

Camp Nooteming Properties Committee  
Meeting Minutes  
January 10, 2005

**In Attendance**

Mike Kelsey, [KelseyNPC@yahoo.com](mailto:KelseyNPC@yahoo.com)  
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Ginny Germano, [wannabeadiva@optonline.net](mailto:wannabeadiva@optonline.net)

Meeting began at 7:01 p.m.

**Chairman's Report**

Mike reported that the last month saw a flurry of activity that benefited the camp and he extended his praise and gratitude to those involved. The Ranger's Cabin was fully stained; progress was made along the Red Trail with the third bridge partially constructed and major segments of the trail remarked and in a few instances rerouted; several dead or fallen trees were cleared; and the camp's power lines were inspected, power charted and areas in need of further attention were cited. Mike expressed his optimism that January and all of 2005 would be equally as promising.

**Guests**

Mike reported that Bill Sr. prepared a memo that went out to all council units inviting them to participate in committee meetings and that several had taken him up on this offer and were in attendance this night. Mike welcomed them and invited them to greater participation.

**Surveying**

Kurt reported that in preparation for producing a new topographical map of Camp Nooteming suitable for building that a schedule for surveying the property has been compiled. The last survey of the boundary was conducted in 1955 and is likely incomplete. Led by a volunteer surveyor from Spectra, a team of three or four adults are needed on January 29 for a reconnaissance of the boundary (Daryl and Kurt volunteered to be part of this team). On February 5<sup>th</sup> a team of about 12 people will be needed to trim back brush and saplings in establishing traverse points and setting lath. Three to four Scouts and one or two adults are each needed on the following dates for actual surveying

of the property: February 19, March 5, March 19, and April 2. All dates are weather dependent and work begins at 9 a.m. Scouts volunteering to help will satisfy requirements towards Surveying merit badge.

Doug Katt from Troop 25 and Allan Dooley Troop 26 in Poughkeepsie have each expressed interest in helping out and Mike has already contacted them with the dates so that they could coordinate their schedules. **Mike** will be sending out emails to the committee lists as well as district e-groups to recruit the necessary manpower. **Mike** volunteered to recruit and schedule the appropriate manpower for each day.

### **Ranger's Guide to Nooteming CD**

Mike reported that Billy Durr will be scanning all the old camp maps, and known architectural drawings to be placed on a CD to make the documents available to a wider circulation. An ongoing project we will add to the CD the new map as well as written and pictorial procedures relating to electrical power flow, chlorination, major equipment operation and all camp processes and procedures that a ranger or property committee member should have access to now and to pass onto posterity.

### **Inventory**

Mike reported that he and Bill Griffiths Sr who serves as committee quartermaster have set the inventory and management of camp assets as a priority for this year. The new position of quartermaster works with the camp ranger and has as its job description two main goals to work on in the coming year and beyond:

- 1) Inventory. Like the map we're preparing, a complete inventory list is essential as a basic planning device. The priority in this area is going to be inventorying the tools and equipment we have so that we can determine and identify what tools and equipment we still need and hopefully start disposing of the unused and wanted junk. In this area the goal is a complete count of all the tents, bunks and mattresses we have so as to develop a numbering system where we keep track of the age and condition of each. We will want to do the same here with the boats, PFDs, rifles and other program materials. With this record-keeping coupled with the eventual implementation of inspection cards we will be able to develop a plan for staggered replacement of camp assets prior to doing so only when necessity demands it.
- 2) Organization and Care of Assets. It follows that once we know what we have we will be in a better position to care for it and arrange for its storage. As recently as ten years ago there was a third maintenance building. The quartermaster will need to look at the present practices for storage of camp assets and whether adequate space exists so as to develop a better system for protecting camp assets. Part of this may be to plan for additional storage space or perhaps to better utilize the buildings we have.

Jim supplied a list of the program material inventoried at summer camp by the waterfront, health lodge, handicraft, scoutcraft and shooting sports program areas. Using this as a starting point the suggested timetable for inventorying the camp is:

- (1) Log and organize the tools in the maintenance building sometime between now and April.
- (2) We hit the Kiwanis Basement and Old Trading Post during April.
- (3) We give the task of inventorying the kitchen's pots, pans and dishware to the OA during their spring ordeal.
- (4) Between May and the start of the summer camp we tackle the pole barn and its "treasure chest" of tents and mattresses. This will give us time to figure out and establish a system for the annual cleaning and sanitation of all mattresses prior to distribution at camp.
- (5) At summer camp we work with the various program area directors (e.g. waterfront, handicraft, shooting sports, nature, etc.) to catalogue assets and identify program needs for future acquisitions. I imagine the camp has been operating for too long on the premise of making due with what we have, rather than adopting the view that we need to prepare for the needs and wants of youth and parents today.

The committee discussed the winter storage of the backhoe and dumptruck and concluded that it should be stored inside. **Daryl** volunteered to store both inside.

### **Composting Latrines**

Randy supplied composting latrine designs as used at Clear Lake Scout Reservation. He mentioned that Troop 82 plans to build the Taconic latrine in their adopted campsite in Fall 2005.

### **Catskill Lean-to**

Butch mentioned he had inspected the supplies and material to complete the fifth Catskill lean-to and that some of the materials are missing. **Butch** said he is available this weekend and willing to work towards completing the lean-to this Saturday (1/15). **Frank** volunteered to help if warm. **Randy** is a maybe. **Mike** will send out note to Friends of troop list.

### **Rifle Range**

The remaining work (roof over the backstop and sidewall) on the rifle range from the 2002 grant will be scheduled for the spring. The committee determined that **Randy** will get the materials now and plan for completing the work in the Spring. The committee determined to finish backstop before starting on the sidewall. **Randy** will devise a plan for the roof backstop to present to the committee at the February meeting.

### **Electrical**

Frank reported that he and Daryl mapped out entire electrical grid for camp locating electrical poles and noting their condition. He submitted a copy of his report:

Camp Assets:  
Total: 29 Poles  
6 Meters

4 Transformers

Breakdown for 3 Sections:

Back Section

11 Poles in back end of property (feed starts from Davis Road) 7000+ Volts

- Pole #35515 – 1 Transformer
- Pole #35516 – 1 Meter next to Well Building
- Pole #65849 – 1 Transformer located near Blodgett
- 1 Meter located on East side wall of Blodgett

Front Section

17 Poles in front of property, feed starts from Scout Road, 4000 volts, by Pole Barn

- Pole #1 - 1 Transformer, 1 Meter and main telephone wiring located next to Pole Barn
- Pole #4 - 1 Transformer located on walkway between parking lot and dining hall
- Pole #4A - 1 Meter located south of Pole #4

Rental Cabin Area

1 pole with 2 meters on it, located next to back cabin

<u>Electrical Poles Location</u> goes East to West)	<u>Back Section</u>	(Power
Pole #1 - 35512	On Property Line	
#2 - 35513		
#3 - 35514		
#4 - 35515	Near well pump building – 1 Transformer	
#5 - 35516	Next to pump house – 1 Meter	
#6 - 65844	North side of road	
#7 - 65845	JLT Field, South of road	
#8 - 65846	West of JLT Field, South side of road	
#9 - 65847	North side of road	
#10 - 65848	Close to Blodgett	
#11 - 65849	75 feet from Blodgett, North side of road, 1 Transformer	

Front Section – (Power supply runs West to East, starts at Pole Barn)

- Pole #1 Next to Pole Barn – Transformer and Meter on Pole  
Transformer #C12 \*25\* Meter #697  
Feeds Pole Barns and Underground to Ranger Cabin  
4000 Volts and 120 Volts – Main Telephone Line
- Pole #2 Location – Cooks Cabin
- Pole #2A (New) North of Pole #2 – Feeds Top Gun and Rifle Range
- Pole #3 On Road by Dining Hall
- Pole #4 Location – by Walkway (Dining Hall to Parking Lot)  
Transformer and Spotlight on Pole
- Pole #4A South of Pole #4 (has meter on it #37327)
- Pole #4B Next to Dining Hall
- Pole #5 Next to Signal Tower
- Pole #5A Next to Health Lodge

Pole #6 In Parking Lot North of Fire Tower  
Pole #7 In woods behind A-B Building – feeds A-B Building & Trading Post  
Pole #7A North side of road toward B.P. Building  
Pole #8 Behind Kiwanis  
Pole #8A Goes to Campers Shower  
Pole #8B Located Campers Shower  
Pole #9 At Winter Well, feeds Well and Kiwanis

It was noted that council is responsible for maintaining the condition of the poles, transformers and wiring and that many poles are cracked and need to be replaced. Power lines are low in some areas creating further safety hazards.

Back Section: Wire between Poles 4 and 5 need to be raised .  
Trim Trees between Poles 8 and 9 (#65846 & #65847)

Front Section: Pole #4 is in POOR Shape, trees need to be trimmed.  
Poles 4A and 4B – Trees have fallen on wire pulling it down.  
Pole #5A next to Health Lodge, pole is loose and some branches  
need to be trimmed.  
Pole #7 Wires to A-B Building and Trading Post are too low.  
Poles 7A and 7B need to be REPLACED.

**Mike Englishby** will organize a crew from Central Hudson in the coming month to tend to these problems starting in the Scout Road Section and completing as many of the repairs as possible. This will most likely occur on a weekend and will require the power to be turned off in camp during the work, which may temporarily inconvenience visiting units.

Frank also reported that he discovered previously unknown buried wires at camp. The first of these is buried from the ranger's cabin to pole barn. The second wire lies underneath the road and leads to the grass opposite ranger's cabin. The third discovered wire leads from the ranger's cabin to lake building used to store the waterfront program materials. A fourth wire leads from Top Gun to the Rifle Range. Mike Kelsey said that as we prepare the map we will need to indicate the presence of these wires on the map as well as chart the powerlines and flow of power.

Frank reported that he has been making good progress on rewiring the Ranger's Cabin and that he is 75% done including completely rewiring the basement. Recent electrical work includes new smoke and CO detectors installed in Blodgett and the Ranger's Cabin. Frank plans to install one in Top Gun soon, as well as every other sleeping area. Frank noted that all the buildings are now compliant with Code, but that some detectors are old and so we are now swapping the old with the new. Frank is dating all the detectors and keeping a log of electrical repairs.

Frank also noted that many fluorescent light fixtures at camp are broken and need attention. He indicated that fluorescent fixtures don't seem to work well in the cold and that some units visiting them have attempted to fiddle with the bulbs resulting in broken bulbs and creating safety hazards. It was noted that the Board of Health require plastic cases over the lamps. Jim gave **Frank** the authorization to have them fixed or replaced and to send in the purchase order to council to replace the fluorescent lights and guard them with plastic covers. Frank noted he found broken light fixtures at camp in camp storage that should be disposed and so did so.

Also noted was that there were no groundfaults on the outlets on the dining hall and that these are necessary. **Frank and Daryl** will address this problem this week.

### **Roadwork**

The committee reviewed winter maintenance of the roads and the most cost effective means for caring for them. Randy suggested buying \$200-300 worth of salt to store in pole barn to use when needed as a de-icer. Jim would rather find a source for each storm rather than buying bags. It was held that it is better to fix or checkup on the spreader we have and find a source of salt. The plan is for **Daryl** to consult John Kirkuss to fix the spreader, or ask Butch Gardner, the Highway Superintendent, if salt or sand is available as a donation to the camp.

### **Status of Five-Year Plan**

Mike reported that he met with Ralph Heavner in December and delivered to him our five-year plan and budget for capital improvements for 2005. Mike distributed explanatory proposals he created and will be submitting to Ralph detailing the concepts and overview of the three major 2005 projects the committee proposes that are in need of council approval: (1) model campsite containing patrol-sized cabins, pavilions and composting latrines, (2) Nooteeming firehouse, and (3) multi-use field. **Mike** said he will be contacting Ralph soon to track the progress of receiving council's approval of the committee's plans.

### **Patrol Size Cabins**

Butch reported he compiled a material list for a patrol size cabin and that an estimate for each cabin with bare bone meanings with walls but no siding, window, asphalt roof, no bunks and no interior would be \$1,750. A metal roof will be \$3,000 more. Butch's estimate is \$2,500 per cabin with siding. **Butch** will send Randy a list of supplies and **Randy** will compare the prices with his connections.

Jim reported the cost for replacing a new two-man, canvas tent is \$225. The wood needed to replace tent platform cost about \$200 per every two-person tent.

### **Firehouse**

Mike reported that he and Randy met with Craig, Carol and other members of the Fire Explorer program in December for a productive information meeting.

Craig reported that Dutchess County and Pleasant Valley fire departments are supportive of the idea but have not given letters of intent. When Pleasant Valley fire department heard about the concept they expressed interest in forming their own Fire Explorer post. Fire inspector for Pleasant Valley has been made aware and is behind the project and will assist us anyway he can.

Craig reported positive strides in the area of pledged donations. Sunup and Idema construction will both donate material and help with laying the foundation. Craig already put together a building committee and had looked into contacting companies for off-color toilet fixtures, and plumbing supplies. Multi-channel radios may be donated. A fuel tank is also available if we want it. The committee considered whether the firehouse should be gas or oil powered and decided on oil.

The committee considered whether the firehouse should be enlarged to store the camp's backhoe and dump truck but rejected the idea. The committee considered whether to make the building out of wood or metal and decided that wood would be more in character with the camp.

Craig supplied photos of possible firehouses. The dimensions of the firehouse were reviewed: 50-60 feet deep, 30-40 feet wide, separate bunkrooms, and need washing facilities. As it will be a multi-use building the plan should include a room for training, and flush toilets and showers with a private entrance. Explorers have all their own equipment and gear. EMS supplies stored on site.

Craig reported that two scouts are drawing topographical maps of this facility for us. **Craig** will work on developing schematic floor plans and a conceptual design of the building from which materials list and cost can be discerned.

**Mike** will set up a meeting with Ralph and Eric and Craig and Carol to discuss the concept of the idea and feel out council's response to get council's green light before investing too much more effort into the project. Jim and Stan both expressed interest in being involved in the meeting. Kurt asked if there were any known council policies that would impede this project from taking place and Jim answered in the negative.

### **Ranger's Cabin**

The month of December saw a team of volunteers led by Daryl staining the entire cabin. They did a great job.

Regarding progress on getting the Certificate of Occupancy, Kurt reported that the building inspector is requiring a certification of structural soundness of the building certified to the current code, rather than the code of original building. As a result we need to check the pitch of roof. We also need to know the type of wood used for rafters. **Daryl** agreed to do both. Kurt anticipated that the report indicating certification from Spectra will be received at council within two weeks..

Regarding the Trimwork we changed the color from green to white after seeing the color of the stain. Butch will work on the trimwork at his leisure.

Daryl reported that the old porch has been torn off removing any safety hazard it presented. Daryl will work on building the new porch at his leisure.

### **Rental Cabins**

Mike mentioned that the topic of the rental cabins came up in his meeting with Ralph and that the view was the rental cabins are only of concern to the properties committee regarding issues of building maintenance and that he has not received any word on who the proper point person at council is regarding tenant issues. Until such a decision is determined and communicated Mike advised anyone with a reason to inquire about the rental cabins to send all inquiries to Ralph. Jim mentioned that he did not think such a simple characterization of the situation was accurate but that now was not the time to elaborate why. Jim reported that the new Tri-Valley DE retains the right of to occupy the vacant rental cabin as part of his compensation package and has not yet exercised his right to refusal.

### **Chimneys**

Repair work on the chimneys of Blodgett and AB has been tabled until the spring, as winter is the wrong time of the year to be working on mortar repairs.

### Calendar

Mike distributed a tentative calendar for January – May 2005 listing dates and monthly goals. Jim expressed discontent with the plans to hold meetings on Sunday evening during the months of February – May. Mike explained that it is the only day he is he can do until May as weeknights conflict with his school schedule, but that post-May he would be agreeable to rescheduling the meeting night. A discussion ensued and the meeting nights were retained on Sundays until May.

### OA Service Projects

The Order of the Arrow's spring ordeal weekend is scheduled for April 29 – May 1, 2005. In order to give the OA adequate time to plan for the service projects to be conducted that weekend the committee compiled a preliminary list of service projects for the ordeal. The list included:

- Replacing the AB roof,
- Renovating the Benedict Memorial
- Painting the waterfront dock,
- Staining Baden Powell,
- Staining the waterfront latrine
- Collecting scrap metal for disposal,
- Demolishing and removing the OA latrine, the old latrine in the Scout Skills area near the Berkshire Lean-tos.

Mike asked **Ryan** to consult **Wayne Mallen** and others in the OA to develop a plan of activity for renovating the Benedict Memorial to be approved by the Properties Committee at our March or April meeting. The **Committee** will look into the presence of a weird wall located behind the former Onondaga site to consider adding it to the removal and demolish list.

### Arbor Day & Dead Tree Removal

Mike set dead tree removal as a goal for the winter months particularly March where several woodcutting days will be planned.

Since the last known major tree planting effort at the camp was during the 1930s and many of these trees have been dying and falling Mike expressed interest in organizing a major tree planting effort to coincide with Arbor Day each year in April where units are asked to plant trees at camp according to a to-be-developed master landscaping plan for the camp. The committee needs to develop this plan and determine the type and location of trees to be planted. Ryan suggested Cindy Wolfe as someone qualified who might be willing to create this plan. **Ryan** agreed to contact her, copying Mike on any correspondence. Stan also mentioned he knows a forester who might be able to help.

Arbor Day this year is a Friday so the event would be planned for the following Saturday: April 30. As this coincided with the OA ordeal weekend Ryan was asked if the



OA objected to the scheduling of this event while an ordeal was in progress. Ryan voiced no objection. Jim was asked if he minded the committee planning what could be seen as a program event and he neither did he object to the scheduling of this event

It is hoped that units will supply or fund the cost of the trees to be donated themselves as a gift to the camp. Randy mentioned that the area next to Mohawk was clear-cut by a storm in years past and there are small saplings growing there now that are prime candidates for replanting.

**Mike** will send out an email to our mailing list asking someone to volunteer to coordinate an Arbor Day tree planting and will serve as the organizer organizing participating units until that volunteer is found.

### **Spillway Bridge**

The committee set its sights on replacing the Spillway Bridge beginning in April in keeping with the board of health's wishes that it be replaced. Starting work in April will more likely insure that it will be completed prior to summer camp. We will need to get approval from council and funds to begin building this in April in time to have it completed in time for summer camp. **Mike** will mention this to Ralph in seeking to get the five-year plan approved sooner rather than later. The committee will consider the precise detail of the bridge's construction at its February and March meetings.

### **Sanitization**

Mike reported that come Spring we will need to come up with system for cleaning and sanitizing the mattresses prior to the camp season and asked everyone to think about ideas to make this happen to discuss in the coming months.

Ryan mentioned that there were problems with flea and mite infestation during summer camp in the staff site (AKA Iroquois, AKA Tanaken). Ginny, who served as camp nurse, confirmed this outbreak. The problem was seen as a failure to rake and blow out underneath the tent platforms. The committee determined that this needs to be done in all the sites before campers arrive and that lifting the platforms would be best the best manner of cleaning out underneath them. After discussion this task was ruled appropriate for the summer camp staff to perform in each campsite during staff week.

### **Vehicles**

Randy reported that truck transmission is still leaking and that the seal on front of transmission is the problem. **Frank** volunteered to come up and check it out.

**Next Meeting: Sunday, February 6, 2005. 7 p.m. in Baden Powell Lodge**

Meeting ended 9:56