**ARCO NEWSLETTER**

**January 24, 2025**

**Board of Directors Meeting**

President – Dale Gilman (802)-249-0655

Vice President – Connie Clavadetscher (802)-343-8106

Treasurer – Brad Lockwood

Director – Kim Hubbard

Secretary – Sandra Reynolds (802)-868-7385

Road Commissioner - Patrick Ryan (802) 334-5277

Director – Greg Donahue

Vermont State Police, Derby - 802 334-8881 or call 911

Sheriff - Trevor Colby 802 676-3500

Border Patrol – 800 689-3362 24/7

Customs Point of Entry – Norton, VT 24/7 or call 911

Facebook - Averill Recreational Camp Owners, Inc

ARCO Website – [www.arcoinc.org](http://www.arcoinc.org)

The ARCO Board of Directors Meeting was held at 196 Loop Road on January 24, 2025. The meeting was called to order by President Dale Gilman at 10:00 AM. There were 5 board members present, including Dale Gilman, Connie Clavadetscher via MS Teams, Kim Hubbard, Patrick Ryan and Sandra Reynolds. Brad Lockwood and Greg Donahue were unable to attend. Business began with an approval of the agenda and approval of the previous meeting minutes. Meeting minutes were not initially approved but information added, sent for review, and voted on with approval.

**Secretary’s Report - Sandra Reynolds**

*January 25, 2025, report was read with no written report handed out to the board. The Board of Directors meeting minutes will be sent out to the ARCO community upon approval at the April 2025 meeting. There have been a few address updates that have been received of which those changes will be made in the master customer list. Three individuals still come back as mailer failures and will be contacted via telephone to ensure the list remains current.*

*MS Teams invites continue to be sent to the ARCO community to ensure transparency. Team’s invitations continue to work well, especially for members of the board who are unable to attend in person.*

*On January 23, 2025, ARCO board members received an ACT 250 Jurisdictional Opinion (JO 7-434), indicating that an ACT 250 Permit amendment is required to change the rule and operate golf carts on existing roads located on the tract of land identified in Permit 7E0041 and JO 7 – 312, in the town of Averill. The secretary suggested a public examination under Vermont’s Public Records Act be conducted because it appears ARCO is the only place in the state of Vermont where golf carts are classified as ATVs, especially given how the definition in Vermont Statutes reads.*

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Sandra Reynolds, Secretary*

Kim Hubbard made a motion to accept the secretary report. Patrick Ryan seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**Treasurer’s Report – Brad Lockwood (given by Dale Gilman on Brad’s behalf)**

ARCO finances were current as of December 31st, 2024, but are at the lowest point because of bad luck with road repairs and flooding. If anyone would like details, please reach out to the ARCO Treasurer.

Outstanding revenues included four lot fees and the State’s outstanding money for two years using the boat launch.

Since the previous meeting half of the flood repair invoice has been paid and ARCO received another invoice for beaver trapping from Matt LaFerrier for $200. was paid unpaid invoices

Discussion ensued about road repairs caused by the flooding.

Connie Clavadetscher indicated the BOD should educate the ARCO community and let members know previous flooding issues were affecting reserves to be proactive and transparent.

Dale Gilman noted that the flooding repairs may require raising assessments to increase ARCO reserves; this will be discussed and voted on by members at the annual meeting. He further noted that at the last annual meeting members voted down the increased assessment because everyone thought finances would be ok, but with historic flooding road repairs came in far higher than anticipated. Patrick Ryan stated it was a good idea to provide insight and receive input from members at the annual meeting.

The board is being proactive and the best stewards of resources by proactive with beaver management.

The board further discussed that there are 144 camps/properties in ARCO, and how much the community might need per member to increase ARCO revenue. They also discussed that we got money outside of ARCO, which members should be made aware of.

Gift cards anticipated for outgoing members were not included in the budget.

Sandra Reynolds made a motion to accept the Treasurer Report. Kim Hubbard seconded. Motion Carried.

**Road Report – Patrick Ryan**

The weather has significantly impacted ARCO roads and commissioner anticipates steady costs for lowing, keeping ditches open and early Spring. Currently, we are averaging $1,200 per plow, which may need to be discussed.

Connie Clavadetscher suggested a 3-year contract with some flexibility. Going back to a per plow might also prove beneficial.

I spoke with Cunningham (contracted to Fletcher) who indicated he was done plowing as of January. Fletcher is working the contract for him. Fletcher intends to purchase Cunningham’s equipment and business and will provide a bid for next year. ARCO may have more than one bid this year.

There is one section of the road which still needs repair, likely because the culvert is too small. The ledge is the issue. ARCO may need to replace the old culvert with a larger one. The road people want to go upstream and redirect the water. I will get an estimate from Rancourt. Kim Hubbard noted the only issue is this could be tied into the watershed project.

Patric Ryan noted he is aware the lumber company needs to make repairs; however, more information is needed about what the lumber company is responsible for with the watershed project so ARCO isn’t making improvements.

Connie Clavadetscher made a motion to approve the road report. Sandra Reynolds seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Updates on JO and UTG concerns about Golf Carts**

JO order indicated golf carts were not permitted. Discussion to appeal was discussed. Sandra Reynolds recommended submitting a Request for Reconsideration within the 30-day time frame and will send that the environmental commission. Further discussion was tabled for the April meeting, depending on the outcome.

**Feedback on New Construction of Sign Board**Sandra managed to obtain a free sign for member review. The board is up and aside from one complaint, members have reacted positively.

Kim Hubbard would like to see road-side markers like what Silvio Conte has, which say ARCO, so outsiders are aware where it is. He suggested “Private Property” signs as opposed to “No Trespassing.” Kim will speak with Terry Mitchell about putting signs up and he is working on a proposal for cost. Dale Gilman worries the signs may get torn down and Connie Clavadetscher recommended bringing the issue to the annual meeting, especially given ARCO only owns the inner roads.

**Payment Status for Boat Launch Lease**

Dale Gilman indicated ARCO’s W9 got sent to him. Brad Lockwood thinks he sent it in September or October of 24. Dale followed up with Mike, from the State, it should be around $2,000.

**Funding for Outgoing Board Members**Dale will get gift cards for 5 outgoing members totaling $500.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Watershed Project**

It might be in ARCO’s best interest to select members to work with the watershed project. There may be money in efforts to eliminate silt and the project may install bridges. Kim Hubbard will attend meetings to monitor for ARCO. He indicated that he attended ALA meetings and holds a position on the Board for Science, collecting water samples, etc. They are seeking how to narrow trouble spots. ARCO offers a unique position because of the roads.

The watershed project is also focusing on how to hold back lakes, so they don’t fill up. They are seeking boat launch monitors for decontamination of boats. Sandra will send an email to members seeking 18+ years old members.

**Beach Committee**

Connie Clavadetscher will form a beach committee with members to work on trespass signs and permit stickers, taking a conversation approach to work with campers to address issues at the beach. Connie will draft an email for Secretary to send.

Dale Gilman thinks it must be legally posted and submitted to the Town Clerk; then people can be prosecuted on a non-trespass order.

ARCO’s beaches were in the national news for having pristine beaches during COVID. The local storekeeper also told people. This coverage may be contributing to recent issues at the beach including camping, breaking glass, starting fires, and fights.

Kim Hubbard will investigate creating by permission only pamphlets to hand out.

Sandra Reynolds will introduce Tim Barry to Connie Clavadetscher via email and Connie Clavadetscher will find an email for the Quimby Club.

**Comments**

Thus far they have trapped six beavers.

People have been pooping in the bushes at the beach, discussion for a porta-potty will be taken to membership.

Dale received a letter from UTG which referred to cancellation of sheriff’s contracts and the UTG indicated ARCO should self-regulate. Dale proposed following up and asking the UTG if it will be sending the Sheriff out to patrol.

**Dates of Board Meetings**The majority of upcoming board meetings will be held the second Saturday of each quarter to include the following, some locations to be determined:

* October 12, 2024 – 196 Loop Road, Averill, VT (Camp Grin An’ Bear It) 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
* January 25, 2025 – 196 Loop Road, Averill, VT (Camp Grin An’ Bear It) 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
* April 12, 2025 – MS Teams 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
* July 5, 2025 – Place TBD
* August 2, 2025 (Annual Meeting, In-person attendance is required. Third warning of annual meeting date and time.)

**Adjournment**

Patrick Ryan made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 12:01 p.m. Sandra Reynolds seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 12:01 p.m.

***As a reminder, paper copies of meeting minutes are no longer being mailed. All minutes are sent via email and/or are posted on the ARCO website. If you wish to receive minutes by email, please contact the ARCO Secretary.***