

Muskellunge Lake Association

Annual Meeting

June 27, 2015

Meeting was called to order by President Jack Freyling. The Board was introduced to audience.

2014 minutes were presented with a motion to accept by Carole Peterson seconded by Robbin Ritz.

TREASURER REPORT FOR 2015

Started the year with \$2,045, dues of \$1085, expense of \$1,172.94, ending balance of \$1,954.71

Website costs were combined of several years

Motion to accept by Robbin Ritz seconded by Cheryl Freyling

BUDGET FOR 2015

Due to increased cost to attend Michigan Lake and Stream annual meeting the budget was raised to \$600 for 2015.

Question was raised as to how much Harvey Stark actually spent at the meeting since last year the budgeted amount was \$300. Harvey indicated that he spent around \$550 to attend.

Carole Peterson put a motion on table to fully reimburse Harvey total expense. Harvey was grateful for this offer but declined. Thanks were given to Harvey for representing our lake.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Adopt a Road: Scott Peterson is chair person and has been unable to commit time to this project. Although it has been supported by the community members of the Lake Association does not have any updates on our participation. Scott placed a motion to appoint someone else to chair. Greg Thebo volunteered to be new chair person. Adopt a Road is up for renewal and was a part of the approved budget Greg will handle the renewal process.

Lake Monitoring and Muskellunge Lake Board will be covered under Harvey Stark report in New Business

OLD BUSINESS

North End Muck: covered under Harvey's report later in minutes

Run off Clausen Rd: nothing new to report

NEW BUSINESS

Jubilee Parade Committee: Per Carole Peterson all information was given to Virginia Christison @ hardware. We will renew and anyone who will assist during parade formation will work with her.

Break ins: Cheryl Freyling asked if anyone had experienced any break ins. This last winter the Freyling cottage was broken into and some items taken. It was mentioned that someone else on lake had a battery and gas can stolen recently. It was noted that we should all remain vigilant any questionable activities.

MLSA Conference: Harvey Stark attended the conference held this year at Boyne. There were many speakers from state dept, conservation dept, subcontractor's etc that provide information regarding the lake environments in our state. The associations represented there range from some very large groups to smaller lake associations like ours.

Items that pertain to our lake:

Montcalm County now has some exotic plants that we need to be watchful of in our lake.

A report on water clarity shows that our lake has been improving. In 1993 our clarity was at 3ft but 2014 we are now at 9ft. Unsure of why other than our diligence on weed control.

Phosphorous content is showing down in spring but raised in summer. Residents are not to use fertilizer that contains phosphorous although farmers are not held to the same constraints.

A discussion was held on if lake association wanted to begin the process of formally monitoring the phosphorous levels in the lake. This monitoring has not been done since 2012 when voted by Lake Association to stop. Treasurer Roger Knoper checked to see cost of these tests and determined they were \$25 in spring \$25 in fall although could be other costs. Carole Peterson asked if before we had stopped if the levels had been constant. Harvey Stark reviewed the past history from 2003 which indicated that the levels had been up and down. Question what we could actually do about these levels other than to monitor. Greg Thebo and Harvey Stark would ask the Lake Board if they would be willing to handle for Lake Association at no cost. Discussion was tabled.

There have been questions around spraying during the spawning season and the Univ of Wisc says that their tests show no impact.

One of the other items was about having a spraying center to clean boats before they enter into a lake. This is a very expensive an estimate of \$12,000 plus a cost to have attendants available to run the cleaning equip. This may be an option for larger lakes but cost prohibitive for a lake of our size. There are signs posted at the boat launch to guest boats to clean their boats before using the lake.

Muck Control which has been an ongoing discussion for Lake Association was addressed at conference. The newest way to control was putting pellets on the ground throughout the summer. The company represented was Air Max and they indicated that for \$2500 a year it could reduce the muck by 5". Although one of the lake owners here had tried and had positive results the studies presented had shown sporadic success.

That ended the presentation of MLSA conference.

Lake Board: Harvey Stark and Greg Thebo are the Lake Association's representatives on the Lake Board. The Lake Board did 6 lake surveys last year and 2 times so far in 2015. When they find any exotic life in lake he plots the area out on a GPS and sends that plot information to company that sprays lake. Last year the lake was sprayed 6 times and was still seeing milfoil. Consequently they did a test to see if it was a hybrid milfoil. Only way to determine is to perform a DNA test on the weeds. That was done last fall and the results show that it was a hybrid milfoil. The only way to treat for the hybrid is through a sonar treatment. Lake Board then decided to do the sonar treatment in the spring. But when spring survey was preformed there was no milfoil found. Not sure why other than last year the treatments had been very intense. So we are in a wait and see mode on the milfoil. There will be a spray in the next week of the north end 2 acres.

Discussion was held on a better notification process. Greg T and Harvey S will work with the sprayer to get a better idea of when spraying may be done. If they can get notice they will notify Jack Fryling and Sandy Tiffany to get the word out to residents. It was also requested the signs notifying of spray be more visible as some residents have not always seen.

DNR law changed and all signs posted to notify of spraying are to stay posted for 24 hrs.

Question was raised about extensive spraying this spring on north end as resident felt it had disrupted his fishing. Per Greg T and Harvey S the spraying should not have affected the fishing.

The Lake Board has been reducing the amount of assessments over the years to maintain weed control. In 2014 they did not reduce as they had expected to cover the large expense of the sonar treatment for milfoil. Last year appox \$9000 had been spent on spraying and the one treatment done in 2015 had been \$6000. A good part of the money is used on testing which is necessary to stay on top of the weed control. It is expected though that the Lake Board would go back to reducing the assessment.

It is important that we remember that the lake is an active environment and under change it is important to remain vigilant to have a healthy lake.

New business questions: When does Harvey Stark's term end on lake board? It was determined that he has a couple more years which at that time we will determine if he wants to sign up for another term. What is happening with lake outlet boards? It was determined that is not a task overseen by the Lake Association.

How do we make the Association better? Members were asked to promote the association to their neighbors and encourage participation of Lake Association face book.

Meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sandy Tiffany
Lake Association Secretary