



# Lee Lake Association

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## Association Meeting Minutes

May 8, 2023

1. Meeting was called to order by Tom Parker at 6:40 p.m. 39 persons were in attendance per sign-in sheet signatures. Pledge of Allegiance was performed.
  - a. Board Members were introduced.
  - b. Meeting decorum was reviewed; copies were provided to attendees.
2. Larry Vitale made a motion to accept the October 1, 2022 minutes; seconded by Sussie Frey. Motion carried.
3. Treasurer's report was presented by Cindy Parker. Fiscal year for the Association is June 1, 2023 to May 31, 2024. \$20 annual dues are payable now by either paying tonight, mailing to the treasurer or providing to the individual Road Representative. Discussion ensued regarding the amount of annual dues and the Association's operating costs. The Board will present a recommendation regarding annual dues at the October Association meeting.

The annual operating budget was presented. One question regarding the \$200 budgeted item for Association meetings when there is no charge for the Association's use of the Newton Township Hall. When preparing the budget, the Township Board was still considering rental costs. Pat Pejakovich explained there would be no cost for meetings except for the October meeting with a potluck; rental fee is \$50 when food is served. Chris Gallagher made a motion to accept the treasurer's report; seconded by Diane Vitale. Motion carried.

4. Committee Reports
  - a. Events: Theresa Humphries-Oswalt was introduced as the chairperson. Garage sales are June 2 and 3<sup>rd</sup> from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Friday and 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on Saturday. Advertising will be by signage at all Lee Lake roads, post on Facebook and ads in the Shopper and Advisor.
  - b. Lee Lake Gear: Order forms are available tonight. This is a good source of funding for the Association. Orders are due by May 31<sup>st</sup> in order to have delivery of items by July 4<sup>th</sup>.
  - c. Welcome: Road Reps will identify new residents. A volunteer is needed to chair this committee. Welcome baskets are prepared with a variety of donated items and delivered by the Road Reps. Baskets and donations for inclusion in the baskets are needed. Please see Tom Parker to volunteer and/or provide donations.
  - d. Roads: Chris Gallagher reported the first meeting occurred last week. Three additional persons were added to the committee: Beau Bess, Tim Kruger and Mark Kieffer. A vote for designated millage is most likely in November. The proposed amount is still under consideration. Following a millage approval, Calhoun County has to approve projects based on their available monies to match Newton Township. The Road Committee is formulating a priority list for road repair. Calhoun County and the Township will also have a priority list for comparison. More information



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including Road Committee meeting minutes can be found on the Newton Community Watch Facebook page.

- e. Lake Quality: Chris Gallagher reported the Committee's focus is on weed control/removal and prevention of invasive species. Experts such as PLM report lakes are not keeping pace with invasive species prevention. There may be a need for a change in approach for funding such projects. Cliff Bloom is an attorney experienced in Special Assessment District, (SAD). More research and analysis are needed before the Committee will make a recommendation to the board. A question was raised regarding the best time to treat weeds. Response: August and September for phragmites and milfoil earlier in the year. The dollars remaining in the weed fund could potentially be used towards weed management. The issue of increased dead lake fish following the spring thaw was reported to the DNR. Due to the low oxygen and increased lake water temperatures some fish were not able to survive, stated DNR.

### 5. Old Business

- a. MLSA 2023 Conference: Tom Parker and Theresa Humphries-Oswalt represented the Association at the May 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Michigan Lakes and Streams Association conference in Crystal Mountain. Both agreed it was a good source of education, and networking with other lake associations. Shared with the attendees: 1. Consider the impact to the lake if residents use online rental of their properties or if wind farms are erected. Proactive township ordinances may be warranted. 2. Loss of shoreline is a concern with "lawn to lake shoreline" which stresses the lake with weed killers/fertilizers; the use of native plants destresses the lake and provides habitat for turtles, etc.

### 6. New Business

- a. Road Representative Introductions: Shelly Densmore – Lakeside Drive, Nora Vaughn – Lauralee Lane, Diane Inman and Janie Evans – Clark Road and Sussie Frey - I Drive South. Responsibilities include: Distribute dues requests to members for whom we do not have an email address, identify new residents, deliver new resident baskets, encourage residents who are not members to join, distribute LLA gear order forms to residents, collect order forms and money and distribute ordered LLA gear.
- b. 4<sup>th</sup> of July Boat Parade – Date to be determined in conjunction with possible fireworks from Matt Cole. Action: Nancy Walter will talk with Matt and contact Pat Pejakovich regarding the date of fireworks, if happening.
- c. Lake/Phragmite Sign: Cindy reported that buoys are not allowed by DNR to identify the location of the root bundles which are very hard to remove due to their weight. It was questioned if a flag would be allowed. Ideas for signage at the boat launch were voiced. Action: Continue to explore options.
- d. Association Communication: Facebook, email, website, newsletter and road reps are being utilized to share information with Lee Lake members and residents. It was explained the \$60 web fee is to maintain our Lee Lake Association website domain



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- name. For persons posting on Facebook, it was recommended to “pin it” so new messages move to the top of the postings.
- e. Welcome Committee Lead: See Committee Report “c”.
7. Guest Speakers/Presentations: Dates to be determined for the proposed speakers.
    - a. Native Plantings, Lake shore protection – Michigan State University
    - b. Water Quality – DNR
    - c. Lake Treatment – PLM
  8. Public Comments/Questions:
    - a. It was stated a longer dock was needed at the boat launch due to the shallow water level. Some attendees noted their difficulty in getting their larger boats into the water.
    - b. A discussion ensued regarding the Lake being public versus private. It was noted the State of Michigan owns the public access boat launch and it is not for sale.
    - c. A petition to the State of Michigan may be an option for weed control, signage and failure to maintain the boat launch site.
    - d. To avoid transfer of unwanted species, boat owners should wait five days before launching their boat at another lake.
  9. Thank You:
    - a. A sincere thank you was verbalized for the patching of potholes on 10 Mile Road and I Drive South by Ken and Jen Wilson. Many persons have donated monies; each bag of tar costs \$25.
    - b. Janie Evans was thanked for her many years of being the treasurer for the Association. A Lee Lake engraved tumbler was provided to her by Tom Parker.
  10. A motion was made by Richard Doud and seconded by Ozzie Oswald to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.