

## **LOW Improvement Assoc. Inc Board of Directors Meeting SEPTEMBER 12, 2015**

**Call to Order:** 11:14 AM at Bob Richter's home with all boards members present Bob Richter, Dan Buenz, Dominic Panico, Janet Roeder, Jim Neubauer, Marcia Ellis, Sandy Eich, @ Tim Wilson except Bill Kiss.

**Approve July 18<sup>th</sup>, 2015 Minutes:** Motion to approve as read by Marcia Ellis, seconded by Dan Buenz, all were in favor. Motion made by Sandy Eich, seconded by Bob to email all minutes with members reviewing and emailing corrections within a week before putting on web site with formal motion approval at next board meeting. All were in favor.

**Financial Report:** Balance in checking account \$10, 421.47 with copy of check register showing disbursements and income was given to all members and First State Bank statement shown to all with same balance. There was a question re: two insurances, one for the Corp. and one for Liability. Sandy will research , maybe one can be a rider on the other. Sandy also reported that we do file a 990N tax form yearly. After discussion, it was decided to add a second signer for our checking account. The president and treasurer can sign checks. Motion to accept by Dan Buenz, seconded by Bob; all were in favor.

**Committee Reports: Membership:** Sandy Eich reported that there are 117 members in good standing, which is a decrease from 142 in 2014. Discussion to still pursue the delinquents was dropped since we will be sending out new invoices in January 2016, and all dues are to be in by July. The goal of Membership chair will be to streamline the Excel File.

**Water Quality:** Bob received an email from Andy of PLM stating that they have completed sampling water quality and Bob will receive a report mid October. This year was challenging because of the Starry Stonewort, which will be a top priority next season.

**Sub Committees:** Marcia Ellis motioned, seconded by Dan to set up a standing sub- committee to deal with **Riparian** issues such as illegal docks and piers and the dumping of sand at the property water edge. Dan Buenz and Dominic Panico accepted the appointment. All were in favor. They have done much research already and will continue to follow through. There are many legalities to research as well as who has deeded accesses or if violations do exist. Motion was made by Dominic, seconded by Bob to set up a temporary sub-committee to review the current **By-Laws** and make changes as necessary regarding dates, dues, standing committees etc. All were in favor. Jim Neubauer, Marcia and Bob will serve on this committee .

**New Business: New LOW Website:** Marcia reported that it is up and running and that she and Tim Wilson have interfaced the website blog page with Face Book. She will send out a blast email about both sites and how to post pictures. All interesting items for the website are to be sent to Marcia and she and Bob have permission to add to the blog.

Marcia reported on a meeting she attended re: Protecting Michigan's Inland lakes. Her synopsis included the following web sites: Wetland maps: [www.michigan.gov/wetlands](http://www.michigan.gov/wetlands); natural shoreline info. At [www.mishorelinepartnership.org](http://www.mishorelinepartnership.org). Van Buren Conservation District: 269-4030x112 (Erin Fuller); Amy Lounds, Amy Berry at Mich. Dept. of Env. Quality 517-284-5580,5532, and Marcy Calclough SW MI Planning Commission 269-925-1137x1525. She announced that there is a Lakes and Streams evening meeting on Sept. 23, 2015 at the Van Buren Conference Center in Lawrence with Scott Brown, the executive director of the MSLA as one of the speakers as well as someone from Eagle Lake. Also, there

will be a meeting of the MSLA group on Saturday morning 10-03-15 to be held at the Van Buren District Library in Decatur.

Marcia, Sandy and Jan will draft a dues invoice and news type letter to membership April 1, 2016 with a Dues due date of May 1, 2015. (another change for the by-laws committee) as a newsletter with the renewal for dues went out in January by previous motions.

Discussion ensued regarding the LOW computer: To be continued.

Discussion on the continued use of Pay Pal for dues renewal : It was decided to cancel Paypal as members will now be able to pay by credit card direct to the bank with an email to Sandy as to the transaction and by check for those who still want to mail it in.

Jan will work on Certificate for Roy Pearson, past LOW president.

Invasive Phragmites meeting on August 27<sup>th</sup> attended by Wayne and Marcia Potter: Bob Richter to discuss this with Andy of PLM to determine its existence and the recommended treatment.

The Riparian asked if we wanted to do a cover and story about our lake. Roy Pearson volunteered. It was suggested that an appeal go out to all older members who would provide some assistance to Roy regarding history, such as Bob Johnson, Jr. Kooy, and Roger Mattens. Bob Richter will contact Roger, Roy, and Wayne Potter, if they are interested to work on this project.

**Next Meeting:** Bob will send out dates to choose from for a May 2016 meeting.

**Adjournment:** Motion to adjourn by Dan, seconded by Bob at 1:45 PM. All were in favor.  
Respectfully Submitted:

Sandy Eich