

Harper Lake Membership Meeting
August 30, 2014
9:00 AM

Board Members Present: Kathy Abbott, Jim Brown, Sue Badalucco, Dave Kott, John Gochis, Dick Blumenstein, Karen Brower
23 members attended and each one introduced themselves

Meeting was called to order at Elk Township Hall by Dick Blumenstein at 9:00 AM.

Secretary Report

The minutes from the May 24, 2014 meeting were approved by the membership. Dave Kott motioned to accept with a second by Sue Badalucco. All were in favor.

Treasurer Report

Dick Blumenstein presented the 2014 treasurer report due to Lisa Mullen's absence. He stated that we have 111 paid members. He also stated that our monies are in good shape since we did not complete the weed control as planned. This decision was made due to the temperature and lack of sun this season. As shown on the report there was some income brought in from the apparel sales and from the poker run. We did overspend for the copying and mailing of the newsletter this year. We will look at possible alternatives for the newsletter in order to control the costs. The ending balance as of 8/30/2014 is \$14,819.07. John Gochis made a motion to accept the report with a second by Dave Kott. All were in favor.

OLD BUSINESS

Asian Milfoil Treatment/PLM Contract/Weed Control/Water Testing

Dick Blumenstein stated that we cancelled the first weed control of the season due to lack of weeds in the lake. It was decided to hold off on all of the weed control and attack the weeds again next year. This would create a better fish habitat in the lake. We still had to pay for the PLM milfoil permit because that has to be paid in January of the calendar year. We were planning on using the permit but after quite a few rides on the lake, it was decided that the problem was not that extensive this year.

NEW BUSINESS

Voting of HLA Board Members

The new members voted in are as follows:

Kathy Abbott, Karen Brower, John Gochis and Bill Mullaly

A motion to accept the new board members was made by Dave Kott with a second by Kevin Storberg.

Committee Reports

HLA Website

Please use the website! Let Dave Kott know of anything for the website and he will post it on the site. All kinds of information have been posted on the website such as classifieds, minutes, newsletters and the best updated directory information. If you notice any incorrect information being published in the directory on the site, please contact Dave Kott and inform him of the changes. A question was asked about how to get rid of the old website. This cannot be done because the password to get into the old website is unknown.

Newsletter

The Harper Lake newsletter cost has increased for printing and mailing. We will be looking at other options such as emailing or publishing a smaller newsletter in black and white which would help with reducing the cost. We will also look at possible dues billing and ballots online.

Clothing Sales

Sue Badalucco apologized for any inconvenience of special ordering. She was not at Harper Lake a lot this summer. She stated that she is available now to take special orders for apparel. She also has left over inventory if anyone is interested in checking out what she has. A member asked if she had any lightweight jackets and she said she had some in the inventory but could order different sizes if needed. She does not order a lot due to her lack of storage area at the lake.

Directory

Kathy Abbott read the Harper Lake Directory Procedure for future production of the directory. This procedure, once approved by the board, will be posted on the website under bylaws. She asked the members if anyone had any concerns with the new directory layout and the information that was printed for each Harper Lake member. There were no objections to the new directories. She stated that she had extra directories for a cost of \$2.00.

Fish, Waterfowl and Weeds

A question was brought up about the large fishing lights on the lake this summer. Dick Blumenstein informed the members present that this was a group from Michigan State University doing a large mouth bass study. This study is being done by Joe Nohner, a PHD student. He chose Harper Lake as one of the lakes to study. It has been approved by the DNR and DEQ. He has all permits necessary to use Harper Lake. The study includes information pertaining to the habitat and its effect on the growth of largemouth bass. They had to catch fish from the lake but released all of the fish except 20 three to four inch fish. This group will be back in September or October to continue the study. The results will be posted on his website and will be beneficial to our discussions on weed control.

Poker Run

Kathy Abbott reported that the Poker Run was a huge success this summer. There were 440 cards sold compared to 365 cards sold last summer. There were a total of 10 monetary prizes given out totaling \$3085. The Harper Lake property owners and friends who attended this lake event seemed to enjoy themselves throughout the day. It was suggested that next year we would need a port-a-potty at the final destination. She also stated that next year, requests for volunteers would be made. There have already been some residents who have offered to be dock captains for the 2015 Poker Run. We are still asking for one or two more to offer to participate as dock captains. If interested, please contact Jim or Kathy Abbott at 231-266-2074.

Historian

John Gochis reported that he received a phone call from Joe Landis and he left a couple of boxes with him to look through of possible historical items. After a quick look through the items, he came across a fish study done on Harper Lake 10-15 years ago. There was also information pertaining to the Gypsy moth situation years ago. The box included other items like books on lake and lot management, old newsletters, and quite a few old pictures. John would like help trying to figure out who the people are in the pictures. He also received land records of the Schneider home from the new owner that were found. Suggestions were made that the following people might be of some help with the historical information for the lake: Dale Granger and Frank and Jan Maggini. Dawn May gave John an old private property trespassing sign that she found.

Bylaws

No changes needed at this time on any bylaws.

OTHER ITEMS

Karen Brower offered to create a Facebook page for Harper Lake. This page could be used by all members to see happenings on the lake.

There was a motion to donate \$50 to Elk Township for the use of the hall by Nancy Randall with a second by Donna Kott.

Motion to adjourn by Dave Kott. Second by Dick Blumenstein. Meeting adjourned at 9:50 AM