

Hitchcock Lake Improvement Association

Meeting Minutes
February 22, 2021

Opening

The regular meeting of the Hitchcock Lake Improvement Association was called to order at 7:03 pm on February 22, 2021 by Kathy Mrazik.

Board Members Present

x	Kathy Mrazik	x	Lina Marunas	x	Kimberly Belval
x	David Judd	x	Judith Miceli	x	Jeremy Chicano
x	Edmund Sullivan	x	Noreo Gabriel	x	Laurie Greco
x	Cynthia Cayer	x	Cheryl Corey		

Members in attendance: Mark Sussman, Tom Tella, Kevin Christopher, Rick Bauer, Christine Parsons, Rose Zolnik

Dam Committee – Tom Tella

Mayor Tom Dunn informed Tom T. that Mark Possidento will incorporate inspection fees into regular engineering budget so we will not be charged for the dam inspection due this year.

Syphon system for lake level management looks viable based on discussions and research done by Tom T and others. Tom T and Rob Browne will look at the system in Long Meadow Pond, Bethlehem. Engineer, Lenny Assard, will likely be able to take on the engineering and install project which may be covered by town funds remaining available from Cedar Lake project. Lenny will prepare an estimate.

There is a continuing issue with the gate valve on the causeway. There may be an opportunity to use a similar syphon system. We will have to look at the height difference between the two lakes to see if that is viable.

Approval of Minutes

Lina Marunas moved to accept the minutes of the Annual meeting as posted on the website. Laurie Greco seconded. Unanimous approval was received.

Treasurer's Report – David Judd

- a. Review of January expenses, Corrections to report were made relative typographical issues only.
- b. 2021 WLCT Lease payment of \$500 was paid.
- c. Firehouse donation – not yet issued. Dave will send it out in anticipation of returning to FH for our meetings.
- d. Kevin Christopher sent D Judd info on savings accounts that are interest earning. Dave has done some research to validate. Dave recommends we have a formal presentation at next month's meeting to decide if/how to proceed. Our gratitude was expressed to Kevin C for his research.
- e. 2021 D&O and Bond Insurance Renewals made
- f. PO Box renewal payment increased higher than anticipated though the box is needed, and the size is smallest that can handle our current mail volume. We may want to consider downsizing the box at the end of 2021 in prep for 2022 renewal. Changing the box/size requires a change in the PO Box # as well.
- g. Audit of 2020 books: Kimberly B spoke of the successful audit of the 2020 financials and complemented Dave Judd on his thorough recording. Kathy M. thanked the Audit Committee (Kim Belval, Kevin Christopher and Gina Fazio).

Committee Reports

- II. CDC (Community Development Committee) – Laurie Greco
 - a. Ideas to consider: Virtual trivia, Low/No contact kayaking w/out breakfast gathering, Boat parade, Fishing tournament.
- III. Environmental and Safety – Kathy Mrazik
 - a. Solitude: Formal Vote on 2021 contract
 - i. \$1214.50/ month which includes \$720 for additional testing for harmful algae including blue green algae. Cindy Cayer moved to formally accept the contract. Judy Miceli seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
 - b. Kathy M mentioned sending another article to the lake residents/members relative keeping fertilizer out of the lake as there is a noted increase in tape grasses.

Correspondence

Letter received from Susan Chase relative the increased issue of tape grasses which challenge lake users, especially on the South Lake late in the summer.

Solitude representative advised Kathy M - There are options to use herbicides though there are risks that this is not an effective option for all bodies of water.

We will continue to discuss with solitude and possibly treat a small area to test effectiveness of treatment.

Old Business

- a. Conflict of Interest Signing – we have about half of the responses returned.
- b. Survey Committee – Lina Marunas –
 - i. This work has been slightly deprioritized due to the bylaws work and the need to implement virtual meeting platform. Will continue to work through options and needs. May be more effective from a response perspective once the lake is more in use.
- c. Certificate of Incorporation Filing - Kathy M – was filed and check cleared. Thank you to Mark S for his support and assistance.

New Business

- a. 2021 Dues and Sticker Fees – Kathy M.
Lina Marunas moved to keep the fees the same as last year. Noreo Gabriel seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
 - i. First dues letter-Kathy M is working on the content.
 - ii. Dues payment options – will keep current options.
 - iii. Sticker color/order -state color for 2021 is green. We will try to get RED for HLIA.
- b. Boating Waivers – Kathy M. – Mark Sussman developed a new waiver. There is no waiver for south lake in use. The north lake Tibbet and Garthwait families' waivers should be updated upon Mr. Tibbet passing and the passing of the elder Garthwaits. Mark Sussman offered to review the language with interested parties (Tibbet/Garthwait) as needed.
- c. Workflow (Structure for holding meetings/disseminating Minutes on the website) Lina Marunas reviewed the workflow. Recommended wording changes on the workflow were offered via a redlined version. Lina will make some additional updates and send out for review and discussion at the next meeting.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn was made by Cindy Cayer and seconded by Laurie Greco. Meeting was adjourned at 8:09pm by Kathy Mrazik.

Minutes prepared by Kimberly Belval, Secretary

Minutes to be posted on website and approved at next regular meeting.