

Highland Lake Property Owner's Association Board of Director's Meeting, September 21, 2015

This meeting was called to order by President Larry Leafblad at 7:01 PM. Members present were Darren Ruback, Dave Coulter, John Sonnenberg, Lorna Denig, Marilyn Henry, Larry Leafblad, Joe Bigalke, Mike Kalstrup, and Maggie Keefe. Correction of minutes from last month's meeting made to change Hainesville Rd construction site to *south* of the roller rink, Larry's conversation with the director of storm water *management* and the mayor of Round Lake *Park*. The Board member and position changes will be made at the *semi-annual October* meeting with *Board approval*. Finally, the total sum of money to be spent on fish stocking was \$1,992.00 and was approved by the Board. Motion made to approve the minutes from the August meeting as amended was made by Darren and seconded by Maggie. The motion carried.

A moment of remembrance was observed for Barbara Schroer, wife of Board member Bob Schroer, who recently passed away.

Welcome Wagon: Rachel Bird reported that she has been going out to homes of new residents. They have been welcoming to her. She reviewed the inventory she has from 16 businesses and will contact them when supplies get low. Marilyn Henry mentioned that she and her husband were considering purchase of magnets with HLPOA website address and brief description of what the association does. These could be added to the bags as well. Larry asked if new residents were being added to the data base; Darren replied that he was sending the information to Rachel as well as keeping it in the Association data base. A question was asked if the raft wristbands would go into the bags, this was felt to be a good idea. The \$5.00 fee will be waived for the first year for new residents in the interest of educating them on the rules.

Avon Township Highway Department: Bob Kula was not available for an update at the meeting.

Public Comment: Darren asked those present about a date for the Italian Dinner. Larry suggested he pick one and let us know what he comes up with. Cynthia Lehman spoke about Operation Christmas Child, a program that delivers gift boxes to children all over the world. She invited anyone interested to take a special shoe box and fill it with small items. There are gift suggestions with the box. Cynthia will collect the boxes at her home on November 15th. At this time a \$7.00 shipping fee will also be collected from the giver. She will come back to the October meeting with boxes for those interested in participating and hoped to get an announcement in the website. Highland Lake T shirts were available for pick up at the meeting for those who ordered them. The next meeting will be on October 19th. It is the annual meeting.

President's Comment: Larry discussed the Hainesville Rd commercial development in Round Lake Park. It is a 4 acre parcel. Under it is a catch basin that collects all the runoff water which drains under Hainesville Rd and dumps into Highland Lake. We have taken steps to ensure that they take steps to detain the runoff, which will most likely contain asphalt. Zoning there is liberal. The Storm Water Management Commission of Lake County has done an inspection there. They have been in touch with the Building Commissioner for Round Lake Park. Members of the Lake Health Committee will meet with the Storm Water Management Commission to see what our rights are. They understand that our only

objective is to detain the runoff and prevent it draining into our Lake. After consideration it has been determined that storage of boats in the Parks will not work. Linda said that small boats with batteries are prime targets for theft. They need to be stored in a fenced, locked area which we are not able to provide. They need to be shrink wrapped for storage and that needs to be done off site. All boats need to be removed from the parks by November 1st; they may be returned on February 1st. Mike pointed out that introduction of zebra mussels into the lake is a huge concern. He asked if there is any protocol to prevent this from happening as boats are being launched and removed from the water by these trailers. Linda said she would talk to Liberty Marine about that. The feeling was that most boats are using the same company to do this. John pointed out that the reason we don't have them here is because of our vigilance. He said there are fines for introducing mussels into the water. Any boat going in needs to be power washed with hot water. Larry would like to educate all the residents about the huge problems the mussels cause. We need to develop a leaflet that can be left with people. He would like board members to spread the word by going door to door. John said the more organized we can be about the process, the more barriers we can set up, the better. Once they are in we will never get rid of them. Dave suggests carpenter's horses be placed at each of the 7 entrances to the water with instructions for launch and pictures of the mussels. Larry noted that many boats are launched at people's homes. Mike stated that if the mussels were allowed to take over it would destroy the lake. Plants and fish would disappear. We need to encourage people to come to next month's meeting to educate them, and the board was asked to come up with a plan to address this problem then. On October 1st Washington St will be closed at the tracks so that they can establish new lanes. It should reopen on Saturday October 3rd.

Lake Health: Mike stated that Lake County Environmental Services was out to the Lake; they offered to do an end of the year survey right behind Clarke's survey so we could compare data. We ended up with 2 completely different surveys. He proposed that the Lake Committee sit down with reps from Clarke and Lake County and evaluate the data. We are now getting data more frequently than ever before. John showed pictures of the surveys to those present and his interpretations. This data will take a while for them to evaluate as it is so new. EMW will never be completely eliminated; we can only hope to maintain a balance. Mike and John have discussed doing their own survey to compare with Lake County's and Clarke's. Lake County says that our Lake is the poster child for doing the weed control right. Consistency is key in treatment, data collection is crucial. Per Larry, last week a barge was hired to pull out a pipe that was sticking out of the Lake. It was a pipe to a compressor that was placed years ago to keep the Lake from freezing completely but hasn't been used for a long time. They decided to cancel this due to the risk of zebra mussel contamination. John has suggested we use the raft to pull it out. Ways to accomplish this was discussed. John will check with Marc Rosemeyer about this. Also discussed were programs for boater safety and inspection, and zebra mussel online education to be done next year. An ice fishing derby has been planned for January 30th. There will be a \$15.00 entry fee per house; this will fund the event. No association money will be used.

Fish Stocking: The delivery date will be in the beginning of November, it may be primarily Walleye and some Northern.

Fiscal Health: Per Darren, \$20.00 has come in for wristbands, there was a foundation contribution of \$150.00 earmarked for fish stocking. Maggie did a T shirt fundraiser during a party she hosted that

brought in \$261.97; along with the one Alice orchestrated the total T shirt money brought in was \$648.00 to be used to beautify the parks. There was a foundation contribution of \$118.50. Our current balance is \$16,574.39. Motion to approve the Treasurer's report was made by Dave and seconded by Lorna. The motion carried. Instead of increasing dues Larry had the suggestion of charging those who pay their \$115.00 dues an extra \$5.00 if they are going to fish. If people do not pay dues they should be charged a \$115.00 fee. Discussion about this idea ensued. Lorna asked why the dues are voluntary. Larry replied that we can't force people pay. Another question was asked; how can we enforce payment for fishing? This was not determined.

Sense of Neighborhood: Volunteers are requested to funnel information about neighbors and events to Ron Jensen for publication on the website. We need to find out from Marc Rosemeyer what maintenance needs to be done on the raft for next year.

Motion to adjourn was made by John and seconded by Mike at 7:58 PM. Motion carried.

Meeting of the HLPOA Foundation was called to order at 7:58 PM by Larry with the same members present as the previous meeting. Larry and John have talked about approaching people to point out that their yearend tax deductible gift can now be made to Highland Lake. His suggestion is to send out an appeal by mail. John will look for a volunteer to set the policy for this. We need to have a set price tag on legacy gifts also (benches, etc). We also need a policy to have a waiting period before naming rights are done in memorial after someone dies. Motion to adjourn made by John at 8:02 PM and seconded by Joe. Motion carried.