

ADIRONDACK ASSOCIATION OF TOWNS AND VILLAGES

August 7, 2020 Meeting Minutes

Attendees: Matt Simpson, President; Mo Wright, 1st Vice President; Brian Wells, 2nd Vice President; Preston Allen; David Berkstresser; Jerry Delaney; Bill Farber; Kevin Geraghty; Patricia Littlefield; Steve McNally; Ron Moore; Jean Raymond.

On a motion by Mr. Geraghty, seconded by Mr. Farber, the minutes of the June 25, 2020 meeting were unanimously approved.

Mr. Simpson introduced Mr. Berkstresser and Ms. Littlefield. On a motion by Mr. Farber, seconded by Ms. Raymond with a unanimous vote of the Board, Mr. Berkstresser and Ms. Littlefield are now Region Directors on the Board.

On a motion by Mr. Geraghty, seconded by Mr. Allen the financial reports were unanimously approved. The Board asked Mrs. Wright to send reminders to those towns that have not paid their dues.

Mr. Simpson said three proposals were submitted for a new website. He presented each proposal. Mr. Farber asked who reviewed the proposal. Mrs. Wright said she had worked with the vendors to get the proposals and had reviewed them. Mr. Farber asked what her recommendation was. Mrs. Wright said she recommended Madaddie. Mr. Farber made a motion to have Mrs. Wright work with Madaddie to create a new website at a cost of \$3250. Mr. Moore asked if this was the low bid. Mr. Simpson said it was not but the low bid would take our current website and move it over to a new domain. He added we are looking for a change, something better. Mr. Delaney said he is currently working with one of the proposers and is very happy with his work. Mr. Farber repeated that he had made a motion and it had been seconded by Mr. Allen to have Madaddie create a new site. Mr. McNally said Minerva uses Madaddie. They have done a great job on their new website, have been responsive and easy to work with. Approval was given by those in attendance for Madaddie to create a new website.

Mr. Simpson said a project was started with Behan to write an article to be submitted to the Association of Towns. The article will build upon cellular/broadband and what we've learned during COVID. The cost will be approximately \$1,200. The deadline was the 17th of August. Mr. Farber said it is great to get into this magazine and gives credibility. Ms. Raymond suggested having an article in every issue. Mr. Simpson said this will keep the issues on the forefront. Mr. Wright said these articles may get us new advocates to have in our corner.

Mr. Simpson said the "Salt" bill passed the Senate and the Assembly. There was a task force on salt reduction. Mr. Simpson received correspondence from the Adirondack Council asking AATV to sign on to their letter to the Governor. Mr. Simpson would not commit until bringing this issue to the Board. After much discussion it was decided a meeting would be set up with Senator Little, Assemblymen Stec and Jones to talk with them about all the constitutional amendments and the prevailing wage bill.

Mr. Schachner provided an update on the "tree"/what constitutes a tree. "Protect" filed an appeal. Court of Appeals will schedule a date. He doesn't know when but would guess it could be November. He reviewed the timeframe to file an appeal. Once the "environmental groups" appeal goes in, AATV will then submit one. Mr. Simpson asked if we would be able to see a list of participants. Mr. Schachner said yes, we would be. There was discussion on Empire Forest and NYSAC signing on as well. Mr. Farber said NYSAC is sincere in their support of AATV's efforts. Mr. Simpson asked if AATV could have others sign on with them and if we could see who signed on with others. Mr. Schachner said yes on both counts. Mr. Moore asked if each group could submit their own. Mr. Schachner said they could. Mr. McNally asked if it was better to submit alone or as a group. Mr. Schachner said he would like to wait and see what happens before giving advice. Ms. Raymond suggested down the road perhaps AOT could be contacted to get involved. Mr. Simpson thanked Mr. Schachner for attending and providing the brief.

On a motion by Ms. Raymond, seconded by Mr. Farber the meeting was unanimously adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela Wright
Administrative Assistant