

Lake of the Woods Improvement Association, Inc.
Board of Directors Meeting Agenda
June 6, 2020

Present: Nick Virgilio, Greg Moss, Dominic Panico, Marcia Ellis, Jim Neubauer, Sharon Neubauer; Dan Buenz via phone.

Absent: Gary Serago

- I. Call to Order at 10am
- II. Minutes of Nov, 9th 2019 meeting were approved.
- III. Financial Report: see below
- IV. Committee Reports
 - A. Reported by Greg: We have 120 members at this time. We typically have more memberships from the annual picnic/meeting. There have been 5 home sales since Nov 2019. 5 properties are currently for sale now.
 - B. Riparian issues, update: Dan gave a report on the recent MLSA mtg. (attached below).
Dan will be in touch with Derek Haroldson regarding excess watercraft in some areas.
Email sent by Dan on Nov 25, 2019:

From: Daniel Buenz <danbuenz@hotmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 25, 2019 9:46 AM
To: Haroldson, Derek (EGLE) <HAROLDSOND@michigan.gov>
Cc: Bob Richter <cfdenr@comcast.net>; Dominic Panico <dpanico211@gmail.com>
Subject: Re: Marina Complaint

Derek,

I realize you were quite busy with the end of the year stuff. Just wondering if you ever got out to take a look at the probable violations. If not, does it have to wait until next year when the violations are again visible or based on the photos, can you evaluate? Possibly compliance letters can be sent out to the registered owners of the boats if it's determined that violations exist?

Dan Buenz
Vice President
Lake of the Woods Improvement Association

- V. New Business
 - A. Website – Marcia posted an article on the blog page about Jane Grube who will be 100 years old on June 15th this year.
 - B. New member bags and items.

- C. Picnic, new date is September 19, 2020 at the VFW. We discussed postponing the picnic and annual meeting. Because of the Covid-19 virus pandemic we must move the picnic from our usual July date. The Village is not opening the restrooms at Red Wolffe Park indefinitely. A **motion was made to move annual meeting and picnic to Sept 19.** Motion passed. Bob will try to obtain the VFW.
- D. Elections. There are 4 positions open: Bob Richter, Dan Buenz, Dominic Panico (all 3 year terms), and Gary Serago(one year term). Bylaws state 7 or 9 on the board. We currently have 5 board members so we can elect 2 or 4 to fill the positions. Bob will send an email to all members to solicit new board members.

The following motion was made: **Due to the virus, elections will be postponed and current terms will be extended until the annual meeting can be held.** Motion carried.

We will hold another meeting in August to determine picnic duties. A motion was made to consider catering picnic food from a local business to offer support for virus circumstances. Motion carried.

- E. We still have some t shirts to sell at the picnic. Printing new shirts at this time was not possible due to the viral pandemic.
- F. Sharon reported: Her husband and son helped High's by putting in the buoys this year. Sharon has requested another "No Wake" sign be placed at the entrance of the small channel and at the T into the big channel. Bob will replace the one at the small channel opening. He will research putting another one at the T of the big channel. Ray Howley requested a buoy in the swim area be moved towards the boat ramp, as it has drifted some. Bob will check into this.
- G. Boat Parade: At this time the Village is saying no fireworks, no parade so may get more participation in boat parade. High's Marine & Apollo Marine offered to donate prizes. Jim and Bob will organize.
- H. Sharon asked for money to be allocated for stocking the lake. The lake has had fish added twice by a fishing club and twice by the DNR in the past 5-6 years. The LOWIA added fish about 10 years ago. Bob will ask other lakes what the cost of a fish survey is and bring more information back to the board for discussion. Bob will also contact the DNR to see if they have a date for when they plan to restock LOW.
- I. Sharon brought up a complaint about PLM treating too close to fish beds in some areas. She has noticed some dead bluegills. Bob will talk with Andy at PLM.
- J. Sharon noted free fishing weekend is June 13 & 14.
- K. Mute swan issues: In May the DNR was called to check out an incident of a swan being aggressive at the mouth of the big channel. It had a nearby nest it was protecting. Nick did some research into mute swan removal. He attended a Hamilton Township meeting. He spoke with

the DNR officer who came out to the lake about the swan. It takes agreement of 70% of the lake residents to move forward on removing swans from the lake. The swans are protective of their nests in early to mid-May. It is not the board's plan to take action on this issue.

- VI. Next Meeting Aug 2020 TBD.
Picnic and annual meeting will be on Sept 19, 2020
- VII. Adjourned at 11:05am.

Lake of the Woods Improvement Association June 7, 2020 Financial Report

Beginning Balance 1-1- 2020

\$9,067.27

High's Marine Plaque	\$51.99
Printing & Office Supplies	\$121.00
Riparian Magazines	\$1,190.00
P.O Box Expense	\$56.00

Total Expenses **\$1,418.99**

2020 Membership Dues
\$2,635.00
2020 Membership Due via Stripe
\$628.79

Total Deposits

\$3,263.79

Ending Balance 6/7/2020

\$10,912.07

MLSA Region Three meeting highlights

The meeting was held on Saturday May 16, 2020 from 9:00 until 12:30.

The main themes reported by the individual Lake Associations involved:
HB5401 (Boat speed during high water periods).
High Water (including outlet/spillway issues).

Invasive weed species.
COVID impact and related impact on events and communication issues.
Township Communication Issues.

MLSA Conference was obviously cancelled amid COVID but webinars were held instead. Those are all posted on youtube which can also be accessed through MYMLSA.ORG A special edition of the Riparian will be coming out with many articles on what should have been in the conference.

The State didn't fund CLMP for 2020 but will for the following 5 years. MYMLSA shows how to do your own lake water sample testing.

New HB5401 is new, mainly for regulating boat speed during high water. Locally, you'll need help and support. A 14 day ban can be obtained. Township can do a 6 month but facts and data will be needed to support it and Townships need to act within 10 days. An ongoing ordinance can be done which is advisable. To do this through the Township, must go to EGLE for approval and then back to the Township. It's new and no one has done this yet.

The new Passport Access Pass was discussed.

Goose/Swan clearing programs.
Many lakes do active management of the Canadian goose population. Several Associations said that it has been a very successful program. They also reported that many members were against it at the beginning but the end result is that they now wholly embrace it. There is limited activity in the Swan clearing realm but it is being done at some lakes. Goosebusters out of Holly Michigan is the company everyone reported using for both geese and swans. For geese, there is a process to getting this done. First, a petition is required with 70% support. Then Township hearings or go directly to the USDA (who needs to be involved for the culling process no matter what). There is a \$200 permit application fee. This may be different for swans as the state is trying to reduce the amount of invasive type.

Shafer Lake: Treating for weeds. Resolved a Keyhole issue which went through the full court levels and was successfully resolved in the favor of the Association. I reported on this case at one of our previous meetings. Shafer Association said that it was a VERY costly venture which went 5 years through the courts.

Eagle Lake (near Indiana border): DNR is pushing for an access site.

Dewey Lake: Severe Milfoil issue. Presilicor was used for broad treatment which worked great but it's not effective for spot treatment. Their access site has been underwater for about 3 years with high water level. The DNR has threatened to close their site as people keep moving the cones that block off access. Members are frustrated about the access problems. They are experiencing Keyhole problems and, of course, it has involved Township politics and they won't stop it. One campground now split into two which exacerbates the problem.

Indian Lake (Cass County): Aeration has been hugely impressive. They are having problems working with the Township and two Association Members have resigned as a result. It's bad to the point that the Township won't renew their SAD's and they will now need to go out and get the 51% petitions done again. They had a ditch filter to contain contaminants coming in at the inlet. It was removed and, so far, they can't get it back in. They will do a CAFO (Concerned Animal Farm Operation) webinar as soon as they get permission involving "my waters" and runoff from farm animals.

Eagle Lake (Paw Paw): No high water issues. Passport in place at DNR site. Small amount of Stary Stonewart.

Shavehead Lake: Has outlet. Word from many of the reporting lakes that have outlets was the problem of beaver dams being constructed and removed. Small amount of Milfoil and Stary Stonewart. Has commissioned a "Watershed Load Management" study to see what is actually coming in the lake from nearby sources. Has Liability Insurance for Association. Considerable conversation surrounding need for this type of insurance. Several Associations don't currently carry this.

Cedar Lake: Some invasives noticed and being treated.

Harwood Lake: New Association; one year old. No insurance for Board but no activities yet. No invasive species noted on the lake yet. They did a DNR "Landing Blitz".

Round Lake: Water very high and other lakes feed into it. Contractor is trying to build a house on a large wetland which they have been fighting. Permits have been denied so far.

Indian Lake (Vicksburg): No DNR access. Having a problem with the Kobomba invasive species. First I've ever heard of that species. One company does their survey and another does the treatment which has saved a lot of money for them. Will have article in Riparian about the liabilities of having fireworks.

Clear Lake: Did their Assn. meeting on Zoom due to Covid. Cancelled their "Barge Party" and modified to a drop anchor and distance party. Experiencing lots of globular Algae. They do goose round up.

Little Paw Paw Lake: No DNR Access Site. They do personal contact with any new owners and give a membership basket which includes a sign up package.

Gravel Lake: Also does Membership basket with personal contact. High water issues but they have an outlet. They have a Road Commission issue on one road. They need to make it more pedestrian friendly. Paul S. from Eagle Lake (near Indiana boarder) reportedly has much information on this type of matter. We (LOW) currently have the same problem on 86th which has been submitted. Getting push back on treatments for weeds as members raise health concerns. Two member meetings per year are held, one of them being their picnic. Problems with Algae in their channels and have brought those concerns to PLM.

Klinger Lake: Many efforts to "make nice" with their Township and Road Commission. They invite them to come to their meetings (especially the Supervisor) and also attend their meetings. They have an outlet so their lake level is consistent within 3 - 4". They have cancelled their picnic. All of their meetings are now done via Zoom. They will do mail ballots for voting but they don't know if it will be a problem. They will have 4th fireworks but have influx from surrounding communities. They applied to the DNR to shut down the launch for 4 hours to stave off crowds, especially since so many around have cancelled their displays.

MEETING FOLLOW-UP EMAIL

no wake signs

Robert Richter <cfdenr14@gmail.com>

Tue 6/9/2020 9:20 AM

To:

- Daniel Buenz <danbuenz@hotmail.com>;
- Dominic Panico <dpanico211@gmail.com>;
- Gary Serago <gserago51@gmail.com>;
- Gregory Moss <gregorymoss8@yahoo.com>;
- Jim Neubauer <jneubauer@catching.com>;
- Marcia Ellis <marcia.ellis@wmich.edu>;
- Nick Virgillio <ngv632@gmail.com>;
- Robert Richter <cfdenr14@gmail.com>;
- Sharon Neubauer <sharonneubs@att.net>

When I originally got a quote for replacing buoys and signs to be replaced by the township they did not order new (no wake signs) I asked the township to replace two signs and they have agreed, saving us having to spend \$116.00. Also below is a response from PLM about spraying to close to fish beds over by the east end of the lake.

The way the permit conditions read, we are not allowed to apply copper products within 20 feet of spawning fish beds. The rule only applies to copper products which may move fish off their nests. That area is within the critical fish spawning area so we are not allowed to use copper products until July 1st. I looked at his treatment map/notes and he used herbicide for weeds which do not impact fish spawning. He had a note on his map that stated fish spawning.