



Lee Lake Association

Association Meeting Minutes

June 19, 2023

1. Meeting was called to order by Tom Parker at 6:38 p.m. 19 persons were in attendance per sign-in sheet signatures filed with the minutes. Pledge of Allegiance was performed.
 - a. Meeting decorum was reviewed by Tom Parker.
 - b. Tom reminded attendees to pick up an agenda, May 8th meeting minutes, treasurer's report and any pamphlets they may be interested in.
2. Guest speaker, Mike Kile, provided information on maintaining the lake level as monitored by the Water Resources Department of Calhoun County. Residents on Lakeside Drive could not get their boats in or out from the shore due to low water; a subsequent court order in the 1950's established the lake level at 9.4 inches above sea level. A pump located at Nottawa Creek is used to pump water into the lake via a submersed pipe in an inlet when the level drops. Jim Mikolajczyk was recognized as previously operating the pump for many years. If the lake is too high, water back flows into the creek. Currently, the pipe needs to be replaced; Mike was unsure when this would occur. He stated the pump and electrical unit was replaced by Sims Electric and the cost reimbursed by Water Resources. Taxes are assessed to lake residents to cover the costs of equipment. (Refer to property tax statements)

As a thank you to Mike, Tom presented him with a Lee Lake mug.
3. The minutes were available as a hand out. There were no changes voiced. Janet Kincaid made a motion to accept the May 8, 2023 minutes as written; seconded by Sussie Frey. Motion carried.
4. Treasurer's report was presented by Cindy Parker. Approximately 65% of lake resident have paid annual dues resulting in \$980. \$1266 was collected from the Lee Lake gear sale. The cost which is yet to be determined as vendor invoices have not been received. The current operating account balance is \$3135.70 and the weed fund balance remains at \$4394.43.
5. Peggy Burkey made a motion to accept the treasurer's report; seconded by Chris Gallagher. Motion carried.
6. Committee Reports: Several Committees are in need of volunteers to chair them (please see below committee reports). Anyone interested please contact any of the Board Members for additional information.
 - a. Membership: A volunteer is needed to chair this committee. Three residents noted their interest in this committee on the membership form. The Board is working to define the scope of this new committee.
 - b. Welcome: Two new families, (Burgess and Vandergriff), recently moved to I Drive South and Road Rep Sussie Frey will be delivering a welcome basket to each.



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- Please see Tom Parker to volunteer as Welcome Committee chair and/or provide donations.
- c. Road Reps: A Road Rep needs to be selected as the lead. They continue to do great work as a link from the Association to residents on the four Lee Lake roads.
 - d. Events: Kathy Doud reported the garage sale was busier on Saturday than Friday this year and there was an increase in resident participation from last year. Perhaps the heat was a deterrent; Kathy stated LLA may want to consider moving the garage sale dates to May. Nancy Walter suggested those residents participating in the sales might voluntarily donate to LLA to offset the costs of advertising.
 - e. Fundraising: There were 51 orders from 19 families for Lee Lake gear. Delivery of items is expected before 4th. The sale of mugs or insulated tumblers was suggested as another form of fundraising.
 - f. Lake Quality: Chris Gallagher reported the Committee has not had an opportunity to meet due to conflicting schedules. He is trying to book a meeting before the end of June. There was a brief discussion about chemicals and other farm runoff getting into the lake both when the pump is turned on as well as from the drainage next to Doud's house. Abate measures around this may be something the Committee should also look into.
 - g. The Committee is leaning towards weed treatment instead of the DASH method of weed removal. Observed by a lake resident, kudos to Jake Gallagher for collecting a can floating in the lake; all efforts to keep our lake clean are appreciated.
6. Old Business
- a. Potential Lake Signage: Cindy reported on the various input regarding placing a sign in the lake identifying the phragmite root bundles including sign maintenance, aesthetics and Association liability should a boater hit the sign. Instead, a recommendation to place a sign at the public access boat launch was made, similar to what Goguac and Gull Lake have done. The Gull Lake sign also includes information on wake controls and lake depth. DNR approval would be needed for signage. **Action:** Cindy Parker will continue to research signage.
 - b. Tom Parker recapped the usage of electronic communication for the Association/lake. The Website will contain the meeting agendas and minutes plus newsletters. Facebook is informal for posting pictures, sale items, lost items, etc. Email will arrive from the Association as Lee Lake Michigan and will most likely be generated by the Board.
7. New Business
- a. 4th of July Boat Parade – Matt Cole will not be doing any fireworks this year. Saturday, July 1st through Tuesday, July 4th were discussed as options for the parade date. A majority vote resulted in Saturday, July 1st at 6:00 p.m. for the boat parade. **Action:** Further information will be forthcoming from Theresa Humphreys-Oswalt who is coordinating the event.
 - b. Newton Township Road Committee Update: Chris Gallagher reported the committee was making good progress. Beau Bess is pushing forward and working with the County Controller to discuss dollar support and a commitment to pay the county's



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- portion of road improvements. Mark Frisch has expertise in surveys and data analysis; a second survey will be formulated for resident input. A variety of millage proposals will be drafted to determine what the taxpayers are willing to pay.
- c. Liability Insurance: Tom Parker reported the LLA created a Limited Liability Company (LLC), in 2017 for the purposes of limiting the Association's liability. Cliff Bloom, an attorney, talked with Tom at the MI Lake and Streams conference of the need to carry liability insurance due to some loopholes in an LLC. Such insurance would cover LLA committees as well as Board members. Nora Vaughn provided some additional information regarding pricing of insurance which may be based on Association activities or could be a blanket cost. **Action:** Nora's experience in insurance management will be most helpful to Tom as he explores liability coverage for LLA.
 - d. Upcoming Presentation:
 - i. July 17th Kathy Fischer from MSU will speak about native plantings and the benefits to the shoreline
 - ii. August 21st PLM will talk about lake treatment pros and cons
 - iii. September 18th the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) will talk on a topic yet to be determined.
8. Public Comments/Questions:
- a. Rick Doud has native habitat seeds for planting a 5 X 5 area and are priced at 2 for \$5.
 - b. Steve Burkey reported the return of phragmites on their lake front from the spraying 3 years ago.
9. Thank You:
- a. Diane Inman was thanked for her many years of being on the Board of the Association. Action: Pat Pejakovich will deliver her gift to her.
10. Adjournment: A motion was made by Pat Mikolajczyk and seconded by Sussie Frey to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.