

**VAIL'S GROVE COOPERATIVE, INC.**

**BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MEETING**

**January 16, 2014**

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Mr. Ryan called the meeting to order at 8:07 pm and asked all to rise for the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ATTENDANCE:**

Mr. Cassidy took attendance: Present: Mr. Cassidy, Ms. McHale, Mr. Norcross, Mr. Andrews, Ms. Mytych, Mr. Duffy, Mr. O'Toole, Mr. McGuinness, Ms. Rubini and Mr. Ryan. Absent: Ms. Myers, Ms. Waltzer and Ms. Natiello.

**ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES:**

Mr. Cassidy made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 2013 meeting. Mr. McGuinness seconded. Abstained: Mr. Andrews, Ms. McHale, Ms. Mytych and Mr. Norcross. All others in favor. Motion approved.

**COMMENTS & CONCERNS OF STOCKHOLDERS:**

1. Ms. Joan Ford stated that she was at two functions in December and at both of those, the propane ran out and she asked why this happened. It was explained to Ms. Ford that due to the fact that we switched from Leahys to Suburban, our scheduled fill ups were not scheduled correctly. We are now on an every other week schedule and this will not happen again. Ms. Ford also stated that she is confused as to why the New Year's Eve Party is not a Vail's Grove function and that this function is not covered under Recreation.

**COMMUNICATIONS NOT INCLUDED IN REPORTS BELOW:**

1. Mr. Ryan reported that we are in receipt of a letter from a Stockholder who was bitten by a dog that was not on a leash. This dog is owned by a stockholder, who will receive a letter and a fine, as this stockholder has received letters previous to this.

Mr. Ryan then had the Board go back to the New Year's Party issue. There are final payments due to the caterer as the organizers of the event did not take in enough money to cover the costs of the evening. Mr. Ryan stated that the Board discussed several different options. There was a shortfall in the amount of \$944. Checks came into Vail's Grove, they were deposited and then the office issued payments for expenses. Ms. Mytych made a motion that Vail's Grove pays World of Food the amount of \$944.00 to pay for their services. Ms. Rubini seconded. Mr. Cassidy asked if the New Years Party was ever a Vail's Grove function. He stated that the room is given to the organizers without charge. Ms. Mytych stated that she never considered the costs for the New Year's Eve Party as part of the Recreation budget. Ms. Mytych needs to know where this money would come from for this payment. Ms. Ford stated that this used to be a Vail's Grove Association function, when the Association collected dues from those interested. After years, the Association became part of the Grove recreation committee. Ms. Ford said it was always part of Vail's Grove. Sometimes, years would go by without a party. It was greatly attended

in 2009 with people from all around the lake as well as Grove residents. She doesn't know why this wouldn't be considered a Grove function. This is the first year that the attendance was not there and that money was lost. She said to maybe not having the party for a few years or to do it in a more simple way. Ms. Ford stated that there was always a surplus from the past parties and the surplus went back to the Grove. Ms. Ford did not organize the party this year. Ms. Mytych said that it is obvious that the Grove is fronting the money, and she did not think any money was being fronted by the Grove. Mr. Duffy said that the Association only had less than a quarter of the community as members. When the Association ended, the Coop then funded parties for the Grove. The association money was turned over to the Coop to start the funding for the parties. Mr. Dress said that he paid cash for any things purchased for the party and then he reimbursed himself from the monies received from the party. Ms. Ford said she was told that the reason why it's not considered a Grove function is because no one on the Recreation committee was doing it with her. Ms. Rubini feels that because money was given back to the Grove over the years, she thinks that the Grove should cover the cost for the Caterer. She said Joan stepped up to do it and that it was not a part of the Recreation Committee but more of volunteers stepping up and organizing it and always covering costs. Ms. Ford said New Years was always a function of the Grove and she didn't understand why it wasn't anymore. Mr. Dress said that the first year they were doing this, he went to Ms. Waltzer's house to ask for permission and that Ms. Waltzer said it sounded like a lot of money. Mr. Dress said that he stated that they were expecting a lot of people. Ms. Rubini said that when the party worked, it worked. Unfortunately it didn't work this year. Ms. Ford said that the raffle usually brought in a lot of money. Mr. McGuinness said these parties need to be clearly defined as a Grove party or not. He always thought that costs would be covered if not enough money was brought in. Mr. Cassidy said we put the money through the office to make it easier for the organizers. Mr. McGuinness asked if at least \$1000 was given back to the Grove from the surplus made at these parties. The answer from Ms. Ford and Ms. Battreall was that yes, at least \$1000 was given back to the Grove to be used wherever it was needed for social events. Ms. Mytych said that the stockholders expect their fees to be used for the Maintenance and Operations of the Grove. Mr. Duffy said this was quirky thing to happen and that money was never lost in the past.

Mr. Ryan stated that it was time to take a vote. In favor: Ms. Rubini, Ms. McHale, Mr. Duffy, Mr. Norcross, Mr. O'Toole, Mr. McGuinness. Against: Mr. Cassidy, Mr. Andrews and Ms. Mytych. Motion approved. Ms. Mytych stated that a check should not be cut until we decided where from our budget this money is coming from. Mr. McGuinness wants it made clear that any function in the future should guarantee that the monies are covered and it should not be the Groves responsibility. Mr. Cassidy asked for this to be resolved before the next meeting. Mr. Cassidy wants it stated that Vail's Grove did not sign any contracts with any vendors and therefore should not be held liable.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **CHAIRPERSON:**

Mr. Ryan reported the following:

We ask again for all residents to be cautious on our roads during periods of icy conditions. Please use Ramp 1 whenever possible. We ask all residents to closely read the letter that they received with their recent quarterly charges. There is an explanation of the additional \$25 assessment for the pump house project. We ask all residents to keep their vehicles off the road during times when there is snow so that the snow plow contractor can be efficient in their clearing of our roads.

**VICE-CHAIRPERSON:**

No Report

**VICE-PRESIDENT:**

No report

**TREASURER:**

No report

**ETHICS:**

No report

**FINANCE:**

No report

**SECRETARY:**

Mr. Cassidy reported the following:

The January mailing went out on January 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>. The office will be closed for an optional holiday on Monday, January 20<sup>th</sup>. The office is starting to create the new Vail's Grove e-mail group of residents for quick communications and also will be creating a new robo-call list for any phone numbers requested to date. Peter Rossi, our independent auditor, will be in the office on January 29<sup>th</sup> for the day to start the Financials. The deadline for the next Vail's Voice is January 25<sup>th</sup> – please send information to Carol Harting by then.

**BUILDINGS & GROUNDS:**

Mr. Moore read the following report:

The dump truck passed motor vehicle state inspection for 2014. 64 Vail's Lake Shore Drive, the curb stop water shut off valve was located by Butler Excavating. New valve and pipe work was done by Keene Plumbing. Ramp 3 guardrails were repaired after one post and many rails were damaged from car accident when the ramp was icy. We are talking to our contractor to try to ensure that this is avoided in the future. Reminder that during snow events we advise shareholders to use ramp 1 as the primary road to enter and exit the coop. No parking on coop roads. Vehicles are subjected to being towed at shareholders expense. Mr. Norcross will get involved and decide if we should speak to the contractor about these issues. Mr. Moore spoke to George Hartschorn about perhaps coming back when icy conditions are here. Mr. McGuinness said perhaps we should put up some cones on Ramp 3. Mr. Ryan said that if the town roads are bad, know that our Ramp roads will be bad. All residents should use Ramp 1.

**PUMP HOUSE/WATER TANK REPLACEMENT:**

Mr. Ryan said that the bids went out and were returned. Mr. Ryan, Ms. Waltzer and Mr. Waltzer spoke to the lowest bidder and asked for him to make some modifications in order to lower the cost. Ms. Waltzer is away this week. The engineer agrees that we could make those modifications. We are waiting to hear back from the contractor. Mr. Duffy asked if Paul Lynch, the Engineer working on this, will be the General Contractor on this project or if once the project starts, he will no longer be involved. Mr. Ryan stated that he believes the contractor will be acting as the General Contractor. Mr. Duffy would like this clarified.

**REAL ESTATE:**

No Report

**INSURANCE:**

No report

**SUNSHINE:**

The following report from Sue Enos was read:

Best wishes go out to Kerri Tolve, Tom Ryan, James Collins and Richard McGuire...we hope you are all feeling better soon. Congratulations to Chris and Janet Murphy.. their son Jim was recently married to Emily Fitzgerald. The Grove extends their condolences to the following families: Longtime resident Jen Bauer has passed; she was 97 years young and spent many, many years at the Lake. Sympathies also to Lucas Kane and family on the passing of his father. Congratulations to Linda Arland, wife of Jim Kiernan, on the birth of her grandson Evan. Thank you notes from Kerri Tolve were read.

**MEMBERSHIP:**

No report

**BOATS RAMP/NORTH END STORAGE:**

No Report – Mr. Ryan said that the north end looks the best it ever has and thanks Hugh Andrews and Jay Moore.

**PAVILION RENTAL:**

Mr. Cassidy made a motion to accept the application from Nina Kane for the large room on February 23<sup>rd</sup>. Ms. McHale seconded. All in favor. Motion approved.

Mr. Cassidy made a motion to approve application from North Salem Athletic Booster Club for February 8<sup>th</sup>. Ms. McHale seconded. All in favor . Motion approved.

**LONG RANGE PLANNING:**

No Report

**OMBUDSMAN:**

No Report

**PLEC:**

Mr. Duffy said that fundraisers are being discussed. Mr. McGuinness stated that they are working on connecting the outflow problem somehow to the Sewer Treatment Plant so that we could perhaps get funding for dredging of the lake.

**LEGAL:**

No Report

**AESTHETICS:**

No Report

**RECREATION:**

Mr. Cassidy read the following:

There are two parties coming up:

Super Bowl party on Sunday, February 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Pavilion. \$10 per person. BYOB. If not enough responses come in by January 24<sup>th</sup>, it will be cancelled. Sunday, February 9<sup>th</sup> will be the Valentine's Day Tea from 1 – 3 pm in the Pavilion.

Saturday, March 1<sup>st</sup>, 7 pm, St. Patrick's Day Dinner Dance. McLean Avenue Band. Corned beef and cabbage dinner will be served. \$35 per person. BYOB.

Mr. Cassidy would like to state the following regarding the New Year's Eve Party: He said that Ms. Waltzer has written that Vail's was very clear to the party organizers that this was not a Vail's function and that we allowed them to use the Pavilion without charge. Secondly, as Ms. Ford stated, Mr. Dress did speak to Ms. Cassidy, with Mr. Cassidy present, and essentially Ms. Cassidy stated to hire the band and that she would help – not as a Recreation Committee function – but on a personal note. Mr. Cassidy stated that Mr. Dress said "No thank you, Ed and I will handle it".

**BEACH:**

No Report

**LEND-A-HAND:**

No Report

**WELCOME:**

No Report

**PUBLIC SAFETY:**

No Report

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Ms. McHale asked that the office get a credit card that we earn points with. The office will look into this.

Ms. McHale made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. McGuinness seconded. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 9:11 pm.