

Lee Lake Association Meeting Minutes July 18, 2017

Opening: Meeting began at 7:02pm with the Pledge of Allegiance. All officers were present.

Members in attendance included: Tom & Cathy Constantine, Jim Dickerson, Bob Greenfield, Jim Boyer, Sussie Frey, Jack Pyle, Connie Zimmerman, Sam Schultz, Earl & Janet Kincaid, Diane & Mike Axtell, Thom & Victoria Unger, Kara Rennaker, Duane Packer, and Mark Walter.

Agenda was available to attendees.

Treasurer's Report

Janie Evans stated that the total for Savings & Checking was \$1,512.98 on June 30 this year. This month the bank statement will be attached to the minutes.

Janet Kincaid motioned to accept the report. Tom Unger seconded it. Motion carried.

Mike asked if there were any outstanding bills. There are 2: \$100 for the boat parade prizes; \$500 for the rest of the RLS Survey done in 2017. Mark Casebeer will contact RLS to get an invoice for this.

Jack Pyle motioned to request an invoice for payment of survey and to pay it. Mike Axtell seconded it. Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes

Diane read the minutes of June 20, 2017. Motion was made to accept the minutes by Sam Schultz. Seconded by Sussie Frey. Motion carried.

Website Update

Mark is keeping the website updated and there are no major changes.

Old Business

Mark reported the 4th of July Parade & Prize event had 15 boats participating. First prize went to Casebeer grandkids and son-in-law in motorized rowboat. Second prize went to a '57 Chevy with Elvis impersonators, the Bennett family. Third prize went to the Kile family with Hawaii theme. The SPIRIT award went to the Korn-Vaugh family who received a tray of cupcakes delivered by Mark. The day was great fun!

PA 188 Petition Discussion to date must go back to June 11, 2017 Newton Township Public meeting which resulted in board approval of purchase of new

firetruck. At that township meeting we were told that the supervisor prefers S.A.D. (Special Assessment District) to pay for large projects over requests for Millage. The first is more fair as he sees it. We learned that in 2 to 3 months our township will be holding a public meeting at Harper Creek High School to discuss improving our township roads and how to pay for them. This will be “a really significant investment.”

The association board & officers asked for discussion on how to proceed with our request for a PA 188 to control weeds/Eurasian Milfoil. If the Newton Twp. Board agrees to take-up our petition, when will they schedule it? Will they try to change it? Before we create and circulate our petition we need to realize that this will put our fate in the township's hands.

Mark reported that he had spoken to Attorney Bloom who mentioned these points: PA 188 gives the township power to change our plan.

They can decide who pays, how to collect the payment, and how much to collect. They can decide the treatment and when it starts and ends.

If we want to treat the lake ourselves we will need a Tax ID, liability insurance to protect workers and ourselves, cost of a boat including maintenance and fuel.

Even company called DART hires a crew to do diver assisted suction harvesting.

Divers are paid \$20/hour. Workers are paid \$14/hour. **We could hire DART or do it ourselves.**

One example is Higgins Lake. They created the Higgins Lake Foundation a non-profit to treat their weed problem. They are much larger than we are.

Do we qualify for a 501(c)(3) (non-profit) status?

Mike read a letter from 2016 Water Resource Commissioner Kris Kosmowski about lake projects. **The township board ultimately controls all parts of a PA 188.**

Attorney Bloom recommended we use DART, contract them ourselves with voluntary contributions. We would start with whatever funds we get. The officers had hoped to keep costs at \$200 per tax ID for lake front owners, others who use the lake and have access to it, second tier/back lots not on lake only if they want to pay, but agricultural property without a home would be exempt.

Discussion brought us to the need of a survey. We need to learn the **honest opinion** of each person before we create our own petition. We need a “grassroots” movement here.

Jim Dickerson made a motion to create a survey designed to educate residents around the lake to define interest and support of purposed treatment plan and estimated cost.

Tom Unger seconded it. Motion carried.

Victoria and Tom Unger volunteered to help Mike create the survey. It will be announced on website. A paper form will be used in face to face interviews by members yet to be decided.

DNR Launch will treat phragmites with herbicide exercising their riparian rights. Deputy Winder will work with Duane Packer, Newton fire department rep as boulders and 2 parking spaces are added.

Portable Boat Wash Event 07/21 is set for 8:00-10:30am and 10:30am-1:00pm at the public fishing site.

New Business

Mike Grenon shared the damage done to his motor boat during a robbery. He encouraged us to be vigilant watching others property as well as our own. Act on suspicious people or activities by calling and reporting it to authorities.

Unsafe Boating behavior has been noticed like: reckless driving, speeding, going the wrong way around lake, too close to divers or swimmers, and tubing after hours without lights lit on the boat. We will ask DNR or Sheriff Dept. if they have any pamphlets on water safety that we could have for members.

Open Forum

Janie Evans announced that Pat and Ron Bennett will be moving to Florida soon. They are having a garage sale August 4 and 5 from 9:00am to 4:00pm. If anyone wants to hold a sale at their own home they are welcome to share the dates. More families will bring more people looking and more buyers.

Discussion continued. Mark Casebeer was complimented on his work on our website.

At 8:12 Jack Pyle motioned to close the meeting. Diane Axtell seconded it. Motion carried.

Next meeting August 15, 2017.

Respectfully,
Diane Inman