

OLHA Board Meeting 4 December 2017

Meeting called to order by President James Neuenschwander at 7:03 PM

Present Chairman James Neuenschwander, Matt Sprader, Robert Diskin, Frank Klegon, Patricia Walklet, Henry Storm

Absent: Andria Byers, Carole Miller

Minutes from September 11, 2017 meeting were read by President James Neuenschwander. Corrections noted were incorporated. Patti Walklet moved to approve the minutes as corrected, Frank Klegon seconded, minutes approved.

Treasurer's report:

Savings account balance 9/11/2017	\$26,001.45
Interest Deposit	\$.63
Savings account balance 9/11/2017	\$26,002.08
Checking account balance 6/05/2017	\$ 5,249.89
Deposits	
12/02/2017	\$100.00
Withdrawals	
Check # 109 Rick Walklet LIB	(\$ 12.54)
Check # 110 Void	(\$ 0.00)

Check # 111 (P. Walklet) Party at Sprader's (\$ 54.97)

Checking account balance 12/04/2017 \$ 5,282.38

Members in attendance: David Bolejack 10265 Lakeside Drive, Art Noel / Celeste Noel 63 N. Hulbert, Heiko Escher / Erin Escher 10279 Lakeside Drive, Rick Walklet 10835 Oxbow Lakeshores Drive, Patt Roth 10081 Lakeside Drive, Jennifer Wilson / Tom Wilson 314 Lakeside Drive, Sandra Muccioli 627 Hilltop Drive, Doug Burns 10314 Elizabeth Lake Road, Beth Storm 10087 Lakeside Drive, Deb Hankes / Doug Hankes 10115 Joanna K.,

Dues received at meeting: None

Fishing: No report

Water Quality: Rick Walklet Lake reported the lake level today (measured at the dam) was 943' above sea level, 12" higher than the winter level we have discussed establishing. All samples submitted for 2017, results should be available in March 2018. Participation fees for the 2018 Consolidated Lake Monitoring Program (CLMP) sampling program (secci disk, free oxygen, phosphorus) estimated at \$200.00. Rick Walklet motioned we spend \$200.00 on 2018 CLMP funding, Frank Klegon seconded the motion. There was discussion pertaining to participating in the entrained oxygen sampling program. R. Walklet stated he was unsure as to the value of obtaining this

information. Henry Storm asked if it would be possible to have a representative from the DEQ attend our next Board Meeting to give us an overview of each sampling parameter. R. Walklet said he would attempt to arrange the presentation. Henry Storm questioned the comments concerning dangers of low lake levels that could be caused by establishing a winter legal level. Rick Walklet stated he was warned, by Jason Seay, a County Water Resource employee, that establishing a winter level might jeopardize summer legal lake levels. Henry Storm stated that there is historical data available to support spring thaw water flow through the Huron River chain of lakes. Henry also spoke about the topography above (Pontiac Lake) and below (Cedar Island Lake) that necessitate "holding" water in Oxbow Lake during the spring thaw to prevent flooding. Rick Walklet suggested that Henry Storm take over the investigation of establishing a Winter Lake Level. Henry Storm agreed to accept this project and will contact Oakland County for a point of contact and historical lake data.

Membership: 1 more paid dues

Emails have been sent announcing dues requests. Another set of reminders will be sent after the first of the year.

Entertainment:

Newsletter: Looking for Street Captain's to assist

Web Page solicitation Oxbowhome.com

Boating: Majority of boats have been removed for the winter.

Old Business:

Rick Walklet, Status, Lake Improvement Board Initiative

(Text copied and included)

Oxbow Lake Improvement Board Petition Status 12-4-17

We **will not** be able to successfully execute the forming of a LIB for 2018 due to the lack of petition returns

All lots that did not submit petitions by September (130 lots) received another full package with self-addressed envelope. With this, all lots received a minimum of 3 communications. This latest effort resulted in an additional 19 petitions returned

Only one phone call with questions to me regarding the LIB occurred during this September to December time period

Results from 60% of petitions returned (278 petitions with 167 returned):

<u>Initiative</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Comments</u>
- Form LIB initiatives (requires 186 Yes votes)	93	73	29 of No votes want noted below executed...
- Purchase OLHA boat launch (Requires 140 Yes votes)	86	79	requires simple majority
- Conduct limited weed harvest (Requires 140 Yes votes)	76	87	Requires simple majority

- Waterfowl roundup (Requires 195 Yes votes)	106	59	70% Yes required by DNR
- Lower winter lake level (requires 186 Yes votes) executing	93	72	66% Yes required by Water Commission before

Recommendations:

1) Given lack of petition participation, stop this LIB petition effort. If sufficient petitions trickle in between now and March 1, 2018 to enable a final decision on the LIB, Rick Walklet will call for a special OLHA board meeting to discuss next steps

2) Based on verbatim statements below, the one area of concern/request for action mentioned most frequently but not included in the LIB initiatives list was stump removal. My research has resulted in the following

- The DEQ will not support wholesale removal of stumps. They are considered habitat.
- The DEQ might support “tactical” stump removal Areas of major concern for hi traffic areas.
- Given this opportunity, I would make the request to the OLHA Board to pursue stump removal in two areas:

Widen the gap between the Lakeside Drive point and our current marker bouy by removing stumps for a distance of 100 feet south of the current marker. This will minimize the traffic congestion at this bottleneck.

Remove stumps and logs from a 75 foot wide path starting at Sprader’s boat launch ramp directly north into the lake to a point where the water depth is consistently 5 feet or deeper. This would enable damage free launching for those OLHA members to launch / retrieve their watercraft. OLHA

members are allowed to use this ramp only after their Association dues are paid.

- The cost for stump removal would be paid by OLHA funds
- Rick Walklet will be happy to pursue permits with the DEQ if the OLHA Board approves

Oxbow Lake Improvement Board Petition Verbatim Statements

We would very much like to have some of the more obvious stumps removed

Use of fireworks and/or explosives be limited to times allowed by White Lake ordinance (Joanna K)

Fireworks - have a professional display like other lakes

Remove the weeds from the creek area near Lakeside and Glynn

All must pay for OLHA boat area

Leave the lake and waterfowl alone. Stop using fertilizers (free weed control)

Stop filling in beach areas with sand. Stop trying to get more property for yourself

by trying to change the natural lake bottom. Enjoy the lake the way it is.

Control your own property. Leave the lake alone.

> Continue weed harvest between main lake and north bay

Sound reducing along M-59...concrete blocks or additional tree planting (Mary Lee)

Weed harvesting and control for entire lake - not for the benefit of a few (Mary Lee)

OLHA needs to re-plant native grass/weeds/vegetation to maintain a healthy, vibrant lake ecosystem

Remove stumps and down trees that pose navigational hazards, potentially causing

damage to boats and people

Form a sand bar on the lake to create a common area safe for swimming

- > Noise reduction barrier/trees along M59 (Mary Lee)
- > Stump removal
- > I paid dues the last 2 seasons at Sprader's. I never knew who to contact or send it to. Thanks for the info.
- > Stump removal on east side of main lake and near Spraders
- > Control unpermitted and therefore illegal seawalls
Restriction on "wake setter" boats dangerous and destructive waves
- > Having a controlled boat launch is very critical to our property values. White Lake Township owns property on Elizabeth Lake Rd. Purchase must be at a reasonable cost
- > I would strongly support any fish stocking efforts. I would also support any stump removal efforts
- > As meeting of Aug 1 indicated - items need to be fully vetted at a series of public meetings - scope of action, cost, etc. all over the map...no clear understanding of what is desired or proposed
- > Gov Bad!!!
- > July 4th fireworks
- > Weed control!
- > Yes on the boat launch as long as it is private and only for Oxbow Lake homeowners
No on the lake level...concerned about lowering too far which impacts lake level in the summer
- > Want keyhole lots to participate in funding if they have the benefit of using the lake

- > Really need the water level lowered in the winter
- > Get rid of wake boats. They cause more damage than any no wake area
My existing taxes should pay for this. Will not approve anything that will increase taxes
- > Did not support winter lake level reduction because “concerned with recovery in Spring”
- > Need to know how much it will cost first

- > Stump relocation
Legal removal of marina activity on keyhole lots
Sheriff patrols
- > Tull lake pumping water
- > Include the Huron River, both sides of the wetlands, in the weed harvesting
We are already paying \$200 annually to the Twin Lakes Improvement Assoc.
- > We have been residents of the Twin Lakes sub since 2004, paying annual dues to the
Twin Lakes Improvement Association, and reside on the Huron River leading into
Oxbow Lake. We have also paid the dues to the Oxbow Lake Homeowners Association since 2004. We have always had “issues” with the river’s weeds and
water depth, especially Purple Loose Strife. It doesn’t benefit any of us on the
river
to reduce main lake weeds if we have a hard time (or are unable to) get our boats
out
of the river. We have discussions and on-site visits by DNR and State Senator
Kowall
to no avail. The river homeowners would have to foot the cost for weed
harvesting
or dredging, which would be cost prohibitive to us. It would be beneficial to all
lake

residents if all problem areas were addressed, as the Huron River feeds Oxbow Lake

> Tree stump removal

> Not enough info re: purpose of/or need of launch

Very concerned about lake level reduction given the unknowns

> Weed harvesting - floats a lot of weeds down river effecting & overgrowing of weeds

@ the dam

DNR already harvested and killed swans. I like the swans - not the geese. I do not agree in killing wildlife

>Would not support purchasing M59 property (for boat launch)

Weed harvesting must include more area that benefits others. Also look at lily pads

Will not support lower lake level until Tull Lake pump is stopped Multiple articles on pros and cons of winter draw down

> Don't forget way back this was volunteer (Re : Oxbow Lake Improvement Board formation)

Boat launch - there is a lot that can be used as a legal launch - free. Will everybody

be on the title of the land

We already pay for weed control - if you want weed control for that one specific area,

you would create more safety issues

They will never reduce and keep waterfowl to a min - unless homeowners take care

of it themselves

We already pay for lake level control - why pay more for a lot of these issues

New Business:

Complaints concerning the burning of leaves and debris: It is illegal, here is the law:

NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ACT
(EXCERPT)

Act 451 of 1994

324.11522 Open burning of grass clippings or leaves.

Sec. 11522. (1) Beginning on March 28, 1995, the open burning of grass clippings or leaves, or both, is prohibited in any municipality having a population of 7,500 or more, unless specifically authorized by local ordinance, which ordinance shall be reported to the department of natural resources within 30 days of enactment.

Matt Sprader volunteered to expand a stump contract to remove stumps from areas where safety of navigation is compromised by stumps. Patty Walklet brought up discussion to approve monies to reimburse Matt Sprader for contractor to cut stumps. Will be defined and promulgated prior to the March meeting.

Meeting dates for 2018 March 5, June 4, July 9, September 10, and December 3

Patti Walklet, envelopes will be made available at Sprader's. A letter will be provided notifying people paying their dues when launching their boats that they are then members of the OLHA

Children's fishing tournament point of contact Brian O'Keefe.

Party at Sprader's date and time to be determined.

Letter from MWA Letter concerning Weed control. DNR will work with the MWA to identify strategies to prevent further spreading of invasive species. It is against the law to transport aquatic vegetation from one water body to another.

Henry Storm motioned to close the meeting, Jim Neuenschwander seconded the motion, all approved and the meeting was closed at 8:13 PM.

Oxbow Lake Homeowner's Association

Chairman James Neuenschwander

Vice Chairman Robert Diskin

Treasurer, Patricia Walklet

Secretary, Henry Storm 248-891-6218

Ancientgrape@gmail.com

Carole Miller

Frank Klegon

Matt Sprader

Andria Byers

Meeting dates for 2018

March 5

June 4

July 9

September 10

December 3