

## Highland Lake Property Owner's Association Board of Directors Meeting, May18, 2020

---

This zoom meeting (to comply with state mandated social distancing) was called to order by President Joe Bigalke at 7:00 PM. Members present were Marilyn Henry, Linda Kuntner, Lorna Denig, Ron Mittlestaedt, Coleen Benzo, John Sonnenberg, Larry Leafblad, Casey Bloomer, and Dave Coulter. Members of the community present included Maggie Keefe, Ann Bidwell, Anita Miller, Jim and Cindy Lehman, Cindy, Evan and Chase Mittlestaedt, Cathy DeGroh, Amy B, Katie, Karlene and Barb. Land donation will be added to the Foundation agenda. Regarding last month's minutes, John asked that a correction of the amount per hour recorded to be paid James Kennedy for work done is \$10, not \$20. Also corrected was the charge for each of 3 ZM chemical applications; they are \$750 a piece, not \$2,500 as stated at the last meeting. A motion to approve the minutes of the March 2020 meeting as amended was made by Larry and seconded by Casey. The motion carried. Marilyn moved that permission be given to make and approve motions by Zoom using the proper quorum, Casey seconded. The motion carried.

New Board Members: Linda reported that she requested a date from Linda Slipke when she would be taking over as treasurer. James Kennedy will not be voted in as new member until he has been paid for the work he has done.

Lake Health: Report by John, he and Dave have been working on this. A description of Earthtech QZ and how it is used was offered. 3 barrels at \$165 each will be used in the initial treatment in the shallow areas around the Lake. As the ZM levels drop subsequent treatments of 2 barrels will be done in new areas. An empty drum has been ordered to be used in distribution to ensure accurate measurement of the product. They will be working with the County in measuring and evaluating efficacy. The chemical will not affect swimmers or plants; it has been cleared by the EPA. It is used in water treatment plants. 4 extra barrels will be purchased, 2 will be used by Downey Park and 2 will be saved for use in the fall. Linda asked what information would be posted to the community regarding safety of the treatment. John will post signs in the Parks, and on Face Book. Coleen said she would also post it on the website. Linda questioned if there were any other estimates for application besides Dave's company. John said that the cost of the treatment estimated at the last meeting was close to \$9,000, as opposed to the \$5,385 that is now proposed. Linda asked if a second estimate was sought regarding the application; this is important especially if services are done by a board member. John said that McCloud bid was for \$9,000 for the chemical and \$2,500 each for 3 applications including cost of planning. Dave describes the application process, including how the spare barrel is used. \$1,000 to \$1,500 will be needed to rig a pontoon boat to dispense the product from the shore line out to 200 feet. This will include some volunteer work. Dave's proposal is based on a "not to exceed number"; if he can do it for less, this will be reflected in the final invoice. John then made a correction on the application estimate made by McCloud as being \$750 per application. John listed the 3 monitoring devices to be used. Lorna asked if McCloud has ever done this treatment before, John said that they have not. John will try to get the extra \$70 barrel cheaper somewhere else. Marilyn moved to approve John buying the Earthtech QZ (he will try to do it under tax exempt status so taxes will be waived), Casey seconded. The motion carried. The fee to McCloud will be \$5,385 for applications. (???this is not correct; is it???) Larry questioned payment to a HLPOA resident for work done when most people volunteer their service free of charge.

John described it as a paid internship that he hopes to fund through grant money if it comes through. John pointed out that it was approved at the last meeting. He moved to approve payment to James Kennedy \$87.50 for 8.75 hours of work, Coleen seconded. The motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Linda reported a balance in the Association account of \$20,216.46. She paid the first and second installments of the property taxes, \$12. She also paid the IRS the penalty for the 2018 missed taxes. Linda Slipke has filed a petition with the IRS to waive the penalty; if this doesn't happen Linda K has offered to reimburse the Association for the penalty sum paid (\$92.84). The balance in the Foundation account is \$25,370.06. She paid James Kennedy \$270.00 for 27 hours worked from this account, also paid was John Sonnenberg a total of \$140.36 for lawnmower gas, wheels and something else. Donations have dwindled; so far only 88 residents have paid dues. By year's end for 2019 we had 107 residents pay dues. She feels that there are many people moving out of the neighborhood; that combined with the poor state of the economy should lead us to expect less donations moving forward. We should consider watching all the money we spend for this reason. John asked if this could be due to the new way we are billing for dues; Linda said no, the income pattern hasn't changed. She has been sending out dues bills as soon as she is aware of a new owner; this seems to work. She states we need to identify new owners as soon as possible. She suggests that as part of the Welcome Wagon we give new owners information about the website and dues, and what the money is used for. Cindy Lehman asked if there are still shore captains; Joe replied that we have had difficulty getting people to volunteer. She felt that having shore captains would facilitate identifying new residents and getting them involved. She volunteered herself and her husband for their section. Lorna said that as Welcome Wagon coordinator she would be willing to drop off information at new resident's door but would rather wait until the Covid epidemic lessens to make personal contact. Larry then spoke of his ideas for communication within the neighborhood via. Linda asked about Carp Fest; is it no longer a fund raiser? John replied that he set it up as free to enter but requested donations. There were about 20 people that agreed to donate; he said he could request \$10 from each to net a profit of \$200 since there were no expenses. Linda also asked if we were going to acknowledge the passing of former HL resident and past Board president Dave Quinn. Larry said that Strang handled the arrangements about 4 weeks ago saying there would be a service at a later time. Linda felt we should acknowledge his passing as a community in some way. Coleen said she would post it on the website.

Sense of Neighborhood: 1. Larry requested volunteers to work on a plan that he has set up to facilitate neighborhood communications. This would include cell phones for calls and texting, email addresses, land lines for calls, and the website. Linda told Larry that she has sent Maggie the entire email and regular address mailing list. He says it will be up and running by the fall. Amy said there are free texting services available. John said he would set up a separate meeting to those interested in working on this project.

2. Regarding the raft, the question of whether or not to launch it was voiced. The question of liability came up in light of the Covid epidemic. Social distancing and sanitizing of the raft parts issues were voiced. A discussion of pros and cons about putting the raft out ensued. Everyone was invited to make their case for or against. Casey said he is OK with putting it out as long as all state and county regulations and recommendations were followed. If there are problems with regulations being followed

the raft can be removed from the water. John stated that if a yes vote is reached, those who wanted it out would be responsible for watching for and dealing with problems if they occur. John asked for a roll call vote. The yes votes came from Coleen, Casey (with conditions) and Ron. The no votes came from John, Dave, Lorna, Joe, Linda, Larry and Marilyn. The vote carried that we would not put out the raft at this time but put it on the agenda for June's meeting for reevaluation. John suggested that the yes voters come up with the rules and signage/communications to be disseminated to raft users should the vote pass at the next meeting. The vote to approve purchase of the special ZM repellent paint for the raft bottom will be taken when raft launching approval happens.

3. Regarding Parks renovation, John reported that it has been cleaned up and will complete the boat storage area. Regarding Chic Park, Larry is going to wait a month before asking for volunteers to clean it up. Regarding Hartnett Park, Larry will propose a 14 month plan to renovate Hartnett Park. The sign will be restored. There are quite a few junk trees needing to be removed; this could be done by volunteers. We will need to grind down the stumps in the fall and be ready to work on beautification in the spring and summer. Linda pointed out that we did not budget for this; Joe said it would have to go into next year's budget. Questions were raised about why we needed to fix it up; why couldn't it just be left as a natural wild life refuge. Joe said that there was a beaver living there that was taking down many trees in the area. Joe and John will complete removal of a downed tree there.

4. Regarding pontoon boats, John stated that he has been approached by some residents who have concerns about pontoons going too fast. Vern from Ahlstrand Marine has said that the problem is not with battery voltage but with the speed the boat is traveling. John asked for a committee of pontoon owners who would ensure compliance of the rules. Marilyn said she would email a letter reminding pontoon owners of the rules regarding speeds and wakes that have been written.

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn the Association meeting was made at 9:03 PM by Coleen and seconded by Casey. The motion carried.

.....

HLPOA Foundation Meeting was called to order at 9:03 PM with the same members present. The only item up for discussion was the proposal of a property parcel for donation. Larry reported that he was approached by the owner of 2 lots including 50 ft of lakefront property on South Circle that they were willing to donate to the Association. It was purchased from Larry 10 years ago for \$80,000. There is no house on it and they have been trying to sell it. Linda said the taxes due on it were \$5,300. She also said it is not in a good location for a Park, the road dead ends there. Joe felt that the only way we should accept it is if we can resell it. A discussion occurred about if it was possible to have it accepted by the Foundation and be tax exempt. It was felt that we could not use the property as a Park. Larry and Joe will meet again with the owner to explore options. Maggie suggested we talk to the property owner of record, Doug, and not Chris. Treasurer's report was without changes. Motion to adjourn the Foundation meeting was made by John and seconded by Lorna at 9:13. The motion carried.

