

**Shawneeland Sanitary District Advisory Committee
Minutes of May 7, 2018**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm.

Those in attendance were Barry Vanmeter, Michelle Landon, Jeff Stevens, Kevin Alderman, Michelle Springer, and 13 people in the audience. Lynn Schmitt, Marianne Biviano, and Gary Lofton were absent.

In the absence of Lynn Schmitt, Barry Vanmeter acted as chairman.

Barry called for approval/correction of the February 5, 2018 meeting minutes. Michelle L. made a motion to pass the minutes as written. Jeff seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Manager's Report:

The tree cutting is winding down for the spring. There are a few more to cut this week and that will be it till fall. There were 10 trees removed from Red Fox Trail on April 25th, there are still 8 more to remove which I will schedule in a couple months. We cleared all the brush and the mess that was between the golf greens. In doing that it made a nice improvement to the area. We will keep that area maintained from this point on. We are doing our weekly mowing. We will not mow the Butterfly Weigh Stations again this year. Orndorff's will deliver the trout for the upcoming Fishing Derby on Friday. They will distribute 100 trout in each of the ponds and 200 in Cherokee Lake. The Lake level has risen so the beach will be open this year. We will get the beach prepped and ready the week of May 21st. The gate to the beach entrance will be unlocked on May 24th. I have gotten the trail list together for the Tar & Chip Project that will take place this fall. The list does include most of the trails on top of the mountain and a couple trails down the mountain. And lastly, hopefully the weather will hold out so next month we can begin our asphalt patching with the motor grader.

Any questions regarding the Manager's Report: No

New Business: No

Open Forum:

* A resident spoke regarding the geese issues at Cherokee Lake. There hasn't been any seen down there, don't know if that is a good sign or not. It is impossible to take your kid's the beach to go swimming. There's got to be something that we can do. The resident was told that it's been looked into and it is just too expensive. But what is too expensive, it is one of the last assets that we have. The pool was filled in and the lodge has been torn down. If we lose the lake, what will we have for the future. It would be nice if there is something that we can do about the geese. The resident has looked online at how other communities deter the geese. One community tied string on the beach, another put a special light on the lake. The resident had spoken with the Ranger at Clearbrook Park a few years ago and they use geese bombs. The lake used to be beautiful and I like to take my grandkids down there. The lake is an asset that we should try to keep.

-Barry responded that the topic has been covered quite a few times. A lot of the question is effectiveness and what we legally can and cannot do. If you have any suggestions as to what others have had done to successfully deter the geese, we will be happy to look at them.

*The question was raised about the lack of communication from the Advisory Committee. There is none. No newsletter, no sense of community, there is no communication. We need people to serve on the Advisory Committee. We need different people on the committee instead of the same ones all the time. There are 3 new residents on my block on Willow and they know nothing about Shawneeland. The county does a great job. Very appreciative of what they have done.

*It was stated that it would be nice if we communicated to the residents, new and old more often. We need a 5 to 10-year plan. Something that we could look forward to and help our community grow. We will never have state-maintained roads. It would be nice to have a plan to what will happen if the lake drains or to build a path or something, so the kids don't have to walk in the dark on Tecumseh Trail.

*A resident asked if there is any assistance for those who cannot afford to pay their Sanitary District Fee. The county gives assistance on taxes, just wondered about the Sanitary District helping someone who is elderly or unable to work and just cannot afford to pay the fees.

-Barry's response was not at the moment there is no assistance but asked the resident if they were willing to talk for a few minutes after the meeting. Barry wanted to ask a few questions on a more one on one basis.

*Question about outdoor burning.

-There is no outdoor burning until October. No open-air fires May 1st to October 1st. Questions on fires/burning should be directed to the Fire Department. The Frederick County website has specifications on fires/burning.

*Could we upgrade the No ATV sign at the beginning of Shawneeland? The sign is dirty, cheap, and old.

*It was noticed that there are games or practices at the ballfield. Is the Frederick County Parks and Recreation using our field for these games? Not that we are aware of. If there are outsiders coming in and using the field, could we charge them? We are the ones paying for all the maintenance on the field. Barry said the next time he sees something going on there he will stop and talk to them to see if they are supposed to be here. If there is not a resident from Shawneeland there, then they should not be using the field but if it is a resident with their family and friends then they can use it to their hearts content. It looked to be an organized group.

*There is a dead tree by the Old Mailhouse, could that be taken down? Is the tree obvious? Yes.

*There are daylilies at the Old Mailhouse, is it okay to remove them? The resident knows someone who would like to have them. They are located to the left of the structure. They grow like wild fire. You must

remove some for irrigation. They were there before the renovations. Will discuss with the committee and get back to them.

*It was directed to Kevin about widening the roads. What will the base be for that? Is it the same standard as VDOT? Will there be gravel put down? No, we will dig it down 6 or 8 inches and cover it up with asphalt. Can you put asphalt on dirt? Yes.

*Another resident said that communities in New Jersey and parts of New York use geese chasers. They are sort of like scarecrows. You wave it a little bit and it chases the geese away. Was this through their DNR or Natural Resources? Yeah, but more specifically they have companies that do it professionally.

*Another resident said that she had found some information about giving the geese contraceptives. The geese have been an ongoing issue. We have talked about having the guys come in with dogs that basically spend 2 or 3 summers chasing that geese which no longer makes it a safe spot for them. The question was asked if we can shoot them? No, the geese are a protected animal. If you have any suggestions, we will be happy to look at it. Could it be put in the budget? Yes, if we have a plan for an effective solution. The resident would be happy to serve on a sub-committee to come up with an effective way to get rid of the geese.

*Is there any news about the fire at the Bowman Mailhouse? There is no determined cause of the fire. Are they going to clean it up more? Kevin will look to see what needs to be done.

*A resident asked what is an estimate that we spend on repairs for vandalism? Would it be possible to install motion sensor cameras?

*A new resident asked if the committee could introduce themselves, so she could put a name and face together. Everyone at the table introduced themselves.

Michelle L. made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Jeff seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:36pm.