

Harper Lake Association Board Meeting Minutes
March 28, 2015
10:00 AM

Board Members Present: Sue Badalucco, Jim Brown, John Gochis, Lisa Mullen (via face time), Bill Mullaly. Meeting called to order by Sue Badalucco at 10:05 AM.

- Board Meeting Minutes – November 1, 2014
The minutes were approved by a motion from Lisa Mullen and by a second from John Gochis. All were in favor.

- Treasurer's Report – 12/31/2014
Discussion Items:
 1. In 2014 we had 102 paid members by this time last year. As of today, we have 91 paid members. (3 members paid since the treasury report was printed)
 2. Membership due reminders are going to be sent out.
 3. 17 members that paid last year have not paid for 2015, Dave Kott feels that most of those home owners will still pay. Estimated membership for 2015 is between 100 and 105.
 4. There has been income generated from advertising sales in the lake directory.
 5. The name "Harper Citizens Association" needs to be changed to "Harper Lake Association on the bank account.Dave Kott made a motion to accept the report with a second by Bill Mullaly.

- By-Laws
Discussion Items:
 1. Lisa Mullen felt there doesn't need to be any changes to the By-Laws and the board agreed.
 2. John Gochis raised a concern regarding articles and pictures being posted to the website and Facebook that might possibly offend someone or possibly someone doesn't want their picture on social media. John Gochis questioned whether changes need to be made to the By-Laws to address this. Dave Kott ensured us that anything on the website can be removed quickly if there is a problem. Posts to the Facebook page are controlled by Karen Bower. It was suggested that John Gochis present suggestions that will identify the boards responsibility with regards to social media at the May Board meeting.

- Bouys
Jim Brown reported they're still in dry dock and are ready to be put in as soon as the ice is gone.

- Clothing

Discussion Items:

1. Sue Badalucco suggested that clothing from prior years be reduced to move the inventory to make room for new items. The board agreed.
2. Sue recommended that the sale of clothing be held in her garage instead of at the meeting do to a lack of space and needing extra help because of her involvement on the board.
3. Looking to send out a questionnaire to get ideas on what people may want to see in regards to clothing and other items.
4. Reviewed survey questionnaire.
5. Sue recommended that the Poker Run T-shirts be sold earlier in the day from her dock.

- Directory

No report at this time. Advertising revenue is coming in do to the hard work of Jim Abbott.

- Facebook

Karen Bower has worked up a schedule of post to our Facebook page for the upcoming months. She is planning at least one post per week on a wide variety of topics. She has taken most information from the Harper Lake website, the Elk Township newsletter, and the Irons Area Tourists Association website. Karen has already set up the posts for March and April. Later in the year she will post pictures of the poker run and any other lake activity.

- Fish and Waterfowl

Discussion Items:

1. During the winter there weren't any legal size pike taken from the lake and only a handful of pan fish.
2. Dick Blumenstein felt the fishing was better this year especially in the late summer and fall.
3. Dave Kott made a recommendation that the fish stocking initiative for 2016 be discussed at the next general membership meeting.
4. Sue Badalucco suggested that we reach out to the DNR for financial help in the restocking of fish.
5. Jim Brown asked how do we get on the DNR's lake stocking program, which would help defray the cost to the Harper Lake Association. No one could answer that so Jim will reach out to the DNR to see how and if we can get financial assistance for fish planting. Jim will attend the Michigan Lakes and Streams Association Conference at Boyne to gain additional information.
6. Currently the lake is being stocked with hybrid blue gills and minnows.
7. Jim Brown is to research for previous lake tests done by the DNR.

Dave Kott made a motion to restock the lake and to request the DNR test the lake's fish population to see if the stocking is worth pursuing in the future. John Gochis seconded the motion. All were in favor.

- Lake History

Discussion Items:

1. John Gochis submitted a Harper Lake history document that everyone felt was well done.
2. John would like to continue to develop and expand the lake history and would like any input of pictures, old documents and articles.
3. Dave Kott will break up the history into three segments and have them posted to the website.

- Lake Rakes

Both rakes are accounted for and being stored by Dave Kott and Bill Mullaly and are available for use by any dues paying member on the lake.

- Newsletter

Discussion items:

1. Dave Kott reported that future issues will be scaled back to one page, front and back. To save money, color printing will be kept to a minimum. Also, many residents responded in favor of receiving the newsletter via email which will help reduce printing and postage expenses.
2. Dave asked that all articles and photos for the next newsletter be submitted to him no later than April 24, 2015.

- Poker Run

No additional information at this time.

- Website

Any current items currently on the website will be moved to the Facebook pages. Members are encourage to use the website for access to the Harper Lake Directory.

- Weed Control

Discussion Items:

1. Milfoil is scheduled to be spot treated again this year.
2. Jim Brown asked if the company that performs the weed treatment identifies what weeds we have before the treatment and are the right chemicals being used to effectively kill the weeds. Dave Kott noted that the milfoil treatments have been very effective in the past. Dave also mentioned that to effectively manage native weeds, homeowners must actively maintain their waterfront areas in addition to weed control treatments to keep native weeds from reappearing.
3. Jim Brown asked if we are over treating the lake for native weeds. Dave Kott explained that last year we treated only the area by the boat launch and in front of the homes to the north of the launch. It is planned to treat that area again this year. However, due to budgetary concerns, this will be the last year this will be done.

- Other Items for Discussion

The following board members' terms will end on August 2015

Sue Badalucco

Jim Brown

Lisa Mullen

Dave Kott

Michigan Lake and Stream Association Membership

Dave Kott made a motion to approve continuing our membership and Jim Brown second the motion. All were in favor.

A motion to adjourn was made by Bill Mullaly with a second by John Gochis. All were in favor.

Adjourned at 12:05 PM