

HPPOA Board Meeting Minutes
October 15, 2026 | 7:00 p.m.
Home of Neil Gershman
5020 West Smoki

- I. **Call to Order** — The meeting was called to order at 7:00.

Attendance

Present: Nelson Ross, Peter Tyson, Chris Moore, Betsy Hibbs, Nina Williams, Darren Osten, and Neil Gershman.

Absent: Paul Carr, Doug McLaughlin

Committee member present:

Guests: Diana Herman

Officer and Committee Reports

- II. **President's Report — Nelson Ross:** Nothing specific to report. Nelson raised the idea of conducting a census of Highland Pines residents to determine how many live here full time and how many live here part time.
- III. **Treasurer's Report — Peter Tyson:** Over the two-month period, the HPPOA checking account recorded income of \$2,285.00 and expenses of \$2,851.02. The checking balance therefore declined from \$18,942.90 on August 1 to \$18,376.88 on September 30. The money market account balance on September 30 was \$22,064.30.
Motion: Nelson moved to approve the Treasurer's Report. Chris seconded the motion. The motion passed.
- IV. **Firewise / Chipper Day — Nelson Ross:** Nelson does not expect tomorrow's Chipper Day to involve a heavy workload or take a full day. Doug McLaughlin would like two truckloads of chips, and Toni Hoge would also like more chips. Nelson is updating the Firewise paperwork, which is due by the end of November. This will be the last Chipper Day held at the county yard. Jerry Borgelt has ideas for future locations.
- V. **Grants — Paul Carr:** Paul has all the paperwork needed to apply for the AIM grant for the August Chipper Day and will submit it soon. Paperwork must be submitted by the end of the month for the event to receive immediate consideration. An application for the Title III grant for next year's Chipper Day has been submitted.
- VI. **Community Relations / Welcome Packet — Tom Shedden absent but gave the following written report:** No packets have been sent out since the last meeting. Tom has five packets ready and should have enough postage to mail them. He expects to receive Holly Meneou's mailer showing the sales that have occurred since July 2026 and will send the packets once he receives the information.

- VII. **Fire Safety — Darren Osten:** Darren conducted a couple of patrols this weekend. He visited a location reported on Facebook and dismantled a fire ring. There are two camping spots along that road. The RV near Nelson's property is gone.
- VIII. **Membership — Nina Williams:** An additional 27 people paid membership dues, and 13 mailings were returned as undeliverable. Chris says it is outstanding work that Nina is doing. There are 290 non-members and 191 members.
An email blast was suggested to inform members about the website and provide new information. Darren should send board members the neighbors helping neighbors preparedness plan for people living in Highland Pines.
- IX. **Roads — Neil Gershman:** The county repaired the drainpipe on Smoki. Neil visited Nina's house to assess the dangerous blind spot at the hill near the property.
- X. **Litter Lifters — Doug McLaughlin:** absent
- XI. **Volunteer Recognition — Betsy Hibbs:** No report
- XII. **Social Committee — Leilani Havens:** Nina reported that some committee members met today to discuss December events. The following dates were selected:
December 4: S x S holiday parade in place of the float and caroling.
December 12: Cookie exchange and ugly sweater competition, hosted by Leilani.
December 19: Wine exchange at Jugenheimer's.
Light Up the Mountain was not discussed.
- XIII. **Forester — Betsy Hibbs:** The newsletter is in good shape and will be sent out on October 31.
- XIV. **Communications — Betsy Hibbs:** Betsy tries to share information on Facebook about POA-related activities and updates.

Old Business

1. **Cookbook — Diana Herman:** Diana reported \$524 for Peter, with part of the money coming from shops. Eight to nine shops in town are selling the books. Books will also be available at the pancake breakfast. Peter reported that sales are \$700 below the break-even point.
2. **Goals 2026–2027:** Website development is progressing. Another goal is to create and launch a Neighbors Helping Neighbors communication and safety plan.
3. **County Yard:** Nelson continues to work on a backup option for the county yard.
4. **Pancake Breakfast:** A letter from the Forest Service is currently required each year to use the turnout. The Forest Service indicated that setting a consistent time for the annual pancake breakfast would eliminate the need for a letter each year, with a caveat concerning inclement weather. Peter will have a donations table and may share it with membership.
5. **Bulletin Boards:** Fred Ferguson inspected the bulletin boards. He believes the county yard board is in good shape, but the fire station board is rotting. A response from Fred about the fire sign is pending.

New Business

1. **Website Sponsorship:** The question was raised whether Bob Herman is looking into a sponsor for the website.
2. **Website Update — Darren:** Email is operational, and online payments are set up. Volunteers are needed to test how the system works. Searching within documents is not currently available. Adding this feature would cost an additional \$200 per year. The next major task is to migrate membership information. Darren has been testing the import process. Follow up on the tutorial and schedule it when the newsletter is ready to go out. How should the website be marketed as it becomes more functional? Options raised included placing the URL or a QR code on the fire sign.

Next Meetings and Adjournment

November host: Nelson Ross, weather and road conditions permitting.

January host: Peter Tyson.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 8:10.