

Morton Township Tri-Lakes Association

Meeting Minutes Draft- September 9, 2023

Call to Order at 10:01 by Dave Lewis (President)

Roll Call – *Those Present* - Dave Lewis (President), Bruce Miller, Randy Walsdorf, Alex Henry (Secretary as of 9.9.2023), Sandy Brogan, Mike Burnard (Treasurer), Myle Turpen (Vice-President), Martha Boetcher, Al McNamara, Julia Harris, Craig Wernette, Joan Parks

Those Not Present – Karen Slenk, Jim Parker

Guest – TLA Member, Denny Thelen

Approval of Minutes - Regarding minutes taken 8-12-2023 - discussion on corrections for previous meetings minutes – verbiage on regarding by-law information – new business- motion passed for directors Myle, Sandy, Karen – verbiage regarding officers, name spelling

-Myle moved to accept August minutes as corrected, Bruce 2nd, Motion Passed

-Mike mentioned procurement of corrected July minutes. Sandy agreed to upload the approved (corrected) minutes in Money Minder Pro.

-Alex also asked if someone could send corrections to August minutes to her directly. Myle agreed.

Officers' Reports- Treasurer - Mike Burnard

Income – 844.51 – memberships, plm reimbursement

Payments– 31.91 – Web hosting, cheddar up, added postage

Full report available to view in Money Minder Pro

-Mike also noted that he had to pay out of pocket for the annual licensing and registration. Motion from Sandy to reimburse Mike said \$20 he paid to the state of Michigan, Myle 2nd, Motion passed

-Sandy made a motion to accept Treasurer's Report, Myle 2nd, Motion passed

Committee Reports

Fish & Wildlife Management – Walleye supplier knows we're ready when he is. Likely middle October for 3000 walleye. Discussion on conditions for planting. Dave explained the process of planting: ordering and delivery – where and how they get delivered– Dave always contacts the DNR to let them know we're planting. Short discussion on history of why we plant walleye specifically.

Lake Improvement Report – Dave, Sandy, Randy. The annual meeting of the LIB on Wednesday September 27th at 3pm. Short discussion of whether the meeting would be at the Township or the Library. TBD.

Loon Report – One chick still growing and getting ready for the transition. Doing well.

Dam – All boards were down on 5-8-2023 and have stayed down. Will likely raise them in the middle October after checking in with Karla. Myle took a photo of the dam gauge to post in favor or transparency. Decision to connect with Karla to ask permission before posting on social media. Will likely be able to connect with her at LIB meeting.

Dave mentioned that we should have another person as representative from Blue now that we don't have Jay anymore – Dave is representative from Round, and Myle from Mecosta- so, the third should be someone from Blue. Short discussion on whether or not we necessarily needed to necessarily have three. Tabled for later discussion.

Public Landing – Dave reported that all the tools are still present – Bruce mentioned that someone was at the station with their boat. Dave brought up that there are 4 keys to the display case and Jim has all. Discussion on disbursing them amongst the board members who are closest to the launch so they aren't all in one spot – Myle offered to hold one.

Membership – Mike Burnard and Julia Harris - 267 members – 26 are now expired – Mike shared that there is a member that is actually a Canadian Lakes resident, which is great. Membership still trickling in.. about 23 that haven't yet renewed. Mike plans to clean up the membership records in Money Minder Pro to reflect the non-renewals. He also mentioned that the email updates re requested of our members are trickling in.

Dave said he got an email complaining about people going between their swimming rafts just north of the inlet on Lake Mecosta's south end – He responded and let them know the high-speed boating rules.

Recreation

Golf Fundraiser: Myle reconfirmed the outing date is set for next year. Randy asked about creating a waiting list. Myle agreed but said she would like to hold off on waiting list until January.

Boat Parade – Nothing to report.

Other - Randy shared that it would be interesting to create a caricature map of folklore of the Tri-Lakes. All agreed that it was a good idea.

Communication –

Newsletter –Next to be mailed out in mid-November: By-Law Information installment, Martha will write something about the lakeshore workshop, safety, new officers, fish planting, notice on bubblers.
Tabled as we will be able to sort through more at our October meeting.

Facebook – Alex shared that lot of people on FB get us mixed up with another “Tri-Lakes” from Minnesota

Website – Alex I hoping to get ahold of corrected July minutes and corrected August minutes to post on website and log in MMP.

Unfinished Business

- Bouwkamp Donation: Wall of Fame idea – Previous plans to put up flagpole is not going to work because of terrain and logistics- this realization led to several ideas: A rock, a bench...
 - Myle would like to offer them a “Wall of Fame” inside the display case. Donors could be honored for contribution. She has started the process of consulting the Bouwkamp family about it.
 - Short discussion on how this might look and what the future for it would be. Myle said she would report back at the next meeting – possibly another case so that our other could be fully reserved for information.
- IRS – Still pending

New Business

- Nominations for officers.
 - Open nominations for secretary first –
 - Secretary: Dave nominated Alex. Alex accepted. Sandy 2nd, Vote for Alex as Secretary passed.
 - President: Dave nominated Myle, Sandy 2nd, Myle is concerned on time commitment, she is honored to be nominated – but wants to be transparent about her reservations.
 - Discussion on who could possibly – fill the spot – discussion on distinction between presidential duties and what Dave actually does because he a great board member, but not necessarily as President.
 - Guest shared how a recent board he was on went through – clearly defined roles and advisory situation –
 - Randy suggested we revisit this in October and offered that Dave write out exactly what the role of President requires vs. what Dave does overall as a board and community member and send out to the board to their review. Sandy suggested a possible “Lead For Each Lake” design – Dave confirmed he plans to preside as President through December as we sort through this transition.
 - Sandy suggested that we also focus on filling the vacancies on the board. Blue and Mecosta have vacancies – Alex could hold seat on any lake as hers is vested interest. Dave will share the form he created for possible incoming board members with us so we can participate in proper recruitment.
- Special Event!
 - AI was presented with a placard as a thank you for this service on the board as he exits the board.
 - Sandy was also presented with a placard as thanks for her many years of service as treasurer.
 - THANK YOU BOTH FOR EVERYTHING YOU DO FOR OUR LAKES!
- Conservation Easement – Property owner has approached Martha about donating property as she was disbursing Shoreline Living information. Short discussion on the history of this dialogue regarding this parcel and what it would hypothetically mean to be gifted this parcel.

Public Comment – Views by guest, Denny Thelen. He specifically shared his experience with board president transition and offered supportive insight to our board.

Next Board Meeting- 10 am on October 14th, 2023 at the Morton Township Library and via ZOOM. Please contact Dave if unable to attend.

Adjournment – Sandy motion to adjourn, Myle 2nd, meeting adjourned at 11:35 am.
Recorded respectfully by Alex Henry