

SMEPOA Board Meeting Minutes November 21, 2009, Pat Davis home, 10 AM  
All 9 board members attended. Minutes from the last board meeting on September 12, 2009 were read and approved as written.

**Treasurer:** Mark Buchheim reported that second invoices were sent. A total of 83 property owners have paid, while 50 have not yet paid. Some are on payment plans. Over the last 90 days we have received \$14,520. We now have \$49,258.49 in checking and saving. Mark said he has explored buying a CD but the board agreed that the rates are not yielding enough interest to bother with that at this time. Dennis moved that we waive the 2009 late fee if the \$550 for the year is paid by April 1<sup>st</sup>, with time payments offered as usual. MSA. Mike agreed to compose a letter, with committee help, to make the offer. Several who have already paid the late fee will have it credited back to them. The treasurer's report was accepted MSA.

**Roads:** Dennis reported that most of the dirt that was delivered has been distributed along with crusher run, rye grass seed and hay along the roadsides. Thanks to Kris Lovejoy and Vickie Holyfield for working on this with Dennis.

**Communication:** Anita said we should send more photos to Mike Jolly for our smepoa.com website.

**Neighborhood:** Tim said he will contact several new homeowners to have them participate in the neighborhood watch network. The board reminds owners to look to their own security plans for protecting their property (i.e., alarms, cameras, gates, locks, etc.).

**Legal:** We are still waiting for a ruling on the appeal of the cases brought against us by 2 of our neighbors. The judge on the cases, Oliver Doss, has resigned from the Superior Court. An invoice from Attorney Herman Clark has been paid. Mike is planning to post a letter on our smepoa.com website updating everyone on legal matters and expenses. Clayton said he has discussed our roads with Dawson County officials and that they still have no interest in taking them over unless a Special Tax District were approved. It appears that the process would involve a preliminary approval by the Dawson County Commission and then approval by a majority of registered Dawson County Voters who own property on affected roads. If that vote were successful, the Dawson County Commission would then have final approval of the measure, including a budget to bring the roads up to County Standards. Following that approval, Dawson County would levy a Special Tax upon every Sassafras Mountain Estates property owner who uses the roads to access their property. The County would then be responsible for road maintenance.

**Firewise:** Clayton reported that 9 mountain residents have completed the 25-hour training for certification by the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT). These people are prepared to give support to emergency personnel in case of an event. Mike Jolly will be trained as a firefighter beginning in February.

The next meeting will be Saturday January 9 at 10 AM at Anita's home.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:40 AM.

Submitted by Bonnie Lovejoy, Secretary