**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**March 2023 Meeting**

**SSAA Activity Report**

South Shore Area Ambulance 7 requests for service in the month of February:

Bell – 3’ Orienta -0, Clover – 2, Port Wing – 2

3 – Transports, 2 – Lift Assists, 1 – Refusal, 1 – handled by a mutual aid ambulance due to low staffing.

Three members attended the Wisconsin Emergency Medical Services Association conference in Green Bay.

Thanks, Jeff Byerhof

**Cornucopia Fire Department**

There were 4 requests for service for Cornucopia Fire Department in February:

1 - Mutual aid request, canceled enroute, 1- Fire Out investigation, 2 - EMS Assists

CFD participated with Herbster Fire Department for the annual Wildland Fire refresher presented by the DNR held in Cornucopia. Members also participated in South Shore Fire Association training held in Port Wing.

Thanks, Chief Byerhof

**Town of Bell Parks and Lands Meeting Minutes**

Friday, March 3, 2023 9:30 am @ Cornucopia Community Center

Committee members present: Doug Becker, Judy Becker, Gordon Anderson, Gina Emily. Absent: Greg Weiss. Others present: Judy Kerr, TOB Supervisor Jackie Eid, Ed & Cindy Butterfield, Peter Rothe, Jason Bodine.

Chair Doug Becker called the meeting to order at 9:40 am.

Old Business:

1. Previous minutes approval: motion was made by Gordon and seconded by Gina. Passed.

2. Budget review: “other Parks and Lands” expenses needs to be clarified – no update.

3. ADA Assessment of Town Buildings: completed; pages 1-10 will be discussed in April.

4. Bayfield County Acquisition of Town Property # 7527:

a. Jason Bodine of the Forestry & Parks Committee for Bayfield County collected information and advised the Committee of procedures.

b. A motion was made by Doug, seconded by Gordon to contact Whitetail Country Appraisals. Approved.

c. The TOB Board must submit a request of acquisition to the Forestry & Lands Committee. Grant money possibilities were discussed.

5. Campground Host(s) Status:

a. Ed & Cindy Butterfield accepted the volunteer position of Campground Hosts for the 2023 season.

b. In exchange for maintenance and services, they will be charged $1 for site usage.

6. Community Center Management Proposal:

a. Gina made a motion for the Committee to not assume responsibility for the Community Center; seconded by Judy B. Much discussion. Motion failed.

b. Further discussion. Committee recommends that a TOB Supervisor be assigned to supervise the management of the Community Center.

New Business:

1. Expiring Term Limits:

a. Position 3 held by Judy Becker and Position 4 held by Doug Becker expire in April, 2023.

b. Nominations for these positions should be requested by the TOB Board at the next meeting for a vote in April.

c. Position 1 held by Greg Weiss and Position 2 held by Gina Emily will expire in 2025; Position 5 held by Supervisor Gordon Anderson is based on Supervisor term limits.

2. Flag Replacement: all flags will be inspected this spring for repair or replacement.

3. P & L Committee & Harbor Commission Joint Meeting: Doug will seek several possible dates.

4. Beach Bathroom Grant Search: Doug contacted state officials to approach DOT.

5. Other:

a. Open beach (and campground?) bathrooms by the first weekend in May.

b. Jason updated the Siskiwit River Preserve, Trails and orchard projected projects.

c. Recommend that the Town pursue a contract with County for Sisikiwit River Preserve plowing and mowing.

Motion was made to adjourn by Doug and seconded by Gina. Passed.

Next meeting: Friday, April 7, 2023 at 9:30 am at the Community Center.

Submitted on by Secretary Judy Becker.

**Community Center Report for February 2023**

Please continue to sign up for room reservations on the Calendar in the big room. Especially Town Committees and Commissions need to be aware of when space is available.

CC windows are being cleaned and screens installed in hopes of a soon to be Spring.

Special thanks to Juicy, Max, Mos, and Norah, children of Emily Declecq and Arron Martinez, for shoveling parts of the side walk in the entrance to the CC.

Inside Christmas lights are being removed from the bottom of the windows in the big room.

Hopefully painting will be completed this week in the basement.

A new coffee pot set-up for the big room should be active soon.

Senior meals for 25 were made last week. Come join every Tuesday at noon.

Comments or suggestions of ways the CC can serve our community are always welcome. Please help with any suggestions. See me.

Looking for ideas of a CC fund raiser for some special equipment. Any ideas????

As an aside if you would like to re-gift any items, the raffle table on Cornucopia Day would be glad to accept any items. Drop off at the CC.

The CC serves many older residents of Cornucopia and the Town of Bell. (Wouldn't it be handy to have Senior Housing so we can all stay here, our home, when the time comes that we cannot drive or take care of our individual homes. A place with rent charged based on income could be very welcome and even better if not far from the CC. We need the people to start work on this. What about it Town Council?? (We will see how much trouble I get into for this remark if it makes it through the Town Chairs scrutiny.)

Additional cameras have been installed in the CC for security purposes.

Judith Kerr, CC manager.

**Emergency Preparedness Committee**

Meeting: February 2, 2023 via Zoom. Members present: Yvette Fleming, Marie Versen, John Higney, Roger Lindgren, Judy and Doug Becker and Owen Polifka.

Upon our first meeting since last spring, we contemplated the purpose of our committee. Roger stated that we should consider shifting our focus somewhat. With Harry, who had considerable FEMA experience, we concentrated largely on response to an emergency event or disaster. Perhaps our focus should be more on prevention. Prevention can be addressed by providing education to our residents so that they can better be prepared to deal with any impending emergency. In addition, we should be available to assist whoever the Incident Commander is (likely Fire Department Personal) rather than risk interfering with their process.

Another function of our committee (as discussed at length in previous meetings) is to insure that certain mitigation or recovery efforts and assets are in place. Such an effort was instituting Red Cross recommendations in authorizing the Community Center as a safe shelter complete with an operational generator.

One of our primary responsibilities is to connect with our residents to provide information, not only initially, but reaching out on an ongoing basis to provide emergency information on an emergency event such as a forest fire, snow emergency or flooding.

Disseminating information is important and we discussed several ways to accomplish this rather difficult task.

One of our most effective ways is by utilizing our Emergency Preparedness Resource People (EPRPs). If we utilize this resource effectively, they could provide valuable preparedness information to their particular residents. However, followup is essential and with the Covid crises and the loss of our committee chairman, that effort was not optimal.

The town's use of Intuit MailChimp is a means for the town clerk to send out informational emails to all residents who are enrolled. This isn't achievable, if, for some reason, they are not or they don't have email, but it is an effective means for those who are signed up and every method helps.

Providing hand out materials at local events will likely get them into the hands of many people. Events such as Corny Day, Fish Fry, and the Art Crawl are events where this could happen, as well as the posting of a particular issue on public boards.

Local realtors could be given certain materials to be provided to prospective local property buyers that would call attention to committee's work and identify their particular EPRP.

We are currently not permitted to include any type of notification with the annual tax statements, however, an avenue we may want to pursue would be working with South Shore High School with their mailings.

We must also insure that we have a sufficient supply of the materials to be given to the EPRPs for their residents on hand and available.

In the event of a current or impending emergency event, The town chairman can request a "State of Emergency" from the Bayfield County Emergency Manager (Meagan Quaderer 715-373-6113), which Roger did during our recent snow event.

With all these preparedness issues, the residents themselves need to take a certain amount of responsibility by maintaining a basic level of awareness to our area and it's services. The National Weather Service does a great job with advise on impending weather events, for instance, but possessing a NOAA radio greatly augments that resource.

And finally, we need to recruit additional members! It was great to have Doug and Judy Becker join us, however, we need to find a new EPC chairperson to fill the shoes of the late Harry Kellogg, who was an amazing leader. Perhaps the weekly Thursday morning community breakfast at the Community Center, or the ROMEO dudes' Friday morning session would provide a fertile searching ground.

Next meeting: Tuesday, February 28th, at 4pm

Respectfully submitted, Owen Palifka