

Highland Lake Property Owner's Association Board of Director's Meeting, March 21, 2016

This meeting was called to order by President Mike Kalstrup at 7:00 PM. Members present were Dave Coulter, Marilyn Henry, Larry Leafblad, Joe Bigalke, Dennis Grube, Maggie Keefe, John Sonnenberg, Kale Wyngarten and Cindy Mittlestaedt.

Minutes: Minutes from the February 2016 meeting were reviewed. Motion was made by Larry to approve them, seconded by Cindy. The motion carried.

Items to be added to the agenda: Larry requested issues regarding Hartnett Park and Lake Ave are added to the agenda.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Evan Mittlestaedt, son of Cindy, stated that a dead owl was found by their house. A conservation officer said that most likely it died from eating a rodent that had ingested poison. He asked that we consider this before putting out poisoned bait to kill rodents.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Boat storage and access: Maggie asked for suggestions on how to respond to feedback obtained from the surveys. There were 7. Larry suggested we put the survey out again to get more returns before responding. Lake Ave debris: Larry took a video on Lake Ave starting at Hainesville Rd down to the lift station at the S curve (private property). Part of the property near the north end by the golf course is owned by Round Lake Park. Larry would like to approach them and find out if they would help in the clean up, taking down dead trees and getting rid of junk. At the entrance to Lake on Hainesville the owner of the property has agreed to cooperate with us in making it more presentable. Larry has emailed some of the owners asking for suggestions and has gotten some good responses. Also, Larry and Dave have talked about doing an ecological burn at Hartnett Park. This will get rid of invasive plants and let the natives take over. Grayslake FD is aware and just asked to be notified when it is done (along with neighboring residences). Dave can do the burn; he says it should be herbicided first, then burned, and seeded. This should be done annually indefinitely. The woody invasives should be cut down and burned. Mike will speak with the road construction manager regarding our intentions. Signage: Larry negotiated signs in trade of an annual membership with a signage company. Outflow improvements: Joe said a schedule needs to be made so the grate is cleaned regularly. Joe said the grate is loose but needs two people to move. It would be easier if the grate was built in three sections. Joe said he would be able to do that. Removal of dead trees at Chic Park: Larry talked to Garth who said he could take two down for \$175.00. Updating rules on website: Maggie and Larry will get together to talk about a plan for that. Transference of old records from paper to digital: Mike wonders what to keep, what to get rid of. Larry noted that Marie Caviness wrote a book on the history of Highland Lake. He said there are 11 boxes of files in his house. He suggests forming a committee of 3 people to sort through the papers and keep what is relevant. We could put it on disc and then the website. Suggested we see if anyone is interested in working on this. Possible connection to CLC: John and Mike met at CLC with the head of programs for health and science. They spoke of Highland Lake becoming a classroom for CLC; in return we would get more data. On their part they need to be working with a nonprofit organization which we are. John said

they can get grants for education. It can serve both parties. John said that we need to present to their faculty; this is also a work in progress.

LAKE HEALTH:

Consent to treat the lake bottom: We still need consent forms back from Quinn, Avery and Johnson. Mike will contact them to get a signature either way. Request for info from Environmental Services: Mike and John will get together on this. Update on rules regarding placement of fish habitat structures in Lake: Mike called Todd Simec who told him there were specific regulations regarding this. Some materials can be harmful to the water and the life it supports. Sinking boats have foam which breaks down and is eaten by the fish. There are already rules in place; it doesn't matter if you own lake bottom, certain things are pollutants. Cindy clarified verbiage that would be placed on the website. The boat that is in there now will have to be removed. Discussion ensued on how to do this. Report on aquatic invasive treatment: The contract for treatment this year has been signed. Clarke is concerned that there will be heavy growth of EWM this year because of minimal snow coverage and warm temps this past winter. John has seen growth already; it didn't seem to die off from last year. Budget wise, we should be able to do it at around \$5,000.00. We need to take more into account the surface temp when treatment is started. Zebra Mussels: It would be best for all pontoon owners to use the same boat launch company and coordinate the days it will happen to minimize risk of introduction of zebra mussels into the water. Mike feels the consensus would go with Alstrand. It is going to involve everyone having their pier in and deciding on a date to have the boats brought in. It was noted that it can be a complicated issue; people pay for 6 month storage times. Linda will go in and talk to Vern from Alstrand about his availabilities, then get back to Mike. Long range treatment program: Mike talked to Clarke about setting this up and putting it on the website to keep everyone informed.

AVON TOWNSHIP HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT:

Bob Kula stated that bids have been obtained for Lake Ave; work should be starting sometime around the 4th of July. Larry will update Bob on his plans to involve Round Lake Park in the cleanup of Lake Ave as discussed earlier. John asked what we could do about the path that runs along the fence; Bob said there was nothing the Township could do but that we should approach the contractor. With the Lake Ave work there will be no elevation changes in the road, and no curbs. The tree at the end of Lake Ave will come down before paving. Spring Clean Up date will be in April; May 1st is the end of electronic collection. It will most likely be April 20. There will be more ash trees taken down if they present a hazard. Dutch elm disease is showing up again. The overflow grate is cleaned daily after a rain, twice daily after a heavy rain.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

Darren reports not much activity since the last meeting. \$1,708.50 has been taken in; \$3.74 for Pay Pal. There were 3 other contributions that were not filled out properly that need to be redone by the donors. So far this year there has been about \$13,000.00 in contributions; it's time to send out reminders to those who haven't paid. Larry suggested board members each take a list of names and contact these people individually. Darren will send us a list. Motion to approve the treasurer's report was made by Marilyn and seconded by Larry. The motion carried. Ann Bidwell is auditing the 2015 financial data; she complimented Darren on his thorough record keeping which makes her job easier. As

far as the 2016 budget, Ron Jensen has asked for \$400.00 for Carp Fest; only \$200.00 has been allotted. The 2015 balance of the Foundation account (\$7,868.00) was placed in the 2016 Lake Management category.

SENSE OF NEIGHBORHOOD:

Marie discussed the event; money that wasn't spent (\$46.52) will be carried over for next year's egg hunt. Nine children participated, down from last year. She thanked individually all those who helped out. She suggested eliminating the rain date as this causes confusion. Email communication: Darren checked the results of the opened blasts; more people looked at March meeting agenda than February, and more people check the meeting highlights than the agendas. 60% of the email marked "Area Water Shutoff" was viewed. Larry noted that lake access points have become dangerous; he and Mike will look it over and present findings to the board next meeting. He also mentioned that the National Athletic Club is sponsoring 5 shooting events in Fox Lake with dinner; contact Larry for more information. Carp Fest will most likely start on May 25 through Memorial Day.

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn was made at 8:13 PM by Larry and seconded by Darren. The motion carried. April 18th meeting will be a semi annual meeting.

HLPOA Foundation Meeting:

The meeting of the HLPOA Foundation was called to order by Mike at 8:13 PM. Roll call as taken; same members were present. The treasurer's report was the same. No new issues or information to discuss. Motion to adjourn was made by John and seconded by Cindy at 8:14 PM; the motion carried.