

**Harper Lake Association Board Meeting**  
**Elk Township Hall**  
**Saturday, September 3, 2022**  
**7:30 A.M.**

Meeting was called to order by Karen Brower at 7:30 A.M.

Roll call of board members: Karen Brower, Brian Ritsema, Dawn May, Heather Davis, Craig Fazakerly, Steve May and Rich Walker. Absent Ann Storberg

**A. Secretary Report**

Dawn forgot to send the minutes out. We will review at a later date

**B. Treasurer Report**

The bank statement, at this time, is \$15,097.55 We have received Harper Lake Association Membership dues from 88 people at the time of this meeting. We budget for 85 paying. Heather sent out reminder notices and dues form for those who hadn't paid yet when she sent out the directory. It worked.

**Fish Stocking**-We budget \$1000 for fish stocking and we budget \$800 in fish stocking donations. We received \$2,275.00 in donations this year. Total available to spend was \$3275.00. We spent \$32,294.90 on the spring fish stocking. Remaining balance is \$980.10.

**Harper Lake Day**-We budget \$1,000 for HLD events and \$100 in donations. We received \$1,091.00 in donations for HLD. Expenses were \$1,791.60. Remaining balance is \$399.40.

**Association Expenses:**

**Welcoming Committee**-Budget \$50. No money spent.

**Directory**-Budget \$500. Spent \$456.17. Remaining balance \$43.83.

**Website**-Budget \$170. Paid \$166.95. Remaining balance is \$3.05.

**Newsletter/Dues/Mailings**-Budget \$250. Spent \$34.80. Remaining balance \$215.20.

**Meeting expense**-Budget \$150. Spent \$60. Remaining balance is \$90.

**Copies**-Budget \$100. Spent \$135.74. Over budget by \$35.74.

**P.O. Box**-Budget \$48. Spent \$48.

**Corporate Fees**- Budget \$20. Spent \$20.

**MLAS membership and conference**- Budget \$140. Spent \$140.

**HLA Insurance**- Budget \$750. Spent \$750.

**Buoy labels**- Budgeted \$1200 for all expenses regarding new buoys and re-purposing old buoys. Spent \$1049 on 3 new buoys. Remaining balance is \$151 to be used for decals. Spent \$207.19 for decals. Over Budget by \$56.00

**Misc. Expense**-Winter Pot Luck-Meeting Hall was a \$60 security deposit. Spent \$13.

**Total Association expenses:** Budgeted \$2228.00. Spent \$1281.85. Remaining Balance is \$946.15

**Environmental Reserve**-Balance of \$9,155.00. Spent \$6,500.00 for Spraying. Remaining Balance is \$2,697.00

**SAD-Elk Township**-Budget \$500. No money spent.

A motion to approve the Treasurers Report was made by Brian Ritsema. Second by Steve May. All in favor.

**C. Old Business:**

**1. Special Assessment District (SAD)**-We are in the 3<sup>rd</sup> year of a 7-year cycle.

**2. Gypsy Moth update**

Brian was the point person dealing with Hatfield Spraying Company for our lake to be sprayed this year for Spongy (Gypsy) moths. The spraying was done on June 1, 2022. The spraying was paid for out of the Environmental Reserve Funds.

Only one member expressed concern over the spraying. Multiple attempts were made to reach out to the individual to discuss. No response back.

## **D. New Business:**

### **1. Board of Directors Election Results:**

Up for re-election was Dawn May, Brian Ritsema and Steve May. New director was Katie Pendrick. All were approved.

New board will be as follows:

President: Brian Ritsema

Vice-President: Dawn May

Treasurer: Heather Davis

Secretary: Katie Pendrick

Officers: Ann Storberg, Craig Fazakerly, Rich Walker and Steve May

**We would like to say THANK YOU to Karen Brower for her 8 years of service on the Harper Lake board!**

### **2. Environmental Reserve Fund Replenishment:**

The HLA board took monies, raised from past HLA boards, for Spongy (Gypsy) moth treatments. After much research of previous notes, we could not find any documentation to clearly state what this money was designated for, even though we had “heard” it was from a SAD from 20 years ago to help irradiate the Spongy (Gypsy) Moths. The board voted to put \$10,000 in an Environmental Reserve Fund. We used a portion of this in 2021 to hire an Arborist to give us information regarding the latest Spongy (Gypsy) moths infestation. In May/June 2022 we used this money to hire Hatfield Spraying Company (Marne, MI) to spray the surrounding areas of Harper Lake. The board would like to see this money replenished in the next 5-10 years. We brainstormed different ways to raise the money. Will continue to discuss.

## **E. Committee Reports**

### **1. Harper Lake Day 2022 Recap-Theme was Luau!**

The Fishing Contest was hosted by the Brown, Fazakerly and Toy families. Thank you to our hosts. We had 29 kids participate.

The Merz family and friends hosted the Scavenger Hunt this year. Thank you so much for taking this on. We had 46 kids participate.

The Float parade was another success. We had 8 Dock Captains and our Grand Prize winners were Bill Stimer (Blackstone Griddle) and Gary Santo (Yeti Cooler).

A 50/50 drawing, hosted by the Ritsema family was another huge success! We had three winners and the rest was split between Fish Stocking and Harper Lake Day.

The evening was finished off with spectacular fireworks displays put on by the lake residence and there 2 bands that were playing on the lake. A fun day, for sure! Next year’s Harper Lake Day will be held Saturday, July 1, 2023 and the theme will be Old West/Western

### **2. Fish & Waterfowl**

Motion was made by Brian Ritsema to have a fall fish stocking of perch, seconded by Rich Walker. We would use money raised during HL Day, budgeted money and donations. All in favor. Motion passed.

### **3. Weed Control/SAD**

PLM has been out several times this year. Spraying was done around the boat ramp and thru the channel towards the Toy’s house. No treatment needed in July. Zebra Mussels still present. Township is paying PLM and our financial balances look good. We discussed checking in with Elk Township for an updated financial report regarding the SAD. We are in the 3rd year of a 7-year SAD. Water quality is good.

### **4. Directory**

The directory was sent out in August. Any updates should be sent to Heather Davis or any board member. Advertising your business in the HLA directory helps offset the cost and is a great way to promote your business.

### **5, 6, & 7 Newsletter, Website, Facebook**

The newsletter is sent out in May and November. Karen is willing to stay on to help with the website and the Facebook page

## **8. HL Apparel**

Harper Lake Apparel can be purchased from O'Keefe's Reef and [www.mggreek.com/harper-lake](http://www.mggreek.com/harper-lake) (select local pick up) or contact Heather Davis.

## **9. Boat Launch/Buoys/Rake**

**Boat Launch**-no changes at this time

**Buoys**-New buoys were put into place this year by Steve May. 2 in the no wake channel and one at the north end of the lake, over the sunken island. The two old buoys were put into the West channel saying Shallow waters. These are for informational purposes only in assisting those who don't know how shallow it is on that side of the island. Steve May and Rich Walker placed these in the water.

**Lake Rakes**-The HLA has 2 lake rakes that can be used to clear out areas in the water in front of your property. See Brian Ritsema or Craig Fazakerly to borrow these.

## **10. Road Cleanup**

We encourage all HLA members to be proactive in cleaning the area around Harper Lake. HLA is in charge of the Granger Road between 10 ½ mile road and the DeWitt Bridge.

## **11. Welcoming Committee**

Please let a board member know if you have a new neighbor so we can greet them properly,

**12. By-Laws** No changes at this time.

## **E. Other New Business:**

Let's talk about buoys! This summer there has been an increased number of buoys placed in front of docks/properties by the home owners. There have been some complaints made about their locations-100-foot rule. Karen called the Lake County Marine Division to clarify the actual rules. Her findings are that ALL buoys anchored in the lake must be permitted by the county. This includes the buoys placed in the water by the association, any swim platforms, rafts, basically anything anchored in the water. If THE Marine Division comes to the lake, due to complaints, all buoys not permitted will receive a ticket. We want to avoid this at all costs. The board will be permitting their buoys and will put information out to the HLA members to assist them with this process.

Let's talk about more permit. Karen's conversation also discovered that we need to obtain a Marine Special Event permit for Harper Lake Day. Who knew? Not us! We will be obtaining that permit in the future.

Discussions about wake boats and the damage they may, or may not, be causing was also a topic. There are no regulations, at this time, for wake boats and it is not an HLA board issue.

A motion to adjourn at 8:35 A.M. by Heather Davis, seconded by Dawn May.