

Sleepy Hollow Lot Owners Association Newsletter

www.shloa.com

September 2016



OFFICE

President
Vice President
Treasurer
VP Roads
VP Communications
VP Common Facilities
Secretary

SHLOA BOARD

Mary D'Ovidio
D. Elaine Wright
Rick Roscoe
Roger Brown
Rick Inclima
Richard Sussmann
Mary Oldham

SHLOA BOARD MEETINGS

A notice announcing the date, place & time of a Board Meeting will be placed on the bulletin board at the mailboxes approximately 10 days before each meeting. If you have any questions, please contact a board member.

TO CONTACT THE BOARD

Please address all issues to the Board in writing. Send your correspondence to:

SHLOA
65 Audubon Road
Hedgesville, WV 25427
e-mail: sleepyhollowhoawv@yahoo.com

EMERGENCY NUMBERS

Fire or Emergencies: Call 911

Morgan County Sheriff Non-emergency	304-258-1067
Berkeley County Sheriff Non-emergency	304-267-7000
State Police/Martinsburg	304-267-0000
State Police/ Berkeley Springs	304-258-2101
Div. of Natural Resources; Enforcement	304-267-0037

Remember, SHLOA is not a law enforcement agency
Call the proper authorities when you need help.

SHLOA 2016 ELECTION RESULTS

The SHLOA Annual Meeting was held on Saturday, June 18, 2016. The ballots for the 2016 SHLOA election were counted, verified by the Election Committee, and announced at the Annual Meeting. Below are the election results:

BALLOTS

Number of Ballots Mailed:	455
Ballots Returned:	139 (30.5%)
Ballots Ineligible/Invalid	2

ELECTION RESULTS

Candidates Named On Ballot

Mary D'Ovidio	129 Votes*
Roger Brown	127 Votes*
Mary Oldham	131 Votes*

Write-in Candidates

Ron Patterson	1 Vote
Chris Mong	1 Vote

A special thanks to all our volunteers, especially our write-in candidates who stepped up to offer their time and effort to help our community. Everyone is a winner, especially Sleepy Hollow!



It's hunting season; let's all stay safe out there!

**WEAR SIGNIFICANT AMOUNTS OF BLAZE ORANGE
DURING HUNTING SEASON, EVEN ON SUNDAYS!**

Also, please don't let your pets roam, especially during hunting season. Both Morgan and Berkeley counties have leash laws, please follow them and help keep your pets and your neighbors safe.

FROM THE BOARD

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

Road work this year started late due to unforeseen circumstances. The Board reviewed bids from several contractors in April. The first one we selected and hoped could start the end of May, informed us that because of the very wet spring and other contracts, they had to put us at the bottom of their list. Therefore, the Board decided to choose another contractor.

Unfortunately, the selected contractor did not begin work on the roads until the middle of June and progress has been slow. We were informed by the contractor that work was completed on August 31, 2016. We regret that the work on the unpaved roads took so long to complete. The Roads Committee will inspect the work and assure it meets contract specifications before signing off on project completion.

Meanwhile, work on the maintenance lot is progressing well. Trees have been cut where necessary and a driveway designated. The lot was graded in late August and stone/shale was spread for the driveway and the material pad where our salt box will be located. We have enough salt to last 2-3 years. The maintenance lot will be operational this winter. *(See photo on page 4)*

The lake and ball field are in good condition and have been enjoyed by residents all summer. I certainly hope all of you have enjoyed your summer and look forward to a beautiful fall season.

Mary D'Ovidio
President

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR TREASURER

The 2016 assessment collections have gone very well including the past due. To date we have collected over \$12,000.00 in past due assessments. We are now dealing with several that simply, in my opinion, have no intention of paying.

All overdue accounts have been forwarded to the associations attorney and, on September 5, 2016, will be instructed to move forward and obtain property judgements against these owners.

Rick Roscoe
Treasurer

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR VP OF ROADS

Road work for this year is complete. Sorry for the delay, we will take steps to assure it won't happen again.

Remember winter is coming so make sure your vehicle is prepared. We do pretreat the asphalt for snow and ice with salt and the use of cinder on hills but there is a 3" minimum for plowing to begin.

We have had problems with residents using salt on dirt roads, this cannot happen. Use of salt on dirt roads causes soft muddy spots that have to be dug out and repacked to fix, wasting money.

Roger Brown
VP Roads

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR VICE PRESIDENT OF COMMUNICATIONS

Our 1st and 2nd Quarter Newsletters will continue to be published and available in both printed and electronic format. Our 3rd and 4th Quarter Newsletters will be published on-line only and posted on our website at www.shloa.com.

We will continue to email a copy of each edition of the SHLOA Newsletter to every resident who has signed up to receive the newsletter my email. Any homeowner who has not already done so can sign up for electronic newsletter distribution by sending an email to SHLOA at Sleepyhollowhoawv@yahoo.com. Please put “newsletter” in the subject line, and include your name, mailing address, lot number & section, and email address. We will gladly accommodate your request and send future newsletters directly to your inbox.

Please visit our website regularly for important information and community updates. Thanks and enjoy the Fall season!

Rick Inclima
VP Communications



SHLOA Maintenance Lot on Rocky Trail. The Maintenance lot was approved through a membership referendum in 2015, and will be operational in time for the 2016 snow removal season.

BUDGET

2016 BUDGET AS OF August 31, 2016	2016 BUDGET	YTD	DIFFERENCE
INCOME			
2016 HOME OWNERS ASSESSMENTS	\$114,300.00	\$106,364.48	7,935.52
MISCELLANEOUS INCOME	\$300.00	\$0.00	300.00
OPERATING INTEREST	\$100.00	\$0.00	100.00
REFUNDS		\$275.00	
MAIL BOXES		\$280.00	(\$280.00)
TOTAL INCOME	\$114,700.00	\$105,719.48	8,980.52
2016 RESERVE ALLOCATIONS			
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND	\$17,145.00	\$15,909.67	1,235.33
EMERGENCY FUND	\$11,430.00	\$10,676.06	753.94
TOTAL RESERVE FUND	\$28,575.00	\$26,585.73	1,989.27
FIXED ESPENSES			
INSURANCE/TAX/LICENCES/PERMITS	\$4,000.00	\$3,933.99	66.01
STORAGE	\$600.00	\$0.00	600.00
PHONE AT LAKE	\$550.00	\$335.44	214.56
LIGHTS AT BALLFIELD AND LAKE	\$320.00	\$196.30	123.70
RELIEF STATIONS	\$1,000.00	\$473.82	526.18
COMMUNICATIONS	\$1,050.00	\$772.03	277.97
ANNUAL ELECTION	\$450.00	\$500.85	50.85
TOTAL	\$7,970.00	\$4,394.36	3,575.64
ADMINISTRATIVE			
ADMINISTRATIVE/OFFICE SUPPLIES	\$350.00	\$360.47	10.47
COMPUTER, SOFTWARE, OFFICE EQPT	\$150.00	\$0.00	150.00
LEGAL FEES	\$4,500.00	\$2,000.00	2,500.00
TREASURERS/ACCOUNTING/INVOICING	\$3,700.00	\$351.53	3,348.47
TOTAL	\$8,700.00	\$2,712.00	5,988.00
ROAD UPGRADES			
UNPAVED	\$24,000.00	\$14,135.00	9,865.00
PAVED	\$1,000.00	\$379.60	620.40
SNOW REMOVAL	\$12,000.00	\$12,997.92	997.92
TOTAL	\$37,000.00	\$27,512.52	9,487.48
COMMON FACILITIES			
LAKE ATTENDANT	\$5,500.00	\$2,620.00	2,880.00
LAWN CONTRACT	\$6,100.00	\$3,519.20	2,580.80
MAINTENANCE	\$7,300.00	\$6,564.09	735.91
MAIL BOXES		\$0.00	0.00
TOTAL	\$18,900.00	\$12,703.29	6,196.71
2016 RESERVE FUND			
	\$13,555.00		
TOTAL 2016 EXPENSES	\$114,700.00	\$73,907.90	40,792.10

Clean-up Day set for Sat., October 22nd

9:00 am -12:00 pm

COME JOIN THE FUN
AT
FALL CLEAN-UP DAY

HELP BEAUTIFY OUR COMMUNITY
MEET YOUR NEIGHBORS AND ENJOY THE OUTDOORS

MEET AT THE BALLFIELD
VOLUNTEERS ARE ALWAYS NEEDED AND APPRECIATED!

SHLOA will sponsor a cookout and provide refreshments at noon at the pavilion!



What to bring?: Volunteers should bring garden tools such as rakes, pruners, bow saws, plastic trash bags, push booms, shovels, etc.

What will be done?: Volunteers will undertake various clean-up tasks identified by the Board of Directors such as raking the beach; realigning beach sand barriers; brush cutting around lake, dam, and common facilities; brush/debris removal; trash removal along roadway and ditch lines, etc.

What to wear?: Volunteers should wear sturdy work boots, work gloves, long pants, hat, sunscreen, safety glasses, and other appropriate workwear.

Who would believe we can go from this.....,



to this, so quickly???



Sleepy Hollow Snow Plowing Policy

Yes, it is almost that time of year again! It is possible that we will begin experiencing winter weather before the 4th quarter newsletter is published. Therefore, we are republishing our snow removal policy to keep our residents informed.

SHLOA follows a long-established policy regarding the plowing of roads during winter weather. The policy clearly states that roads are plowed whenever the depth reaches 3 inches anywhere in the development. We have unpaid volunteers checking on snow depth throughout the community especially in the problem areas. If the depth is not 3 inches, we do not plow due to our limited plowing budget. Thank you.



How You Can Help This Winter

Remove all vehicles from the roadway to facilitate plowing and treatment of road surfaces;
Do not park in cul-de-sacs because plow trucks need to turn around and need places to push snow;
Do not attempt to plow roads yourself. This can damage the roads and impede drainage;
Please be patient with our contractors and the SHLOA Board; we are doing our best to provide these services;
Please check in on your neighbors for their safety.
Thank you!

BLOCKED OR MISSING DRIVEWAY CULVERTS ARE A MAIN CAUSE OF EROSION ON UNPAVED ROADS!

Please keep your driveway culverts clear of debris to facilitate rainwater flow into the ditch lines. Otherwise, the water flows out on the road and causes serious erosion damage, especially on the unpaved roads. Installing and maintaining driveway culverts is the responsibility of property owners. Please help us keep our roads passable by installing and maintaining driveway culverts.

If you need a contractor for hire to clean or install a driveway culvert, residents may contact VP of Roads, Roger Brown, for a recommendation at Rbrown.shloa@yahoo.com.

WEST VIRGINIA CODE

§20-2-58. Shooting across road or near building or crowd; penalty.

(a) In addition to any other prohibitions which may exist by law, it shall be unlawful for any person to shoot or discharge any firearms:

(1) Across or in any public road in this state, at any time;

(2) Within five hundred feet of any school or church; or

(3) Within five hundred feet of any dwelling house: *Provided*, That a person who is a resident of a dwelling house, and his or her authorized guest, may shoot or discharge a firearm in a lawful manner within five hundred feet of the dwelling house where the person lives, if the firearm is being discharged with the express or implied knowledge and consent of all residents of that dwelling house, and no other dwelling houses are located within five hundred feet of where the firearm is discharged; or

(4) On or near any park or other place where persons gather for purposes of pleasure.

(b) Any person violating this section is guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction thereof, shall be fined not less than fifty dollars nor more than \$500 or confined in jail for not more than one hundred days, or both fined and confined.

(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a) of this section, any person operating a gun repair shop, licensed to do business in the State of West Virginia and duly licensed under applicable federal statutes, may be exempted from the prohibition established by this section and section twelve, article seven, chapter sixty-one of this code for the purpose of test firing a firearm. The director of the Division of Natural Resources shall prescribe such rules as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of the exemption under this section and section twelve, article seven, chapter sixty-one and shall ensure that any person residing in any dwelling home within five hundred feet of such gun repair shop be given an opportunity to protest the granting of such exemption. *Note: WV Code updated with legislation passed through the [2013 1st Special Session](#). The WV Code Online is an unofficial copy of the annotated WV Code, provided as a convenience. It has not been edited for publication, and is not in any way official or authoritative.*

Please obey all firearms and hunting laws and practice gun safety. Also, be sure to wear plenty of Blaze Orange outerwear as required by law whenever you are hunting or hiking. Have a safe and enjoyable Fall, and enjoy the great outdoors!

Resident Reports Bear Sighting in Sleepy Hollow

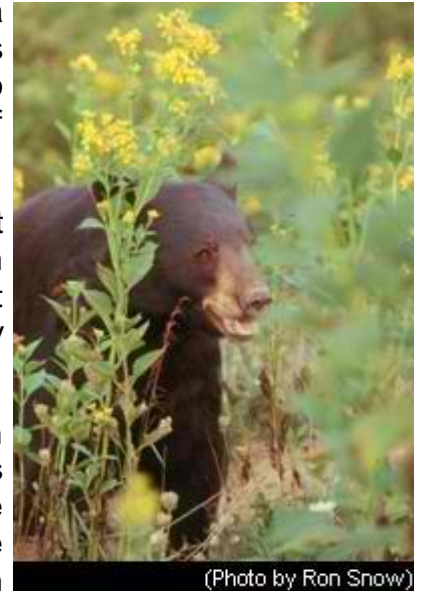
A black bear was sighted in Sleepy Hollow by a resident in late August. The bear was spotted in the backyard at the tree line. While this is not surprising due to the wilderness area surrounding Sleepy Hollow, we are informing residents so you are aware and take precautions to protect yourselves, your pets, and the bears. Please see information about black bears below published by the WV Division of Natural Resources.

Division of Natural Resources Warns: Don't Feed the Bears!

The Division of Natural Resources cautions all West Virginia residents that the feeding of black bears is a violation of state law, as well as a misguided disservice to our state animal, according to Christopher Ryan, Black Bear Project Leader for the Division of Natural Resources Wildlife Resources Section.

"It is understandable that some people will illegally set out food to get a glimpse of this magnificent animal," Ryan said. "However, too often these actions regrettably result in the death of the bear. Bears that wander near residential areas in search of food are less likely to stay if they do not find anything to eat."

Bear populations have increased and expanded across the state in the last 10 years. "We have been receiving numerous calls concerning bear sightings from areas that have not had bears in the recent past. Bears have been reported in all 55 counties and we have received many reports of sows with cubs in the northern and western portion of the state."



(Photo by Ron Snow)

Bears often become habituated to handouts and lose their fear of humans. When bears lose this fear they resort to raiding garbage, outdoor freezers, and other food sources associated with people. Unfortunately, if these activities are repeated, Division of Natural Resources personnel are forced to humanely destroy the offender for safety reasons.

"Unintentional feeding of black bears is a major concern to the Division of Natural Resources," Ryan said. "People need to secure garbage in bear-proof facilities and place trash out for collection on the morning of pick-up. Residents should remove all outside pet food at night, and bird feeders should be taken down, cleaned, and stored until late fall to further discourage feeding around human habitation."

Feeding of any wildlife should be avoided for numerous reasons including but not limited to disease transmission, increased predation, habitat destruction around the feeding site, ethical concerns, and the animal's overall health. Following these practical and common sense recommendations will reduce bear-human conflicts and assure that more of the state's animals will remain wild.

For more information on how to discourage nuisance bears or anyone experiencing bear problems should contact the local DNR District Office.

*****TELL THE BOARD*****

Mail Change of Ownership and Address update form to: SHLOA, 65 Audubon Rd, Hedgesville, WV 25427

CHANGE OF OWNERSHIP OR ADDRESS/UPDATE YOUR INFORMATION	
Date: _____	
Section(s) and Lot(s) _____ County (for each lot) : _____ 911 Address (for each applicable lot): _____ _____ _____	Section(s) and Lot(s) _____ Date of Settlement or Title Change: _____
<i>Current Information:</i> Your Name(s) : _____ Street/POBox/Apt: _____ _____ City: _____ State: ___ ZipCode: _____ Do you own a mailbox at the ball field? _____ Unit and Box? _____ Phone Number at above address: _____ Sleepy Hollow Phone # (if different from above) _____ email address : _____ Emergency Phone #: _____ Emergency Contact: _____	<i>New Information</i> New Owner's Name(s): or change of address _____ (if applicable) Street/POBox/Apt: _____ _____ City: _____ State: _____ ZipCode: _____ Phone Number at above address: _____ Sleepy Hollow Phone # _____ (if different from above) email address: _____ Emergency Phone #: _____ Emergency Contact: _____