

Harper Lake Association Membership Meeting
IATA Skinner Park, Irons, MI
Saturday, May 25, 2019
9:00 AM

Meeting was called to order at Skinner Park by Jim Brown at 9:06 am

Roll call of board members:

Jim Brown, Karen Brower, Dawn May, Ann Storberg, Bill Mullaly, Kevin Storberg, and Annette McCormack
33 members attended and each one introduced themselves

Secretary Report

The minutes from the September 1, 2018 Harper Lake Association meeting were approved by the membership. Jeff Toy made motioned to accept with a second by Karen Moler. All were in favor.

Treasurer Report

The Bank Statement Balance as of May 20, 2019 is \$20,488.63.

We have received Harper Lake Association Membership dues from 73 members at the time of this meeting. We currently have \$50 in directory ads for the 2019 year.

There has been \$852 donated to this years Fish Stocking program. \$100 has been donated to our Harper Lake Day 2019 event.

We would like to propose an amendment to the budget to remove \$500 from the Fish Stocking program and place it into the Harper Lake Day Budget. A discussion amongst the members brought the idea to leave the monies allocated in the Fish Stocking line item and allocate more monies from the savings into the Harper Lake Day line item.

A motion to amend the budget was made by Nancy Randall with a seconded from Garryl Roon. All in favor. Motion passed.

Bill Stimer made a motion to accept the Treasurers report with a second by Nancy Randall. All were in favor. Motion passed.

Standing Committee Reports

Newsletter, Facebook Page and Web Site – Karen Brower

Karen mailed out the newsletter earlier this month. The newsletter is sent out by mail and by email. Members may request either/both options. Please update any new information you may have. Our newsletter and website will include upcoming calendar dates for Harper Lake Day and the Fall Association Membership meeting. It will also contain information regarding Board Member elections for this fall. Karen will also update any information about the status of the Special Assessment District (SAD). Our Facebook page is updated by Karen as well with most of the above information and other posts regarding Harper Lake and the surrounding area. Karen appreciates any new articles and information.

Directory-Annette McCormack

Annette 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

Dawn will be working towards creating a web page for members to order apparel, etc. directly from O'Keefe's Reef. We discussed not having an inventory of apparel and to promote ordering from the new web site.

Harper Lake Day 2019-Dawn May

The event will be held on Saturday, July 6, 2019. The theme is "Sports". This means anything "Sports" related - pro teams, college teams, hometown teams, etc.

Jim Brown and Jeff Toy will be hosting the 3rd annual fishing contest at Jeff's dock. The kid's scavenger hunt will be held on Dawn May's dock. The float parade has 4 docks currently signed up with hopes for more to come. The float parade card drop off, announcements and prize pick up will be held at Dawn May's dock. Prize donations and volunteers are always welcome. We collected \$180 dollars at the membership meeting simply by "Passing the Hat". The generosity of our lake is fantastic. We are looking forward to great weather and a great time!

Buoys-Bill Mullaly

The buoys will be placed back into the lake. Bill will monitor the positions of the buoys and adjust when needed.

Granger Road Clean up-Jim Brown

On June 1st, 2019 at 10am, we will get together to clean the part of Granger Road that has been assigned to us. We continue to ask all members 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

At the time of the meeting there has been close to \$900 donated to the fish stocking program with \$1800 allocated in the budget. This year we are expecting to get 1000 4 to 6-inch hybrid blue gills and 14,000 hybrid blue gill minnows to place into the lake. This process takes place at the boat launch. The first step is to place the fish into 5-gallon buckets. The buckets are then taken by boat to different parts of the lake to be distributed. It is a fast process as to not let any of the fish die. The fish will be put into the lake when the company contacts Jim. Volunteers are needed and welcomed to help assist in the distribution. The DNR controls the permit for this process and controls which fish we are allowed to put into the lake.

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

This past year has brought many changes to how we will be approaching weed control on Harper Lake. The State of Michigan is changing the guidelines as they relate to issuing permits for chemically treating public waters. We have chosen to channel the permitting process through the Elk Township via a Special Assessment District (SAD). We will need to provide signatures of 51% of the property owners (approx. 75 of 138) for this to pass.

Jim Brown, Karen Brower and Annette McCormack have put many volunteer hours into working on this project. They held a petition drive to obtain signatures from the property owners for Harper Lake. They attended the meeting on Dec. 12, 2018 to present the SAD. They also met with the Elk Township board in April to review the signatures on our petition. Out of 138 total property owners, we have 76 signatures. They only accepted 40 at this time. We would like to have a list from Lake County and the Elk Township Assessor to compare to our list to clear up any signatures not accepted. The Elk Township will need to present this new issue at two 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 2019 tax bill. We are optimistic that this will be passed. At this time, we will continue our dues at \$55 until the SAD is in full affect. We'd like to stay conservative with that amount until we know the full expenses associated with the SAD. We will continue discussions with the members as to lowering or maintain the same amount of our dues.

During the summer of 2018 Jim Brown and Larry Noble assisted the US Forest Service with a study of Harper Lake. They took samples of the invasive weeds which were then dried and sent to a lab for testing. Theses

samples were also GPS tracked. We currently have 2 non-native weeds in our lake. Eurasian Milfoil and Starry Stonewort. We do not have any signs of Zebra Mussels.

Harper Lake Association will 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.

Lake Water Quality-Jim Brown

We do not have a contract to do the water testing for this year. There was concern brought up about white foam in the lake. There have been reports on the news that other lakes are having problems with this being toxic. At this time, we do not feel this is a problem but will follow up with our PLM representative to be sure.

Welcoming Committee-Kevin Storberg

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 know.

Other Business:

Officer's for 2019-Jim Brown

We will have 4 openings for board member at the Fall 2019 meeting. Jim Brown has fulfilled his terms, Annette McCormack and Ann Storberg will be up for election, and we have a vacant spot to fill.

Harper Isle Sign-Bill Mullaly

Bill will be installing the new sign for the island. The sign was given to us from the US Forest Service.

Acknowledgements-Bill Stimer

Bill Stimer asked for a motion to be made for an addition into the minutes of this meeting. Bill expressed that he would like to recognize the current HLA board of directors on their outstanding job of running the HLA. He praised the leadership qualities and how pleased he is with the performance of the HLA Board. Richard Walker seconded this motion. All were in favor.

Thank you, Bill for your kind words and continued support.

Motion to Adjourn

A motion to adjourn was made at 10:10am by Lisa Mullen and Seconded by Miles Demster. All were in favor.