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Winter 2019 Newsletter

Winter is here; keep warm, wear a sweater, throw a log on the fire - enjoy the wonderland! The Board wishes everyone Happy New Year, and greets new members. We applaud neighbors who improve properties by removing or renovating old homes, erecting new homes, and caring for the landscape, which increases the worth of all our properties.

## Open Board Meeting on Saturday, Nov. 3rd, 2018

The meeting was called to order with 6 members attending (out of 148). Community business was discussed, including budgets, road and other repairs, and plans. Larry Adams was appointed as Vice President to replace the vacated position.

The current Board of Directors:

- President Robert Jarrod Dieckman
- Treasurer Wendy Webster
- Financial Secretary Ann Kolodzey
- Recording Secretary James Kolodzey
- Vice President Larry Adams.

Dear neighbor: please attend the meetings! We cannot over-emphasize how important this is. From brief chats, it is clear there are many ideas to help our Community. But voting on these ideas <u>requires</u> <u>your presence</u>, otherwise there are not enough people to support them. And we miss you.

# **Picnics and Gatherings**

The Memorial Day picnic will be Saturday, May 25 at 1 pm. The Board provides hot dogs, soft drinks, and games. Bring a covered dish of your favorite specialty. There will be a Raffle! Hope to see you.

An Earth Day cleanup will be Saturday, April 20 (Earth Day is April 22). Join the fun and keep our Community beautiful. Bring work gloves, or snacks.

# **Road Repair**

In mid October, *Pocono Spray Patch* repaired a few potholes. More work is needed; and hours were

spent even setting this up. But the weather turned bad, and hopefully repairs will resume in the Spring. Come to the meetings to speak up for your area.

Repairs, by Coolbaugh Township, included: (1) blocked culvert under Chip Path (near Fritz Run); (2) "Watch Children" sign on Coolbaugh Rd; (3) plans for culvert under Coolbaugh Road near bridge. Thanks to those who contacted the Township about this!

## Dumpsters

Per our By Laws, these are for members in goodstanding (and limited-good-standing) only, and just for bagged household trash and recycling. There is a \$500 fine for any unlawful dumping, including by residents who don't pay their dues.

Use the "*Recycling Dumpster*" for cans, plastic, glass bottles, cardboard, and paper, which saves us (and you!) money. Recycling must NOT BE BAGGED or BOXED, or else the trash service may get fined – and may pass their fines to us. If you are unsure what to include, or are unable to empty your recycling bag into the dumpster – use the regular trash dumpsters. Just because a box can be recycled itself does not mean it can be full of recycling stuff. We did not make these rules – just the way it is - or we all lose.

Large items (mattresses, sofas, tires) are not for our dumpsters! Take them to the Coolbaugh Township Drop Off and Recycling Site, 549 Laurel Drive, Tobyhanna. The 2019 dates are: April 5 & 6, June 7 & 8, August 2 & 3, October 4 & 5, from 7:30 am – 3:00 pm. Free recycling cards (for using the dropoff) are at the Municipal Office, 5520 Municipal Drive, Tobyhanna (bring proof of residency; e.g. property tax receipt). Old refrigerators, A/C's, or dehumidifiers, are not for dumpsters either, *but*: PP&L will pick them up for free *and pay you* \$35 – contact <pplelectric.com/recycle>. Bravo to those who clean up trash near the dumpsters. Sometimes this cannot be helped – the dumpsters have been hard to open. The Board is investigating new service with *Waste Management*, with easier-to-use dumpsters, and a *lower* charge!

## **Dues & Assessments**

The Board thanks all who paid dues. In 2018, 78% of members paid, with others on an installment plan (call us about this!). Anyone not paying burdens the rest of us - and dues may increase. We work with Sunrise Credit Services to collect unpaid dues, which has been successful and profitable (keeping dues lower). We all have financial difficulties from time to time, so contact our office about partial payments over extended periods. This saves you a \$50 late fee, and keeps the collection agency away. For our services, we have the lowest dues in the Poconos.

### **Please Drive Slowly**

The Coolbaugh Road limit is **25 mph;** and Community roads are **15 mph**! Potholes anybody? Driving too fast and jack-rabbit-starts dig them. Many people complain about the potholes; but we see people driving fast – are these the same people, I wonder?

#### **Next Monthly Meeting**

The next meeting will be in March or April (weather depending) – the first Saturday at 9 am – watch for notices sent out and posted on the Bulletin Board outside the office trailer.

#### **Reporting Problems & Concerns**

The best way to report a concern is at the monthly meetings. The second best way is to leave a message at the office (570-842-8681), or the Community email address <pfsc1431@gamil.com>. We don't have the staff to check these every day (any volunteers?). To leave a message, clearly (and s-l-o-w-l-y!) give your name, date, contact info, and **brief** statement of your request. We will get to you.

### For Your Info: Fire, Ambulance, or Police

If you dial 9-1-1, let them know you are in <u>Monroe</u> <u>County</u>, Coolbaugh Township, or else the calls get directed to Lackawanna County, with longer waits. Have your address visible outside your home.

For FIRE Assistance, call the GOULDSBORO VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, Gouldsboro, PA 18424; 570-842-2663.

For AMBULANCE Assistance, call the POCONO MOUNTAIN REGIONAL EMS, Coolbaugh Township Station, 3040 Memorial Boulevard, Tobyhanna, PA 18466; 570-839-6819.

For POLICE Assistance, dial 9-1-1 and request the POCONO MOUNTAIN REGIONAL POLICE DEPT., in Pocono Summit, PA 18346; or for non-emergency: 570-895-2400 (note this new number).

#### Work and Service Bids

Any bids for Community services (lawn mowing, snow plowing) must be submitted in advance, and sometimes advertised in the paper ahead of time.

#### **Houses for Sale**

If there is interest and space, we may be able to list PFSC properties for sale – send us a message or email, with the location, price, and contact info.

Maybe we can advertise local businesses for a fee?

#### **Contacting the PFSC Office**

We try to answer calls promptly, but we don't have the staff to check these every day, so be patient. We recently discovered an old email address: <poconoforest@ymail.com > that is now working, and listed on our website. We have begun to answer "back" messages. For the future, please use our new email: <pfsc1431@gmail.com>.

Our web site <www.poconoforest.yolasite.com> is in trouble, because no one remembers the email address that was used to set it up and access it. Can anyone help? If so let us know ASAP – thanks.

Pocono Forest Sportsman Club -- the BEST KEPT SECRET IN THE POCONOS!