

Harper Lake Association Membership Meeting
IATA Skinner Park, Irons, MI
Saturday, May 26, 2018
9:00 AM

Meeting was called to order at Skinner Park by Jim Brown at 9:00 AM

Roll Call of board Members:

Jim Brown, Karen Brower, Dawn May, Jeff Toy, Kevin Storberg, and Annette McCormick

Absent: Bill Mullaly and Larry Noble

21 members attended and each one introduced themselves with information on the location of their place on Harper Lake and how many years they have been on the Lake

Secretary Report

The minutes from the September 2, 2017 Harper Lake Association meeting were approved by the membership.

Donna Kott made motion to accept with a second by Dick Blumenstein.

All were in favor.

Treasurer Report

The Bank Statement Balance as of April 1, 2018 was \$18,938.

We have received Harper Lake Association Membership dues from 58 people at the time of this meeting. That number is currently down from last year. There was discussion about contacting Association members about dues payment through phone calls, emails and more snail mail notifications.

We currently have \$175 in Directory ads for the 2018 year.

There has been \$975 donated to this year's Fish Stocking program. Jeff reported that we are right on target with the budget.

Jeff Toy will be stepping down from his position as Treasurer due to more responsibilities at his job and in his personal life. The Association appreciates all of the time and talents Jeff has provided to the Harper Lake Association board. Ann Storberg is willing to step in as Treasurer for the remainder of Jeff Toy's term. Gail Brown made a motion to accept the Treasurers report with a second by Dick Blumenstein. All were in favor. Motion passed.

Standing Committee Reports

Harper Lake Association Web Site – Karen Brower

Karen will continue to update the HLA web site with new Board members, association minutes and board minutes. She will also be adding additional information to our History section with new information obtained from John Gochis. Karen will also update the website with new information regarding Harper Lake Day 2018. This will include times and locations of the events for that day.

Newsletter-Karen Brower

The Harper Lake Association Newsletter was sent out earlier this week. The Newsletter is sent out by mail and by email. Members may request either option.

The Newsletter included upcoming calendar dates for Harper Lake Day and the Fall Association Member meeting. Karen will be putting out another newsletter in October. Articles and information are always welcome.

Facebook Page-Karen Brower

This past year Karen has kept our Harper Lake Association updated with Bear sighting, Pike catching and other information regarding the Harper Lake area. Look for more information regarding Harper Lake Day 2018.

Directory-Annette McCormick

Annette is serving her first term on the board and is taking over the Harper Lake Association Directory. She will be reviewing the current directory, making changes as needed and will also be responsible for having the Directory printed and distributed to all members. Please notify Annette with any changes to the Directory or if you know a new resident of the lake.

Retail-Dawn May

There was an abundance of Inventory from years past that we are trying to reduce. Dawn will be placing an order with new inventory to be ready by Harper Lake Day. Dawn will also be working towards creating a web page for Members to order apparel, etc. directly from O'Keefe's Reef.

Harper Lake Day 2018-Dawn May

Plans are under way for Harper Lake Day 2018. The event will be held on Saturday, July 7, 2018. We will be hosting the 2nd Annual Fishing contest, The Kids Scavenger Hunt, and the Annual Float Parade. The Theme for this year is The Pirates of Harper Lake. We are asking for Dock Captains for the Float Parade, Donations for prizes, and volunteers. Look for more information on the HLA website and HLA Face book page.

Buoys-Jim Brown

The Buoys have been placed back into the lake. Jim will monitor the positions of the buoys and adjust when needed. Bill Mullaly has been working on ideas to install solar light to the tops of the buoys. Bill was absent from the meeting and did not give a report on the status of the solar lights but the Members attending the meeting were in favor of the solar lights.

Granger Road Clean up-Jim Brown

There is no formal event set for the Granger Road Clean up. We ask that all member of the Harper Lake Association be active in the endeavors to keep our area clean at all times. Reports of trash abuse should be reported to the police. Thank you to those who work hard to keep Harper Lake looking beautiful.

Fish & Waterfowl-Jim Brown & Larry Noble

At the time of the meeting there has been close to \$1000 donated to the Fish Stocking program with another \$1500 allocated in the Budget. Jim Brown reported that the fish will be put into the lake as soon as next week. Volunteers are needed to help assist in the distribution. The fish are brought to the boat launch and placed into 5-gallon buckets. The buckets are then emptied in different parts of the lake to make sure the fish do not all stay in one place. This year we are expecting to get 2100 Hybrid Blue Gil Fish to place into the lake. We are ordering a bigger fish this year in hopes to increase the survival rate. The HLA has to obtain a permit to be allowed to plant fish in our lake. The DNR controls this permit and controls which fish we are allowed to put into the lake. At this time, we will continue to plant the Hybrid Blue Gil but will continue to look into other options. The board feels that the benefits of planting the fish outweigh the deterrents of birds, predator fish and locals that fish Harper Lake. The continued financial support signifies the desire to maintain these efforts.

Lake Weeds-Jim Brown

At the last treatment in the Fall of 2017 another invasive species was discovered in Harper Lake. Starry Stonewort is the name of the new species and was found by the boat launch. It has a white end with thick mats all the way to the bottom of the plant. Treatments will continue through the upcoming year.

There is another change coming to the weed control at Harper Lake. The State of Michigan is changing the guidelines as they relate to issuing permits for chemically treating public waters. Beginning in 2019, we will be asked to provide proof that 100% of the property owners on the lake have given consent to treat their property within the lake basin or channel the permitting process through Elk Township via Special Assessment District. The board feels we need to encourage the use of the SAD, because it would be burdensome, if not impossible, to get 100% of the property owners to give permission.

We will need to provide signatures of 51% of the property owners (approx. 75 of the 135 lake cottages) for this to pass. Jim and Karen will be working with other members of the association to facilitate this large project. Bass Lake recently went through this. The board will be talking to members from Bass Lake to gain information about the process. At this time, the board is suggesting that after the SAD is passed HLA dues will go down.

Harper Lake Association chooses to continue to be responsible for the interaction with the Weed control companies. This would include getting bids, communicating with the Weed Control companies and monitoring the applications.

The Elk Township will need to present this new issue at 2 of their township meetings before it can be approved. Their meetings are held once a month. The boards hope is to have this on the December Tax bill. We are optimistic that this will be passed.

Lake Water Quality-Jim Brown

We do not have a contract to do the water testing for this year. Last year's report indicated some areas of the lake has low oxygen and low amounts of phosphorus. Karen will be posting information regarding this issue to make more people aware of this situation. The board feels it isn't necessary to have the water tested every year.

Welcoming Committee-Kevin Storberg & Larry Noble

Harper Lake Association has welcome packets to give to all new residents on the lake. If you know of anyone who is new or hasn't received a packet please let Kevin or Larry know.

Other Business:

Treasurer Replacement-Jim Brown

Ann Storberg will be replacing Jeff Toy as Treasurer. She will fulfill the remainder of his term. At the Harper Lake association meeting a motion to accept Ann Storberg as our new Treasurer, fulfilling the remainder of Jeff Toys term, was made by Lisa Mullen and Seconded by Dick Blumenstein. All were in favor. Motion Passed.

Gypsy Moth Treatment-Jim Brown

Jim reported that there was a Gypsy moth outbreak in the Kalkaska area recently. Thankfully, we haven't had a problem with this in several years. We will continue to watch for signs of the Gypsy Moth.

Boat Launch Sign-Jim Brown

Jim will continue to work on replacing the sign at the boat launch. He has submitted the first draft to the DEQ for the wording on the sign. They were very particular about the wording and changes need to be made to the original proposal Jim had sent in. The sign will cost \$300 and measure 2ft by 3ft.

Motion to Adjourn

A motion to adjourn was made by Dawn May and Seconded by Kevin Storberg. All were in favor.