

Little Traverse Lake Property Owners Association

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Saturday June 15, 2019 9:00AM

Race Residence

In attendance were Directors Leanderson, Mason, Race, Skjaerlund and Verellen. Rankin attended via telephone.

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 AM

Communications – Leanderson reported on communications since the last Board meeting.

Treasurers Report – There was no Treasurers report

Membership Report – Leanderson reported that 43 members have paid their dues in 2019 so far. Rankin reported a new neighbor, Kathy Pringle, at 43 E TLR.

Committee Reports

Water Level – Shutz's report for the newsletter was presented:

"The Little Traverse Lake water level is measured at four locations; both sides of the Little Traverse Lake Rd culvert and the 669 culvert. Fluctuations in the readings usually indicate the presence of beaver dams. Beaver dams located on Shalda Creek between Little Traverse Lake Rd and 669 will hold up water and thus lead to a rapid rise in LTL lake levels.

Our goal is to keep this area free of beaver dams. We have hired a gentleman to kayak down Shalda Creek to make sure no new construction is under way. If a dam is located we request a dam removal permit from the Park Service. Once we receive the permit the same gentleman removes the dam.

Our 2019 high water mark was reached on 4/27/19 at 594.72", this is 2 ½" lower than last year's high water mark recorded on 5/9/18. 2019's high water mark was the same level as the 2017 high water mark recorded on 3/8/17. It was 1 ½" higher than the 2016 high water mark recorded on 4/25/16.

This year's high water mark was up to 10" lower than the flood years of 2013-2014. We believe that our vigilance in keeping Shalda Creek clear of dams between LTL Rd and 669 will continue to result in manageable Spring high water levels."

Water Quality – Race presented the Water Quality Proposal for the newsletter:

2019 LTLPOA Water Quality Initiative

A major focus of the Board since 2017 has been the development of an ongoing Water Quality Initiative for Little Traverse Lake. Last year we began a program of collecting historical data, recurring chemical water testing, testing for bacteria, and hydro lab testing. This year, we want to continue to collect data but also to expand the Initiative to include the development over the next three years of a "Baseline Water Quality Database" which can be used to analyze and interpret the results and look for trends. Data from the following organizations will be integrated into the database.

The Leelanau Conservancy will continue to test our lake water monthly spring through fall with the emphasis on total phosphorus. The presence of excess nutrients in a lake, primarily phosphorus, will manifest itself in the growth of nuisance algae. We are fortunate to live on a lake that is very low in nutrients. There are several input paths that phosphorus takes in entering our lake. Lime Lake is an input, atmospheric (rain and windblown particulate) inputs, subsurface inputs, lake sediment inputs, septic system inputs and fertilizer inputs. We can have an impact on septic system and lawn fertilizer inputs. Please refer to the sections on the Association website that address proper septic

system care and proper lakeside fertilization techniques. At the annual Association meeting in August, we hope to have a speaker on this topic.

Ron Reimink, of Freshwater Solutions, will continue his testing program for the presence of enteric bacteria. His technology can differentiate between harmful human bacteria from leaking septic systems and naturally-occurring bacteria.

Dr. Ray Canale, Emeritus Professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering at the University of Michigan, will provide an intensive study of off shore conditions, including measuring Secchi depth, phosphorus, nitrates, chlorophyll, dissolved oxygen, temperature, and pH. Samples will be professionally taken, rather than relying on volunteers, and the samples will be sent to the Annis Lab at Grand Valley State. That data, along with the results of his testing done last year which are posted on the Association website, and testing data from the Leelanau Conservancy will be included in the development of a user-friendly EXCEL database. Historical, current, and future data will be input into the database, which will have the capability to display trends of of the data using charts and graphs.

We will also continue the identification of cladophora hotspots around the lake by using data collected previously and comparing it to current locations.

This ambitious three year plan will present the conditions of the lake (where the lake is now) and also show trends and changes (where the lake is going). The scope of the program relies on the tax-deductible contributions of our members and we can only contract for work that we have the funds to support. So please consider contributing generously to this important initiative

Further discussion took place - Lou Gurthet, Jeff Shutz, Jan Roddy and Julie Sutfin did an initial cladophora study looking at the historical hotspots. Some cladophora was found. There will be another survey on June 27, 2019.

Ray Canale started his water quality testing on June 1 to capture early spring data. John Ransom will be doing the testing. Lou Gurthet and Charlie Bumb are organizing a fund raising effort for the three year study to create a solid baseline of data. Ray Canale will present findings at the Annual Meeting.

Ron Reimick of Fresh Water Solutions will be doing the DNA testing for human samples. Each lake will receive 40 samples. In July, 20 samples will be taken before rain and 20 after a rain event. He will be testing where we have cladophora hot spots using GPS data. Cost for each lake is \$4762.

MURT Heritage Trail – Skjaerlund reported that there have been no further meetings of the Township sponsored Trail committee.

Website/Directory – Leanderson reported that the status of the website has not changed.

Swimmers Itch – Rankin's article for the newsletter (reported in last month's minutes) was discussed. Rankin reported that the best way to control itch is to reduce the merganser population on the lake through duck hunters in season. Property owners must have permission of two neighbors to allow hunting on his/her property.

Old Business

July 4 Fun Run/Koffee Klatch – Plans for the event were discussed. Skjaerlund will contact Tom Lauer about using his truck. Assignments: Coffee- Shutz, Food- Race, Name tags-Leanderson, Signs-Race, MC-Skjaerlund.

Annual Meeting Planning – Plans for the meeting were discussed. Shutz is investigating a speaker about fertilizer.

Directors Terms – The terms for Rankin, Skjaerlund, and Verellen are ending this August. They have all agreed to run again. Procedure for election was reviewed.

Newsletter – The draft of the newsletter was reviewed. Mason suggested shortening it. Skjaerlund will provide Trail article and will do some final editing.

Walk Around Planning – Leanderson will update the “Rules and Procedures” and get laminated for handout. Newsletter will be available to hand out. Announcement of the Koffee Klatch Fun run will be handed out. Assignments for walk around are: Verellen: Rankin to Shetland Creek, Race/Leanderson: Rankin to Shutz, Shutz: Shutz’s to Shetland Creek (Leanderson/Race will help Shutz). Walk around will take place around the week end of June 29 as peoples schedules permit.

Coffee with the Board – Due to limited schedules and the extent of the walk around, the Coffee with the Board was cancelled. Shutz should cancel Township Hall reservation.

New Business

There was no new business.

The next Board meeting is Wednesday, July 24, 2019 9:00 AM at Race’s.

The meeting adjourned at 11:05 AM on a motion from Skjaerlund, second from Verellen.