

Harper Lake Association Member Meeting
Elk Township Hall
Saturday, May 29, 2021
9:00 A.M.

Meeting was called to order by Karen Brower at 9:04 A.M.

Roll call of board members and Member Introductions

Karen Brower, Annette McCormack, Anne Storberg, Dawn May, Kevin Storberg, Heather Davis, Brian Ritsema, and Craig Fazakerly

Secretary Report

The minutes from the April 12, 2021 Harper Lake Association Member meeting were approved by the Board. Brian Ritsema made motioned to accept with a second by Roger Zeh. All were in favor. Motion passed.

Treasurer Report

The bank balance at this time is \$17,689.24. We have received Harper Lake Association Membership dues from 73 people at the time of this meeting. We budget for 85 paying. Dues are \$45. We have 138 properties on Harper Lake. The highest number of member dues payment was 105. We would like to reach or surpass 85.

We received \$1545 in fish stocking donations. We budget \$1000 from our HLA monies and \$800 in donations.

We will have \$2545 for fish stocking expenses at this time. We have \$360 in donations for Harper Lake Day and the budgeted amount of \$500. We have \$860 at this time for Harper Lake Day.

Expenses paid included the web site, corporation fees, p/o/ box, and insurance.

The board has voted to take \$10,000 out of the budget and set it aside in a designated account named Environmental Reserve. This is to be used to cover the cost of anything that falls under the environment umbrella, i.e., Gypsy moths, weed control, etc.

A motion to approve the treasurer's report was made by Heather Davis, seconded by Dick Blumstein. All were in favor. Motion passed.

Guest Speaker-Dave Bass, Elk Township liaison

*The Lake Co-Op board has been suspended at this time due to covid.

*Reminder that the SAD is paid by the HLA member taxes and the Elk Township pays PLM to provide the weed control service. HLA still consults with PLM for scheduling and notifications on their findings. PLM mails updates to the members.

*There will be a new fire barn located on 8-mile road and Mac Road. This will be a training area for local counties and townships. This is being paid by a 1-million-dollar millage.

*Mr. Bass applauded our HL Association, our website and the forethought to put aside money for environmental issues.

*Elk Township will not be doing any treatments for the Gypsy Moths.

Gypsy Moths: Karen Brower

Gypsy Moths are always present but go in cycles of increased activity. We are currently in this cycle. The HLA board hired Lee Muller from the Davy Resource Group (Arborists), to visit our lake during early the spring. Mr. Muller looked at the evidence and saw an increased population around Harper Lake. He reported we are in the 2nd year of a probable 3-year cycle. There are natural predators, weather, birds and fungus, that can help control the population. He felt we were not in danger of losing trees at this point in the cycle because most healthy trees will come back from the defoliation. The optimum time to spray is in the end of May. We will re-asses this fall. The residents of Harper Lake may feel differently because we look at it from a nuisance point of view. While we were unable to treat the Gypsy Moths this year, there are opportunities for the homeowners to be proactive. There is information on-line instructing how to use bands on the trees, the use of a product called Tanglefoot, using burlap strips around the trees and other options.

Brian Ritsema made a motion to have Davey Resource come back in the fall to reassess. Roger Zeh seconded the motion. All in favor. No opposed.

Harper Lake Day 2021-Dawn May

HLD will be held Saturday, July 3, 2021. The theme is Christmas is July and will again include the float parade with prizes, a Scavenger Hunt and Fishing Contest. Brian Ritsema will host a new event to the 2021 HLD, a 50/50 drawing. All money will be paid out the same day. Depending on the turnout there could be more than one winner. Brian will create a flyer to be distributed to the Dock Captains.

Directory/Welcoming Committee-Heather Davis

Heather has worked on updating and publishing the directory. If you have a changes, please connect with Heather. As always, we would like contact information from any new residence of Harper Lake.

Newsletter/Face Book/Website-Karen Brower

The spring packet contained the spring newsletter, directory, dues payment form, and HLD information. Karen will be updating the website and Facebook page with Harper Lake Day information.

HL Apparel-Heather

The link to order apparel is on the HLA website through our local connection, O'Keefe's Reef.

By-Laws-Dawn May and Karen Brower- No changes at this time.

Fish & Waterfowl-Kevin Storberg

Kevin reported the DNR permit has been obtained but the fish stocking has not happened due to Stony Creek being behind on their schedule. The DNR has recommended we not plant walleye. This year we will be planting 500 3-5-inch perch and 500 5-7-inch perch. We will not be planting minnows at this time. Volunteers are always welcome to help assist on fish stocking day. Kevin will look into non-hybrid bluegills. Brian Ritsema explained that we have a 3-5-year plan for our fish stocking and we will be evaluated as needed. We will use \$1000 in Association funds and any fish stocking donations to plant fish in the spring and fall.

Weed Control-Kevin Storberg

PLM continues to treat the Invasive weeds in Harper Lake-Eurasian Milfoil and Starry Stonewort. PLM will be doing a written mailed notification and post on trees close to the locations where they have treated. We will notify PLM of any new HL residents.

We were notified that we are, unfortunately, a host for Zebra Mussels. As of this time there is no way to get rid of them. Their presence hurts our fish stocking efforts because the mussels eat the algae that our perch eat. Kevin stressed the importance of boat washing and encourages the members to visit the website for information.

Boat Launch/Buoys/Lake Rake-Kevin Storberg, Craig Fazakerly & Annette McCormack

The boat launch has several signs posted, which include the lake rules and information about invasive weed and the importance of boat washing.

Kevin and Craig put the buoys in this spring. The board has approved replacing the lakes 3 buoys (2-slow no wake, 1-shallow water) and repurposing the old ones in the shallow waters on the west side of the island.

Annette has the lake rake at her cottage, and it can be use by all members of HLA.

Thank you, Craig for attending the MLSA conference. Topics included invasive species, weed control, short term rentals, and wake boats.

Road Cleanup-Kevin & Ann Storberg

Help keep our designated road clean up section nice and tidy. If you are out for a walk or a ride please keep an eye out for trash everywhere but especially on Granger Rd, from 10 ½ mile to the DeWitt Bridge.

Fall meeting elections:

Up for re-election: Craig Fazakerly Heather Davis Ann Storberg

One new candidate: Needed

A motion to adjourn at 10:12 A.M. by Heather Davis, seconded by Dawn May.