paving – They did the work last year, Mr. Lambert answered questions for people.

- Question - Is there a benefit to sealing when you have oil & stone – Answer – not as important
- Question: How do you make sure there is a good base – Answer – re-grade / compaction/ vibratory roller. Base is important. Honoco has a good base, once pitched properly, and sealed will form solid surface to shed water off road rather than capturing the water.
- Most vulnerable time for the blacktop is March to May due to thaw and rains, puts the base at risk.

Ed Ausborn has list to coordinate blacktopping if interested: 1708 Honoco or email rollie.boy@hotmail.com

Thank you expressed to Craig Lounsbury for plowing the snow. A family that needed to go to hospital in middle of night. Very important for road access year round.

Current Stipend in Bylaws– President 1%, Treasurer 1.5% and Secretary 1.5%,

Motion by Tom Holland to Increase stipend to 2%, 3% & 3%

Joe Clare 2nd, all in favor, none opposed, Stipend increased.

Motion by Joe Clare to keep 2015-16 dues \$150 keep at same amount as this year, we hope to reduce in future as soon as feasible.

David Schwartz 2nd, all in favor, none opposed, motion passed

Vote in new secretary – Christina Morse Nominated **Maureen McNamara** – she accepted Joe Clare agreed and Tom Holland 2nd, all in favor. Maureen is new Secretary.

Mr. Wolf proposed that next year's meeting date be moved to 3rd Saturday in May

Motion made by Tom Holland and Tom Yager 2nd - All in favor

Motion by Barb Siany to move dues year to May 1st to April 30th with dues due by May 1st and Maureen McNamara 2nd, Motion passed – all in favor

A Petition is available for your signature to support our request for the Town of Genoa & Town of Ledyard to help us with raw materials for the road. We will ask for gravel to be sold to the Association at a reduced rate or perhaps help with delivery, this is being circulated, please sign.

Secretary Report

Individuals Paid Last Year – 123 paid, 18 unpaid (11 never pay, 7 are alt access)

Individuals Paid so far this year – 39 paid so far.

The error in previous bills for past 5 years as the alternate access rate is 50% of current dues was not corrected this year and should **have been \$75 this year- amended bills will be sent out to Alternative Residents (Brown, Deer Trail, Lake Road etc)**

A suggestion was raised about coordinating a ‘Road BBQ’ at the end of the summer. In the past members met at Long Point for a picnic. Question if there was interest. General consensus in the room was positive. Ed & Maureen volunteered their band, Restless to play. Will look to August to coordinate a date.

Tree Trimming Work Group - - 6/14/14 – 8:30 – 11:30am meet at Honoco / Deer Trail Road. Bring gloves, clippers, golf carts Please mark with a ribbon any trees that you don’t want cut.

Generous Donation for this event of \$150 made by Mr. & Mrs. Schwartz for Donuts coffee & beverages for the work group!!! Thank you VERY MUCH!

A question was asked about individuals who do not pay their dues and how enforcement can improved. Reply indicated that there is ‘little back-up’ through the Bylaws, however, some of the deeds to individual properties state the dues must be paid. Christina gave the example of Deer Trail Road where all deeds have ‘clause’ requiring them to be ‘in good standing’. In addition, many banks are asking property owners to provide a statement of ‘good standing’ when they close on their sale. This is a good opportunity to instate a ‘clause’ in a deed for the future owner’s contract for payment.

Interest in restarting the Welcoming Committee for new owners: take small gift, directory and by-laws: info about the Association. Several members stated they are interested in helping with this: Maureen Mcnamara, Mary Ann Vincent, Linda Kittredge, Christina Morse

Mrs. Button – inquired if the calcium was applied to the road last year. Due to the rain, it was not done. It is necessary for conditions to be dry for the calcium to be applied. We need to wait for good weather, our intention is to apply this year.

Mailing meeting minutes – Additional Mailing - Concern was shared about the cost of additional mailings, there was a suggestion of emails, however concerns about individuals having limited access as well as email addresses incorrect and changing often. There are also encumbrances with large emailing’s. Not a reliable means of communication. A suggestion to list serve – there is a sort of listserve on Honoco, however only 20 emails can be sent at a time, so it is actually multiple listserve, Honoco1, Honoco2, etc. We will plan to post minutes on Website and mail summary of minutes this year.

Christina spent a great deal of time developing a Website:
<http://honocoroad.wix.com/honocoinc> Please check it out, it is very informational, and truly very user-friendly!

Tom Holland shared a new company for anyone who is having trouble with Propane costs – new company out of Auburn – He saved \$2 gallon.

Meeting ended at 3:11pm

Respectfully,
Teresa Lipfert