

MUSKELLUNGE LAKE ASSOCIATION 2016 ANNUAL MEETING
June 18, 2016
(DRAFT)

Meeting was called to order by Jack Freyling President

Board Members were introduced

(Normal meeting business was delayed until after guest speaker with approval of those present)

Guest Speaker: Tony Groves Progressive AE

Progressive AE is the company that handles the lake control and Tony is the Biologist for Progressive AE.

Tony co-ordinates the spraying for weeds. He uses GPS waypoints to identify locations that need to have the weeds treated. The focus is the invasive plants that can damage the lake. To date the treatments going well with the current analysis showing that we have these invasive weeds under control.

The Lake Board handles the funds and treatments. They have been reducing the amount for the assessment targeted for these treatments. This was a 5 yr. program that we are currently in the 4th year. Next year there will be public hearings to address the renewal of this program.

Questions for Tony:

Does the spraying of weeds affect fishing?

- No affect to fishing. The chemicals used for this has been approved by the EPA and Michigan DEQ.
- After spraying there are no restrictions on fishing
- We must maintain the good weeds so that our fishing remains good. The weeds being targeted for spraying are those that will overtake the good and fishing will be impacted.

Has the growth in the channel been addressed?

- There is an issue with the accuracy of the map for the channel that is affecting the ability to spray. They have asked for the permit to correct this and once approved they will begin to cover that area.
- There was some discussion on the drain since this is not a Lake Board subject they referred to the Drain Board or Road commission.

Question on a very invasive species Starry Stonewort?

- There are a couple hundred lakes in Michigan that are experiencing this plant but so far our surveys are not showing this (THIS IS GOOD) but it remains on the watch list.

Zebra Mussels found in Lake

- They are filter feeders... but when they begin to eat the good plants it can affect fishing. It has been found that in Southern Michigan the warmer water temps in the summer kill off the mussels. This seems to keep the population in check. There isn't a way to kill these so hope is that they will continue to die off naturally.

Clarification on posting at time of treatment:

- The posting notices will only be done in the area that is being sprayed and are to remain up for 24 hrs. Be sure to read the notice and follow guidelines. Remember they are only there because you have the bad weeds and we are trying to kill/clean up your area.

Since this lake has a public access does the state recognize this and assist in the cost of maintaining the lake?

- In short no.... but there is a Mich Invasive Species Grand Program which we do participate in. This program does not provide funds for the spraying but it does research that will help with accessing plants etc. this will help in the long term management of the lake's needs.

Does the spraying affect the clarity readings?

- It can change it but so can boat traffic, temp between spring and summer etc.

What about the phosphorous levels?

- Farms are the greatest part of this as they are not subject to the laws on using. There is also a problem with the run off and its effect on the properties. Scott Peterson said this has been an ongoing complaint and so far the Drain Commission has not recognized this as a problem. He suggested continuing to contact the Drain Commission and with the new Commissioner maybe there will be a change.

In closing the lake is better today than ever before. The cycle continues and we must remain diligent. Thanks goes out to the Lake Board in their successful campaign.

REGULAR MEETING BUSINESS

Minutes of 2015 meeting were read.

- Motion to accept by Greg Thebo seconded by Scott Peterson.

Treasurers report 2015 – Roger Knoper:

- Fish fund \$687.37 no change
- General fund: Started with \$1954.70 collected \$620 dues expense of \$1085.77
- May 31st ending balance of \$1388.93
- In short we spent more than we took in. In 2015 our dues dropped \$400 from 2014.
- Motion to approve Treasurer's Report, motion made by Robin Ritz seconded by Cheryl Freyling

2016 Budget:

- Jack Freyling recommended a budget of \$1240 and reviewed the various expenses. The largest expense is the MLSA conference. It was suggested we approve the budget but with a stipulation that if we do not get more in dues that we do not spend the moneys on the MLSA meeting.
- Motion to accept new budget with the line item noted Greg T seconded by Mike Russell.
- There was discussion on how to increase the membership of the Lake Association. One question was do we have a list of members from one year to the next and contact those who dropped off. Answer was we do but had never cross reference to notify those that dropped.
- Also could we put a list of members on the website? Concern expressed by Jack due to security of the information and posting it to the website.
- It was determined that we all need to encourage our neighbors to join. Reminding them that this is their lake.

Committee Reports:

Adopt a Road:

- All good per Greg Thebo.... no new volunteers needed at this time

Water Clarity:

- The water continues to improve. He will give information to Jack F. to post all results on website. There are more tests that could be done but more costs and at this time not necessary. There are courses that people can take to learn more about the testing that information will also be posted on website.

Old Business:

- **Muck Issue:** Last year did a total kill to that area to see if that would help reduce the weeds and have a positive effect on muck. The muck is still there but the weeds are gone so hoping in long run it may get better.

New Business:

- **Jubilee Parade:** We set up for Chamber each year. Last year we ended up without enough volunteers. If interested in helping see Greg T or contact the Chamber. There is to be 2 new people who are handling the parade to get more participation.
- **Goose control:** Jack learned at the MLSA conference of a company that corrals, captures and moves the geese in a humane manner. We have missed the deadline this year which was May 27th. But Jack will investigate the costs and will post on site. Company name is Goose Busters and it does require 70% of the property owners to approve.
- Mike Russell did mention that E Coli numbers are increasing which the Goose population does contribute.

- **4th of July Boat Parade:** It was raised to see if there is interest in organizing. At the meeting there weren't any volunteers but after meeting Harvey Stark's family member is going to handle.
- **Discussion on Lake problems/rules/boaters:** Best route is to notify the sheriff with complaint and is possible get the MC numbers as they will track down the owners.

Election of Officers:

- New treasurer is needed Mike Lovett has volunteered to handle this role on an interim basis.
- Needed a new road trustee for Wedel area. Steve Barnstead volunteered. Motion was approved to accept.
- Since we didn't have any volunteers for taking any of the other board spots a motion to retain current board was approved.

Meeting was adjourned