

**Lee Lake Association Meeting  
September 25, 2019**

**Meeting** was called to order at 7:15 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance. President, Treasurer, and Secretary were present.

Members in attendance were Jim & Pat Mikolajczyk, Sussie Frey, Earl & Janet Kincaid, Connie Zimmerman, Art Herriman, Mike Kile, Diane & Larry Vitale, Mark Walter, Sam Schultz, and Thom Unger. Special guest Mike Smith, owner of MTT Dash Divers.

**Treasurer's Report**

Regular savings	1,050.42
Checking	6,557.78
Weed Control	6,435.85
Dividends	6.27
Total	14,055.32

Cleared Checks since last report:

Shopper News	26.32	Ad
Janie Evans	387.00	Mesh Bags, 7/4 Prizes
MTT Dash	2,275.00	Milfoil removal deposit
J & K Tax	350.00	Federal Tax Preparation
Total	3,038.32	

One check outstanding

MTT Dash	6,488.00	Milfoil removal final payment
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After this check clears, our balance will be 7567.32.

Thom Unger motioned to accept treasurer's report. Sam seconded it. Motion passed.

**Minutes of April 17, 2019 meeting**

Minutes were read by secretary, Diane Inman.

Diane Vitale made motion to accept the minutes. Janet seconded it. Motion passed.

**Old Business**

1. Lee Lake Directory discussion began about a need for it, how to collect information, how to arrange the members by street, or alphabetically. We need a hard copy since some people do not use computers. We will "reach out" to neighbors. Diane Vitale will collect Lakeside Drive information.
2. Boat Parade was successful. Next year we will repeat an "open theme", prizes of \$50 for first place, \$25 for second place, and \$25 for third. Thom Unger motioned to set aside \$100 for the prizes. Earl Kincaid seconded it. Motion passed.

President Duane added LLA president will decorate their own boat to highlight our group events. Members are welcome to help do it.

3. Membership Growth is a concern for President Duane. He asked for ideas to increase involvement at meetings and events. How can we motivate long-time residents and invite new home owners? Our website is great! We should inform The Shopper about our weed removal becoming a press release or feature article. Creating a welcome packet about the lake association would be inviting to new families, but personally getting to meet them is best.
4. Vice President request came from Pres. Duane. No one accepted the opportunity to create a team and strengthen the association.
5. Taxes 2018: Lee Lake Association LLC income taxes were challenged by Federal Govt. Janie contacted the CPA about the problem. Our tax preparer is taking care of it. We should owe nothing.
6. Potluck October Dinner will be October 26, 2019. Sussie Frey volunteered and is the chairperson. LLA furnishes the meat. We had left-over paper products which Carol Brooks may have. Families bring a dish to pass. At a board of directors and officers meeting we will discuss giving each attendee a gift. Time should be earlier, so it will be at 1 pm on 10/26/2019 if township hall is available. Motion to pay \$100 for the meat was made by Janet Kincaid. Seconded by Thom Unger. Motion passed.

### **New Business**

Thanks to everyone who helped September 3-11 removing Eurasian Milfoil with MTT Divers. Duane Packer's family and the Kile family were great!

**On the Floor** Mike Smith talked about the job.

We are similar to Perry Lake near him and is four hours away from us. We have Milfoil which leads to Starry Stonewort that takes nutrients out of a lake. He found no evidence of Starry Stonewort and that is good. Duane has the report which can be put on our website.

Thom Unger asked, "What are your recommendations?"

1. Stop the fertilizer! It destroys a lake! Thom shared that he stopped using it two years ago and noticed less weed growth this year. Mike Smith could tell who uses fertilizer during his dives. Idea: It's spring. Don't fertilize!
2. Get a current lake study done. Duane will talk to Jennifer J.-Jones at RLS.
3. Our permit for weed removal is good for five years. It belongs to him because he applied for it. He is willing to transfer it to us if we choose.
4. Boat Launch is a problem. He recommended we talk to DNR and persist in it. The DNR will listen and do something, Mike Smith said.
5. End of June to early July is best time to remove by diver assisted suction harvesting. Avoid spawning season April to June in most lakes. There was a lot of wind resulting in the need to use four anchors to hold their boat.

We thanked him and his son for their help in ridding us of some weeds. Thank you, too

for refunding the cost of the bags we had purchased. All wished him a safe trip home.

Further/future funding for 2020 Weed control

Discussion centered around data, communication, involvement, lack of participation, and past letters. Perhaps a poster about LLA activities could be displayed at the 10/26 potluck. Thom Unger made a motion to continue funding our Voluntary Weed Control Program for 2020. Larry Vitale seconded it. Discussion. Motion passed.

Public Access Property next to boat launch was rumored to be sought by DNR. Diane Vitale said the owners had to go to court to keep the parcel. Residents don't want more parking places for boaters.

The Shopper had an ad in 9/19/2019 on page 37 white letters on black. A few people saw it. We will continue depending on cost.

Seminars (attended) by Diane and Janie

Many pamphlets, books, and papers about invasive plants, treatments, and shoreline preservation were on the table to take. Diane and Janie went to the Shoreline Symposium in Kalamazoo on August 23, 2019. Two groups BCK Cisma (Cooperative Invasive Species Management Area) and Berrien-Cass-VanBuren counties funded it. Janie and Connie Zimmerman went to Charleton Park on September 14, 2019 to learn about planting a protective shoreline to filter nutrients going into lakes. It cost \$10 each.

### **Open Forum**

Diane Vitale asked about a "blight ordinance" in Newton Township. She had inquired before and got little satisfaction. Duane said there is one, but did not elaborate. Discussion followed. First state a complaint. Second the township would check it out. Third could be our association supporting the township. This will be a question for a meeting of LLA Board of Directors and Officers sometime between now and next meeting. A letter of support or a statement about our "blight" concerns could be written and sent to the Newton Township Board.

Jim Mikolajczyk made motion to adjourn. Janet Kincaid seconded it. Adjourned.

Sincerely,

Mary Diane Inman, secretary

Addendum: Potluck October Dinner was held on October 19, 2019. Twenty-three people came and enjoyed the day.