

## Honoco Road Association Meeting minutes

5/16/2015

1.

Maureen McNamara, Secretary, passed out agenda and minutes from last year.

1:00 pm. Steve Morse, President, called the meeting to order.

### **Introductions and welcome of new owners:**

Bob King, 1129; Curt and Shelly Kenyon, 1751; Dave Walkup, 1045 and Laura Campbell 1441.

Mr. Nobles gave a brief history of Honoco Road. Tedd Honos, Rey Nobels and Ralph Cornelius named the road. Mr. Nobles has been there since 1971 and just turned 94.

**Review of last year's minutes:** Maureen McNamara, Secretary. New directories handed out. Larry Lipfert donated paper and copies of directory. Approval of last year minutes – All in favor. Maureen McNamara stated that we do address comments or concerns raised by members. Some members include comments with their dues and we do address them. There are forms on the front table to make comments and/or changes.

**Treasurer's report:** Christina Morse, Treasurer. We had a rough year. See expense report. Last year there was a request for formal detailed reports which is what we developed this year. The date on the report is 4/11/04 – 5/23/15. The date is incorrect. The correct date is 4/11/14.

At the end of year we had negative revenue. With dues collected minus expenses as of 5/12/15 we have a small surplus. 131 members paid. 8 people paid partials; 9 people didn't pay at all. Of the nine there are three that never pay. Some people paid dues ahead of time. We have pursued those who do not pay dues and will continue to do so in the future.

For the condition of the road, money we have and review of previous years' budgets we should be o.k. Fifteen parcels did some blacktop and dues were waived. If we can collect past dues we will have an additional surplus. Motion to accept financial report. All in favor.

**The issue of snow plowing was raised. Last year was a very rough winter. The \$500.00 plowing allowance from the Association did not cover number of times that the road required plowing. The "year rounders" donated an extra \$1000 to continue to plow the road. This continues to be a problem issue and we will continue to pursue long term solution**

**Road Review:** Steve Morse, President. Ed Ausborn has done an outstanding job this year. We agreed to do ditches last year and we have done the ditches for the length of the road. Some 32 dump truck loads came out of the road running two trucks for two days. We got multiple inches of rain last week and it appears to have worked. We will need to do maintenance on the trenches. Bob Nobles wants to know about his ditch. Steve will stop down and take a look at it. The large trucks coming in and out have a huge impact on the road as well as the bridges. We need to take a look at bridges. A discussion on the

impact that large trucks have on the road was held. Should we require a stipend from home owners or service providers that heavily use our road.

2.

Mr. Loomis: Couldn't we put a weight limit on the road? Steve: The only way you can put a weight limit on the road is to get everyone on the road to sign an agreement. Mr. Button: How we would enforce it? Just like with the speed: As a group, we can all remind people of the speed limit.

Shirley Lenox: When they cross Franklin point people often speed up. Christina: We have talked about speed bumps in the past. Mr. Nobels doesn't agree to speed bumps. Steve: the new speed bumps are only an inch and a half.

Steve continued report: We have gone three quarters down the road now with the new maintenance of the road. We are getting more gravel and will be leveling it off all the way down to the end of the road.  
**NOTE! [The update to this issue is new president Ed Ausborn has arranged to have the south end of the road planed and leveled on June 7<sup>th</sup>. We will be working early June 7<sup>th</sup> to finish the south end using equipment to fix the road and avoiding the use of more stone on the road.]**

Monica: What ever happened to the petition that we sent to the county for support? Christina: We need more signatures. We only have a few (46) and we have 145 parcels. It hasn't gone to the County yet. Please be sure to sign the petition and tell others about it.

Mr. Lenox: The road is the best he has ever seen it. Shirley Lenox: It looks like there are places where the road is undermined under the pavement. (Between Collars and Blake). The owners to the north are looking to put in a new sleuth.

Mary Ann Vincent: NYSEG dragged poles the full length of the road. Our pavement was damaged. Some of the dirt parts of the road were also damaged. They did come in and straightened up the road with a wire roller. I don't think they did it appropriately. I called NYSEG immediately and requested they repair our damaged pavement.

Steve continues: In the past, we used to put calcium on the road. It had cost around \$3,000.00. Now that some of the road is paved, it should be cheaper. We talked last week and decided that we would purchase one bag per resident and then they can sprinkle it. Jim Ambrose works near a company that sells bags for \$21.50 per bag. He will get an actual dollar value and let Steve know. People can sign up if they would like. A 50 lb. could cover about 100 feet. It works like binder and then sealer and typically lasts for the season. You don't wet it first. You spread it and then sprinkle it. Mr. Button suggested that you sprinkle a little bit about every foot. Mr. and Mrs. Button and Mr. Loomis agreed to be "go to" people if anyone has questions regarding putting down the calcium. **NOTE { the update to this is we have purchased and distributed some calcium to home owners. Each Home Owner can receive one bag by contacting Ed Ausborn or Larry Lipfert>}**

Mr. Green: Are we done with the scarifer? My stone is gone. Steve: In the fall, we will start at that end of the road. Mr. Green: All the stone and oil is gone and we have big dips. Steve: We are getting stone and will address that. Christina: We have been there many years. We've personally have had truckloads

of stone brought in for our area. Mr. Green: I have no problem doing my own stone but the gully is a problem. I would like to put a bridge there to help. I was told previously that the road is 3. responsible for 12 feet. Steve: The road is responsible for a portion of replacing a sleuth. If you want to put a bridge in, the Association would put in \$250.00.

**Road Committee Report:** Ed Ausborn. I have a different opinion on how to maintain the road. I have personally been involved since 2004 and have put stone on the road. John Riley put stone down last week and now it is already gone. A friend of mine brought down a scarifier with a leveling blade. The idea is that there is stone on the road. The scarifier went down through and dug up potholes and then replaced them directly with the stone and dirt from the road. The beginning of the road is really good. Those potholes are gone. We did not put one shovel of stone on that road. I would like to use mechanics to come up with a solution. Filling the potholes with stone is not going to work. We've been doing it for 8 years. We could bring in the equipment and do it once in the beginning of the season. Last year, with rains, tons of stone was taken off the road. At the end of the year, if we have money left, I would like to take another run with the scarifier. If we do it a couple of times, we could address the potholes and then put calcium down. We could get the equipment cheaper next time from a local company. We might be able to do it for approximately \$1,500 for the whole road. Also, with the scarifer we were able to push off to the sides of the road which will allow for run off. **Please see addendum for additional information on the update on leveling and planing the road.**

Black top: Rick Lambert is coming down to replace any section of the black top that has failed. He will also fix a couple other places. He is also available at \$2.00 per square foot to pave if anyone is interested. **NOTE {Update- The entrance to the road has been repaired as were other minor problems with other black topped areas}**

Sealant: When Lambert made a quote on prices, there were an additional 9 people who would go the length. Those people then went with another provider so he was unable to financially do it. The officers talked and if money is left, the Association at the end of the year would kick in \$50.00 per property that paved to cover the sealant. We paid for them to put black top on existing structure. We need to acknowledge that we get what we pay for. Mrs. Wolf: Went with a different company. We never said we would go with Lambert. We had Dave Nickerson do ours and are more than happy. It was also less. She has his number and address if anyone would like to see her after the meeting. **NOTE {update- Mr. Lambert will be sealing those sections of the road in which home owners want it done. The cost will be 13 Cents a square foot. There will be two applications of sealant and the work will be completed in the fall and we will be working with Deer Trail to see if we may use Deer Trail while the work is being done. Ed Ausborn will be coordinating this project] The Association will reimburse home owners up to \$50.00 if you seal the road. This reimbursement will be available only for those home owners who paved year one and will reduced from your 2016 dues.**

Ron Warobick: I grew up on Honoco. This is the first year I've seen the road in such good condition. "It is working what you are doing". I didn't pave because I thought something was going to be done before we pave. Thank you to those who have paved. I drive slower. I think you should go ahead and do what you (Ed) are saying.

Tom Holland: The rain we got last week would have washed all the stone out in the past. Steve: We also ditched. We did multiple things. 4.

Mr. Green: You are on the right track but there is more than half a road. Next year I will be saying the same thing, what about the other half of the road.

**New business:** Bob King presented a slide show. I live down in the previous Morse/Loundsberry place. I drive approximately the whole road to get in and out. I live here year round and drive during the off season. The road and last winter were awful, snow and ice. The lake froze across. The deed and association by laws say that I have to maintain my right away in an appropriate manner. You are responsible for that road in front of your property. The road association is not. Appropriate manner is not defined however we could all agree it would be smooth. The road association jumps in if there is an issue not be taken care of by the owner. Thank you for the road maintenance committee. They helped me out and do a great job on a short calendar and budget. There aren't many people on Honoco during the winter to help with maintenance. I have done a lot of research on how to fill potholes, remove debris, and dig ditches. We have the Cornell Local Roads Program. It is a Regional Center designed to take information and share information from a Federal level to a local level. They train people in road work. The website is very informative. All professional engineers. They will help you over the phone and are willing to come out, free of charge, and look at your road. This is a year round road. There are regulatory authorities that need to get down the road. Rob Warobick: This is an easement. It is a right a way. Ed Ausborn: Emergency service people need to get down the road. He has spoken with some of them and they are concerned about getting in and out of the road. John Stank: Lives near the end of the road. Saw very few people this winter. There was a suspicious vehicle at the end of the road and he called the police. The police asked him if they would be able to get down the road. They said they would send someone but were concerned about access. If it really was an emergency, I'd hate to have a delay and services.

Steve Morse: We have to remember this road is an old railroad bed. We've always talked about taking a piece of the road and stripping it and building it like a real road. We have never had the financial.

Mr. Green: I think Bob's point is we continue to spend money on the same problem. John Stank: If you were to add the time you all put on the road, it would be even more to maintain. Bill Krause: The only way around it would be to finance the work and you would have to have everyone's agreement. Christina: We also pay a lot of money in taxes to the Town and get nothing from it. Mr. Ambrose: If Cornell would come up for free, it would be worth them coming to give us some feedback.

Bob King continued presentation: The base under the pavement needs to prepared properly for the pavement to last. Bob will reach out to Cornell to see if they will come out and provide us with information and recommendations.

**New business continued:**

Mr. Nobles has an aluminum boat hoist for sale. It is located at 1671.

**Bottle service**, John Stank: ( Steve: John donated \$150.00 to extra snow removal this year.) I live 5. almost at the end of the road. I own the bottle redemption center in Ithaca. Since I drive by I can pick up your bottles and cans and redeem them. I will give the full five cents to the road association. I will also donate another 10% to the road since I travel the length of the road. On Monday morning I go out around 7:00 a.m. Put your bagged bottles and cans close to the edge of the road on Sunday night. Please keep garbage and nonreturnable out of them.

Christina: Steve is stepping down as President. I would like to nominate Ed Ausborn. Are there any other nominations? No. Steve: Mr. Ausborn, would you accept the nomination. Ed: Yes. Mrs. Loomis seconded the motion. All in favor. Ed Ausborn is the new President.

Christina: We now need to nominate a new head of the road committee. Ed has a new idea. What about taking the road by miles and have an individual person from that section of the road be a liaison. That person would be the go to person and also participate in the planning. There is a sign-up sheet if you would like to be part of the committee or contact Ed.

Stipend: What the officers get paid. Currently, the President gets 1%, Treasure gets 1.5% and secretary gets 1.5%. Steve would like to propose 2%, 3% and 3%, respectively. Tom would like to put a motion on the floor that we increase the stipend. Larry Lipfert seconded. All in favor.

Rob Warobick: Why not 3% across the board. Christina: It was in the By-laws. Maybe we should look at the by-laws.

Ed: Could we get a committee together to look at the By-laws. If you are interested in being on a committee to review By-laws contact Ed.

Picnic committee: We want to hold a community picnic this summer. We discussed Sept in the meeting. NOTE-Update- We decided to hold the picnic before Labor Day when most folks are here. Tom Holland has agreed to hold it at his house and his Tiki Bar. This at lot 142, #1236. We are shooting for August and as a date is decided we will let you know. If you are interested in helping out with this please contact Maureen McNamara.

Ed Ausborn: Thank you to Steve Morse for all the work he has done. Steve: and to his son Lou.

Mr. Button: Motion to adjourn. All in favor.

**Addendum:** My name is Ed Ausborn and I want to introduce my self as the new President and share a couple things. My plan is to enlist representatives from each mile or so of the road to sit with a planning committee and develop a maintenance plan for the road. They would be your local go to person and they would know the issues and concerns in your specific neck of the woods. This would include yearly work that must get done, ditches cleaned and sloped correctly to control water. Trimming of overgrown limbs and bushes along the road. We need to develop a infrastructure plan to build bridges where sluices can not handle run off as well increasing the size of old outdated sluices. For five years I have assisted with ordering and shoveling stone on this road. It does not work, the stone washes away and the road is just as bad. This year we tested a skid steer attachment that scarify

and levels the road surface. We feel this approach is the answer. The equipment uses the stone already in the road to provide a smooth surface and the close together scarify dig out potholes and wash boarding of the road. We can do this at a fraction of the cost giving us funds to use for other maintenance items such as listed above. We are examining a way to do a fund raiser to purchase this equipment outside of the Road dues.

We want to develop a new website to increase communication and lastly we want to look at a revision of the by-laws to bring us up to date. I will do my best to keep you informed of our progress, Thank you. Note-Update- Bob King has been working on the new web site. We will be able to launch this soon and will get this information to you. In addition we will be doing a group email distribution list for information. Please stayed tuned for this major development.

**Additional Notes:**

1. Next years Annual Meeting will be held on May 21, 2016, 1pm, at the Ledyard Town Hall.
2. Homeowners with pets please be aware of your pets whereabouts and be respective of others property while walking your pets.