

Morton Township Tri-Lakes Association

Recorded – December 9th, 2023

Approved – April 23rd, 2024

Call to Order at 10:03 by Myle (Vice-President)

Roll Call – *Those Present* - Alex Henry (Secretary), Sandy Brogan, Mike Burnard (Treasurer), Myle Turpen (Vice-President), Julia Harris, Joan Parks, Craig Wernette, Karen Slenk (ZOOM), Randy Walsdorf (ZOOM), Laura Angera, Martha Boetcher (ZOOM), Bruce Miller (ZOOM)

Those Not Present – Jim Parker, Jim Samuels, Dave Lewis

Guest – Ron Judge (TLA Member)

Approval of Minutes - Regarding minutes taken 11-11-2023 – Corrections to be made: Typo and harvesting wording changes. Sandy motioned that the board approve the minutes with the aforementioned minor adjustments, Myle 2nd, Motion Passed

Officers' Reports-

Officers Positions - Martha clarified that she was indeed voted in for the open seat on lake Mecosta in December of 2022 which is up for renewal in 2025 which clarifies that Laura's terms for the for the vacancy on lake Mecosta expires in August of 2024.

Treasurer - Mike Burnard

Income – \$50.00 - 2 memberships

Payments– \$857.15 - Go Daddy Web Hosting and Domain , Cheddar Up/ PayPal Fees, ZOOM fee Reimbursement to Myle

Full report available to view in Money Minder Pro

- Mike moved that we ask LIB share the cost of the shipping of the Newsletter because the last newsletter was shipped by the Tri-Lakes to the entire assessment district.
 - Discussion about what the ask should be and when it could get submitted to the LIB board for review.
 - Recommendation to adjust from a motion to first, having Mike write a formal ask of the LIB as our treasurer.

Sandy motioned to accept the treasurer's report as presented, Laura 2nd, Motion Passed

Committee Reports

Fish & Wildlife Management – Sandy said Dave reported one beaver caught and that muskrat traps are set.

Lake Improvement Report – Sandy – No official feedback regarding the reduction in assessment. Others in our group reported there has been some chatter in the community.

Loon Report – No report.

Dam – No change.

Public Landing – No report from Jim per Myle.

Membership – 277 members - Push for membership as part of the RV Park communication in the newsletter

Recreation

Golf Fundraiser: Myle will sending out email in January for who would like to participate. June 5th.

Boat Parade:

Communication

Newsletter: Thank You, Karen, for the newsletter. Karen's goal over the winter is to put something together on PowerPoint so that someone else can do it if needed so it's more malleable.

Facebook: Happy Holidays – Alex will create on Canva

Website: Alex share that she will shared the breakdown of costs with Mike for treasurer purposes and Alex also shared that GoDaddy prices are supposed to change but it hasn't so she is just making sure to keep an eye out.

Alex shared Tr-Lakes Presence Report December 2023

Ad Hoc:

RV Park Proposal Committee: Sandy went to the township office and asked about the RV Park – “not a peep” according to a township official

Mike shared that there are no trespassing signs every 50 feet and there are miss dig flags – Laura and Sandy shared that there was a surveyor (Nederveld) – assumption is that there is a site plan happening

Mike shared that the committee finalized the message for our RV Park Page Online

Mike shared that the committee is continuing to keep RV site and the conversation fresh especially with the letter to send to all assumed affected.

Mike shared that Camie Courtwright replaced Stephanie McNeal on the Township Board of Trustees.

Shared that the committee has been working through connecting with an attorney, petition options, lawn signs, boat launch options, and digital media campaign

Overall, getting ready to move forward when planning commission does.

Final Note: RV Park Committee Meeting immediately after the TLA meeting.

Discussion on what the next planning commission meeting is – December 20 but nothing from Fresh Water currently on the agenda. Mike also shared that there was no response for the township’s master plan bids.

Unfinished Business

Shoreline Workshop- Martha – Major concern is getting participants –She’s hoping to have a Lake Coffee Break at the library– 15 -minute presentation and coffee and mingle – hopefully on four Saturdays- starting maybe starting with Memorial Day Weekend Discussion: **Result -> Decision for the four Saturdays in June would be better.** – It’s also a great opportunity for membership. – Posting on Facebook for the events and information firms up.

Discussion on Shoreline living materials from Julia Kirkwood from the EGLE.

Julia shared that this is a great opportunity for membership and using the shoreline for visible opportunity for sharing protected zones. Myle mentioned that Colgrove’s property would be ideal.

Martha shared that she had experience with this in a previous role.

Short discussion on making sure we turn every stone to figure out what best approach would be.

Wall of Fame- Myle shared the information she gathered from creative concepts to develop a recognition area for donors. She shared that she checked on the location in preparation – we need a roof and maybe eventually adding another case to the backside. Price for large plaque in the middle with smaller surrounding– about \$130 total to get it started using silver. The question being how much people donate to receive recognition -\$8 per plaque is our cost - Myle offered that minimum of \$300 in unrestricted donation to TLA. Discussion on how far retroactive these donations would be recognized.

IRS – The IRS has not read our ask yet. They asked for another resend when Myle called on 12/4 and let us know that we won’t hear back until 12/31. The tax filing from 2023 is still on the update because the system was down when they aimed to submit. Need to try again before January 15th. Myle suggested that Barb Tisch come to one of our meetings to talk about tax specifics with us.

Directors Insurance – We officially have directors’ insurance as of November 17th – for 2 million dollars-worth of coverage for the board. Coverage specifics will be uploaded MMP.

Spongy Moths Report – Sandy - The survey is done. Recommendation is that they would spray 306 acres which is down from 337 last year– She noted that this is the last year of the assessment and Neil suggested that the township continue monitoring. Hoping that there would monies leftover for said continued monitoring and there should be a discussion at the township meeting. Sandy mentioned the topic needs to get brought up at the BOT meeting on Tuesday. Sandy will post the report in MMP.

New Business

Michigan Chapter North American Lake Management Society- Sandy shared about the wake boarding conference. Discussion and ideas for collaboration in pushing responsible wake boarding practices. Focus is collaboration is what we need. Lots of good ideas shared about resources and approaches. Shared that we should collaborate with lakeside in the favor or education.

Michigan Natural Shoreline Partnership-

Martha moved that the TLA become a registered partner specifically with the Shoreland Steward Program.

Discussion on benefits.

Motion 2nd by Joan. Motion passed.

Bylaws-

Alex moved that the Bylaws committee reactivate to review all items needed –

Discussion – Review of who was on the committee. Noted that it was called as ad hoc rather than standing.

Motion rescinded- Alex will call and invite for meeting in 2024 season.

Public Comment

Next Board Meeting- Next meeting April 13th, 2024

Reminder to all that special meetings may be called in the interim months - committees will still meet as needed/planned.

Adjournment – Motion to Adjourned by Sandy, Laura 2nd, Meeting Adjourned at 11:45 am

Recorded respectfully by Alex Henry