

Little Traverse Lake Property Owners Association

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Saturday May 18, 2019 9:00AM

Leanderson Residence

In attendance were Directors Leanderson, Mason, Shutz, Skjaerlund and Verellen. Race 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 - Shutz reported \$15,700 cash on hand. There are no pending expenses. \$13,500 has been received in 2019.

Membership Report – Leanderson reported that 43 members have paid their dues in 2019 so far.

Committee Reports

Water Level – Shutz reported that the lake level is good for this time of year. Nick surveyed the creek for dams and found one beyond fish camp. He will continue to monitor for dams through July 4<sup>th</sup>. The CR-669 culvert is still scheduled to be removed this fall pending permit approvals. If water levels rise we will need to seek approval from the NPS to remove it.

Water Quality – Race reported the water testing plan for 2019. The Conservancy will be testing our lake four times. Their test results are on their website. In 2019, we will request a proposal from Freshwater Solutions to test for cladophora (similar to the testing that was completed 3 years ago), retest for DNA as we did last year, and test for ecoli. We will also request that they duplicate the tests done last year for commonality. Shutz will talk to Glen Lake Association for other suggestions and methods. Discussion was held on Coco Newton's suggestion for a speaker to educate members on best practices of fertilizing around the lake. MSU Extension Service, Au Sable Institute and McGough's will be contacted as possible candidates.

MURT Heritage Trail – Skjaerlund reported on the Trail planning workgroup meeting. There was a meeting held in late winter with no progress. Another meeting has not been scheduled. There are problems with the process as well as issues with all of the alternatives. Cost estimates are very high.

Website/Directory – Leanderson reported the directory is on the website. An update will be issued in the future. The website is operational and is getting visits.

Swimmers Itch – Rankin's report via email: "I went to the all-day swimmer's itch conference in November. I learned that our host on LTL is most likely, as we would have guessed, the Merganser. The duck hunters removed some of the ducks last fall. Others may be on the lake now, or not. In the spring, you can help to get rid of Mergansers by disrupting the nesting process. Note that the DNR does not like this, but many other lakes spoke up about this at the meeting. The Merganser ducks nest mostly in live trees up high in a hole or a sheltered nook. The swimmer's itch people said they cut down the tree and the ducks move to another lake. Some lakes are paying one of the two groups (there are two competing groups for itch) to trap and relocate ducks. Ducks are taken to Sutton's Bay, or near the Thumb. There are problems getting places and permission to relocate ducks. We would want to avoid paying for really

expensive DNA testing of itch hosts when it is clear that our itch problems wax and wan with the duck population. Homeowners can be vigilant about spotting nests and keep the hunters on board. People who use the water a lot, and small children, should play in the water at the end of the dock, not by shore, and towel off briskly after getting out each time. The water right lapping on the shore has the most itch. Sun block, or any barrier, also helps. Those who have a big beach with kids playing where the water laps up against it have the most issues. There is also a chemical water treatment that kills the snails, but it is not good for the lake! Suggest we post to the blog about itch: don't feed the ducks, report all nests that you find, avoid the shallow water right next to the shore, towel off briskly, and for worst case scenarios, dots of nail polish on spots kills the itching.

#### Old Business

Winter Dinner Recap – The dinner was a success with a very good turnout. Next year plan the same.

#### New Business

TLR speed limit change – Mason reported that the change in Michigan law does not include Townships, just incorporated cities and villages. LCRC does not want to lower the speed limit. Speed testing done last year did not support lowering the limit.

Planning for July 4 Fun Run/Koffee Klatch – Leanderson reported we need some volunteers to help put up the banner. Assignments: Coffee- Shutz, Food- Race, Name tags-Leanderson, Signs-Race, MC-Skjaerlund. Tom Lauer will be contacted about bringing his truck.

Annual Meeting August 3 – Shutz will reserve Township Hall. Possibly have fertilizer speaker(s).

Newsletter – Discussion was held about publishing a newsletter that can be distributed via the “walk-around” prior to July 4<sup>th</sup>. This could be handed out to all homeowners, not just members. Articles will be written by Race (Water Quality), Shutz (Water Levels), Skjaerlund (Trail) and Rankin (Itch). Articles are due by June 7 to Leanderson. Leanderson will get published by June 14.

Directors Terms – The terms for Rankin, Skjaerlund, and Verellen are ending this August. Procedure for election was reviewed.

The next Board meeting is June 15, 2019 at Race's.

The meeting adjourned at 11:00AM on a motion from Skjaerlund, second from Verellen.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 AM on a motion by Mason, seconded by Race.