

**Minutes of the Halifax Community Club Annual Meetings on Jan. 15, 2024
Lynda Copeland's, 1581 Hanson Road, Halifax VT**

Zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7814490827?pwd=TStzZDJlWW9TYnZtajJrSjIKUIQ1Zz09&omn=84328720441>

Meeting ID: 781 449 0827, Passcode: [xxx]

One tap mobile: +13052241968,,7814490827#,,,,*[xxx]# US

Attendees: Gretchen Becker (VP, Trustee 2023), John Kirk (Treasurer, Trustee 2022), Laurel Copeland (Pres, Clerk, Trustee 2023), Bonnie Brown (Trustee 2023), Joan Courser (Trustee 2022), Linda Lyon, Andrea Underwood Jones, David Jones, Gary Rand, Andrea Rand, Diana Conway, Cassie McLaren, Mark Halverson, Francisco Cabas (Zoom). **Unable to attend:** Liz Moore, Mia Joiner-Moore, Edee Edwards, Penfield Chester, Jason Ashcroft, Marilyn Allen, Nancy McCrea, Lynda Copeland, Julia Copeland, Heidi Schmitt.

NB: Trustees are elected for 3-year terms; year of election is noted in parentheses above. Clerk is elected annually by the membership. Bylaws:

<https://czresearch.com/halifax/BYLAWSOFTHEHALIFAXCOMMUNITYCLUBINC.pdf>

ANNUAL MEETING CONVENES at 6:30 PM

1. **Meeting Minutes** from Feb. 13, 2023 – vote to approve (online at <https://czresearch.com/halifax/MinutesHalifaxCommunityClub2023-02-13.pdf>)
2. **Treasurer's Report** – (John) The balance in the bank account at year end was \$22,300.95, an increase of \$2,300 over last year. Propane and electrical expenses increased about \$100 each over the last year, insurance was up \$30, and no major capital improvements were made, although the ice cream trailer received a new roof, a cabinet was purchased and assembled, and door hinges replaced. Thanks to Gary Rand, Jason Ashcroft, and David Jones. Income increased by \$1579 thanks to the new cafe. Senior Solutions changed the formula for reimbursement for the monthly senior meal. We netted \$537.39 compared to \$480 under the old formula. We also received the first matching donations totaling \$1048.55 from two donors who work for companies with those programs.
3. **New Business**
 - a. **New members are welcomed!** – Andrea & David Jones, Mark Halverson, Cassie McLaren, Francisco Cabas, Liz Moore & Mia Joiner-Moore.
 - b. **Vote on Trustees with expired terms** – N/A.
 - c. **Vote on Clerk (occurs annually)** (incumbent is Laurel) – The members elected Laurel.
 - d. **Add signature authority over the Community Club bank account at Brattleboro Savings & Loan (acct. #139001042) to Laurel Copeland** – Voted in favor of.
 - e. **Sign letter to Benevity, workplace donation management** – Done.
 - f. **Ice Cream Wagon** – Gary Rand and Jason Ashcroft replaced the roof on the Ice Cream Wagon. Thank you, Jason and Gary!!!
 - g. **MCC model update** – Report on the Halifax Café (Laurel): In the first seven months of being open two days a week (10-1 on Thursday & Saturday), the Café welcomed at

least 122 people who made at least 544 visits. There were a few days when we did not keep track of who came in. We were closed four days between Thursday June 1 (opening day) and Saturday December 16, after which we closed for three weeks (5 Café days) for the holiday period. We hosted four speaker events including “Talk with the Fire Chief” and “Grid Reliability” which drew new people to the Café. We hosted two post-Café events (two beaver talks). We held fundraisers for Halifax Historical Society (4 days) and Halifax Cemeteries (1 day); our next fundraiser will be “Soup For Boots” for the Fire Department on Saturday January 27. All of the nuts, cookies, fresh fruit, snack bars, milk, cream, coffee, cocoa, tea bags, and baked goods have been donated. Several people also donated equipment (coffee thermos; teapot; coffee maker). The Select Board members have been exceptionally generous. David Jones, Gary Rand, and Pete Silverberg have repaired, replaced, and assembled things for us. Diana Conway has organized several events including connecting with the school to initiate "Read to the Dog" visits from Therapy Dog Kelso and his companion Linda Lyon. Andrea Underwood Jones and I have opened, provisioned (especially Andrea & David Jones), hosted, and closed up each day the Café was open. We are looking for a third person to spell us on occasion. In all, the Café brought in \$4,431; of that, we donated \$1,752 netting the HCC \$2,679 including \$1100 in checks shown in Treasurer’s report under “donations.” So far this calendar year the Café has hosted a COVID vaccination clinic on our first day open post-holiday (1/6/2024). That day, 20 people visited the Café including 8 who got COVID jabs (and one of those also got a flu shot).

Joan expressed gratitude for the expanded use of the Hall.

- h. **Other new business** – All members are invited to propose maintenance / upgrade ideas for the Hall: kitchen flooring & padding, storm glass upgrade, solar panels / heat exchangers, other? It was suggested we look into getting the Hall in the registry of historic places, although this may limit what changes can be made to the building; pros and cons should be weighed carefully.

4. Events in 2024

- a. **Saturday, May 25, 2024 - Edie Fenton Memorial Plant Swap**, West Halifax – Coordinate with Halifax Historical Society open house
- b. **Saturday, July 6, 2024 - Ice Cream Wagon at Halifax Firemen's Auction**, West Halifax
- c. **Saturday, August 3, 2024 - Ice Cream Wagon at Halifax Firemen's Clam Bake**, Old Cody Farm, Old County Road, Halifax

5. Old Business

- a. **Ice Cream Wagon –Volunteers are needed** to help Joan & Laurel with Ice Cream Wagon events. Gary has graciously volunteered to tow the wagon to events when Wayne wants to stop. Last year’s events: **Jacksonville Blueberry Festival** (members are strongly in favor of doing this again; date TBD); Halifax Firemen’s Auction; Halifax Firemen’s Clam Bake; Halifax School Fundraiser (donation to school). Mark volunteered to be trained in ice creamery, pending clearance under the new roof.

- b. **Dinners for Us** – Organizer needed. New England House, potluck at someone’s home—Linda volunteered her place in warm weather. We will follow up via email.
- c. **Shout Out to Gary Rand** – for repairs, for helping, for building, and for 7 pies on Pie Day! Don’t forget his Beef Barley Soup.

MEETING ADJOURNED 7:00 PM

ANNUAL TRUSTEE MEETING CONVENEED 7:06 pm

- i. Elections – Vote to install President, Vice President, and Treasurer (occurs annually). The trustees voted to re-elect Treasurer John Kirk, VP Gretchen Becker, and President Laurel Copeland.
- ii. Membership fee – “The trustees shall establish the amount for the annual membership fee.” The trustees voted to keep dues at \$5 and encourage donations. [12 people paid their dues this evening.]
- iii. **Adjourned at 7:09 pm**

NEXT REGULAR MEETING: N/A; meetings will continue on an as-needed basis