

Highland Lake Property Owner's Association Board of Directors Meeting, August 16, 2021

This hybrid zoom/in person meeting was called to order by Joe Bigalke at 7:00 PM. Board members present were Marilyn Henry, Linda Wegge, Larry Leafblad, John Sonnenberg, Casey Bloomer, David Oswald, Ron Mittlestaedt and Lorna Denig. Members of the community present included Linda Kuntner, Don Dorsch, Maranda Aguiniga, Justin Harris, Rose Bloomer, Cindy Lehman, Trisha Steele, Adrian Fosberg, Diane Kula, and Roseanne Rendall. Marilyn moved to approve remote voting, Ron seconded. The motion carried. Motion to approve the July 2021 minutes was made by Larry and seconded by John. The motion carried.

Items to be added to the agenda: Lake clean up is needed. Ron stated that since the water is so clear and level so low it's easy to see sunken objects that could be more easily removed. He saw a sailboat and rusty barrels.

Lake Health: Per John, interns are checking the traps, schedules have been posted, and McCloud has done their second treatment. Initial readings are showing effectiveness of treatments. County and state officials would like to see us continue with the treatments. McCloud suggests we skip a year of the Eurasian water milfoil treatment because of the low water level. Lily pad treatment was done on the east side; it will take 2 weeks to notice improvement. The only big algae bloom is by the inlet. We will get the money back that we paid McCloud for work that won't be done. We are saving money through lent equipment. We need to buy a DO temperature meter (\$1,082.00), which is on backorder. The copper device already approved already is \$1,331.00. \$1,800.00 was approved at the last meeting but Jim Bland is doing it so it will be \$1,500.00. The microscope is \$481.00 and paid for, \$100.00 is for monitoring and a gallon of ethanol is for \$42.95. We are under budget. He went on to tell us what the interns have been doing.

Treasurer's Report: The bank has reversed the \$2.50 service charge on the Foundation account. There is nothing to report on the state exemption. Insurance was paid from the Association account (\$2,650.00) and \$1,874.90 for lake expenses from the Association account. There is no revenue to report for the past month. Reconciled balances are \$8,213.67 in the Foundation account and \$21,353.13 in the Association account to total \$29,626.80. The Association can write a check to anyone, including the Foundation, per John. The reverse is true also. Ron stated he did not use money budgeted for fish stocking because of poor weather conditions. He will use it in the fall. Larry questioned the poor showing of dues collected. Linda said that 45% of dues requests sent to residents resulted in a donation. The total dues collected when adding the Association and Foundation donations is \$14,165.00. Larry asked that we figure out why more than half the residents don't contribute. Linda would like to see dues become mandatory. John asked Linda to break down Foundation vs Association donations for this year and bring it to the next meeting. Regarding bills to be paid, Coleen submitted request for \$20.00 for Welcome Bags and John requested \$450.00 to be paid to McCloud for weed treatment, \$1,600.00 to McCloud for zebra mussel treatment, and \$700.00 to JK Bland for testing and analysis. Linda moved to approve payment of these bills and Ron seconded. The motion carried. John moved we approve the financial report, Casey seconded. The motion carried.

Sense of Neighborhood: Regarding the earlier proposed Fall Festival, it was decided to not do it this year secondary to the rising Covid 19 infection rate. Linda wondered about having it at Downey as opposed to a private home; Ron felt that some people enjoyed hosting events at their homes in more ideal conditions. John suggested we put things off until next year when hopefully conditions will be better. The unclaimed paddle boat will be posted and sold. Regarding clean up day, Linda said there is a sunken paddleboat, pier sections, and branches that are hazards for boat and swimmers. It would be a good time to pull these things out because of the low water level and clarity. Larry suggested the residents that have waterfront property pull items out by their shoreline. Joe said the only thing we have at our disposal is the raft that could be modified to do this. John and interns have been marking things that should come out. He suggested the larger pontoon boats be used to get out the large items and drag them to a park. We can do it over the next few weekends. Will start this Sunday at 1 PM; meet at the raft. Regarding Downey Park mowing, David offered to mow it if he couldn't find someone else to do it. Regarding proposed ramp at Hartnett, Casey asked for a clearer picture of the costs involved. John said if gravel was used it would be anywhere between \$1,600.00 and \$3,000.00 depending on how much is used. John addressed questions about access, county and neighbor permission. Concern was raised by a resident about who would be monitoring this new access point and making sure it wasn't used by non HL residents. Joe stated that there would be a locked gate there. Casey felt it would be OK for seasonal launches and removals as well as access to research and treatment boats but not for daily use. Ron agreed; he got neighbor's feedback that they were not in favor of it being used on a daily basis. John stated that our insurance will not change if this new ramp is placed. They did suggest that boat owners be aware that they are using their boats in the parks, access points, and water at their own risk. A question was raised as to how the costs would be recovered; who would pay for the construction and upkeep of this ramp? It was voiced that merely paying dues shouldn't give people the right to use the ramp; they should be asked to pay an additional fee. Casey suggested we get Army Corp of Engineers evaluation for free before we pay for a permit. John moved we go ahead with getting this evaluation done, post an informational letter on the Face Book page and website, collect feedback from the community, and put it on the agenda at the next meeting regarding whether or not to move forward with it. Some residents present offered to take a flyer door to door. Lorna seconded John's motion. The motion carried. Next a discussion ensued about a new pontoon that was launched from their property. John dropped off stickers for the boat. Regarding historical records, Larry has a number of boxes in his possession that he would like someone to take from him. Regarding open burning, the policy is being explored right now by the County. Larry would also like to put the pathway fence on the budget for next year. He would like to see the monument in Hartnett Park cleaned up for its 20th anniversary.

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn was made by John at 8:45 PM and seconded by Casey. The motion carried.

Foundation meeting was opened by Joe at 8:45 PM. There were no changes in the attendance roster, and the financial report was unchanged from that of the Association meeting. John moved to adjourn the Foundation meeting at 8:46 PM, Casey seconded. The motion carried.

