

**Harper Lake Membership Meeting
May 23, 2015
9:00 AM**

Board Members Present: Kathy Abbott, Bill Mullaly, Sue Badalucco, Dave Kott, John Gochis, Jim Brown, Karen Brower
47 members attended and each one introduced themselves
Meeting was called to order at Elk Township Hall by Sue Badalucco at 9:05 AM.

Secretary Report

The minutes from the August 30, 2014 meeting were approved by the membership. Donna Kott motioned to accept with a second by Dave Martin. All were in favor.

Treasurer Report

Sue Badalucco presented the 2015 budget report since Lisa was not able to attend. She stated that we have 100 paid members which is a little lower than last year at this time. The ending balance as of 5/19/2015 is \$17,424.73. Nancy Randall made a motion to accept the report with a second by Roger Zeh. All were in favor.

OLD BUSINESS

Asian Milfoil Treatment

Jim Brown attended the weed seminar in Petosky, Michigan representing Harper Lake. He felt after talking to other lake representatives at the meeting that Harper Lake members are doing a great job controlling the weeds. Other Michigan lakes are having a difficult time because other boats are bringing in weeds from the launch sites. There are no plans on the state level to control this such as closing launch sites. Some lakes have wash off areas at their launch sites to try and control the weed spread. Dave Kott mentioned that we have the area on Miller Road where no weed control is done. The residents requested that this area be left for a good fish habitat.

Fish Stocking

The Association received a letter from Joe Kozak stating that he had changed his opinion about the stocking of the lake. He just recently caught the largest bluegill on the lake ever since he has lived here. He would like to help in this area to make sure the fish stocking continues. Dave Kott stated that there was only one negative response to the fish stocking survey. Most everyone seems to think it is working and a great idea to continue. The problem is the cost but we need to try and squeeze it out of the budget somewhere. Jim Brown has been in contact with the DNR to see if they had any money to help with this expense. They stated that since 2004 there has not been any money but he is open to discussion about it. Nancy Randall proceeded to express her desire for the fish stocking to continue. Bob Randall has caught 10" bluegills and 9" hybrids out of Harper Lake so she knows that the fish are growing in our lake. Dick Blumenstein suggested that one of the board members should call the State Representative to see if they could use some of the money designated for snow plowing of the launch site for fish stocking.

NEW BUSINESS

Committee Reports

HLA Website/Newsletter

Please visit the Harper Lake website! The directory is posted on the site and in order to access the listing, please use the password REPRAH which is HARPER spelled backwards. Nancy Randall was kind enough to make colored copies of the May newsletter for the Association. There were 100 copies mailed to the property owners and any children of the owners who have an interest in Harper Lake Association. An email of the newsletter was sent to the property owners who requested that. There was a signup sheet passed around for anyone who would prefer having the newsletter emailed to them instead of regular mail.

Facebook

Karen Brower stated that the Facebook page includes all kinds of information about Harper Lake Association along with Elk County Information. This site was very useful in finding the owner of the floating raft which landed at the May's dock this winter. Search under Facebook "Harper Lake" and you will find the site. If you like the page it will automatically set you up to receive any updates posted on the site.

Clothing Sales

Sue Badalucco had a variety of new apparel at the meeting with quite a few members purchasing the new items. There was also a clearance table of old designed apparel. She stated that if any other sizes and colors are needed, please contact her and she will get them ordered. She will replenish the apparel before the sales at the Poker Run. Sue also added that she only received about a 1% return from her survey she sent to all of the members.

Poker Run

The Poker Run will be held on Saturday, July 4th this year. All of the dock captain slots have been assigned as follows: Maggini, McGown, Brower, Brown/Kozak/ Walbridge, Mullaly, Joslin, Miller, Badalucco (apparel). Kathy Abbott informed the members that there were signup sheets at the back table for Poker Run assignments. There are still assignment slots that need to be filled, if anyone is interested. The times and procedures will be decided by the committee and a flyer will be emailed and passed out on Friday, July 3rd. An increase in number of prizes was discussed and also will be decided on by the committee. A port-a-potty will be rented for this event and will be located somewhere between the Abbott and Zeh properties.

Directory

Jim Abbott has been working on the directory. A copy was brought to the membership meeting for proofing and noting any corrections from the members present. It will be completed within the next week and sent to Roger Zeh for printing. Sue Badalucco and Karen Brower offered to walk around the lake and hand out directories along with the Poker Run flyer on Friday, July 3rd. The directories will include lake addresses only but will also include email addresses and phone numbers of all property owners. The directories will be handed out to dues paying members only.

Fish Planting/Weeds

The fish planting will take place on Wednesday, May 27th at 3:45 PM. Please come and see the exciting release of all of the little fishes. As in years past, some buckets will be filled and distributed to other areas of the lake besides just the launch area. PLM will be out on June 15th to take care of the Asian milfoil in certain areas. Dave Kott and Jim Brown will go around the lake before this day to access the areas of need. They will take another look at the Miller Road area and decide if this is an area that might need to be treated because of the possible spreading of the milfoil.

ByLaws

There are no changes at this time. They need to be reviewed every five years. One possible change that needs to be looked at is the possibility of accepting changes through email instead of a normal voting process.

Harper Lake History

John Gochis has lived on the lake for 11 years and is interested in getting information on the history of the lake. If you have any information, pictures or letters etc. and would like to share them, please contact him. John wrote and posted an article for the website. Please look it over and let him know if his facts are correct. He would like to continue to write articles from Harper Lake residents' point of view. He also stated that there is an Elk Township Historical Society which meets if anyone is interested in attending such meetings. Bill Mullaly is scanning old pictures and will continue to work on this project.

Michigan Lake & Stream

Jim Brown attended the meeting this season. He felt it was beneficial for our lake. There is a \$100 membership fee and also an \$85 fee to attend the conference. Joe Landis stated that he had been on this board for 20 years and will speak with Jim about his experiences while on the board.

OTHER ITEMS

The Harper Lake Board election will take place at the September membership meeting. There are four openings. Please let us know if anyone is interested in running for the board. The following people will need to be replaced since their terms have expired: Susan Badalucco, Jim Brown, Lisa Mullen, David Kott

A motion was made by Dick Blumenstein to pay \$50 to Elk Township for the use of the hall for the meeting. A second was made by Roger Zeh. All were in favor.

A brief discussion was held concerning a Harper Lake picnic. If there is any interest in hosting this event, please let a board member know.

Sue Badalucco received an email with concerns about balloon fights during the Poker Run. It was decided that there will not be any balloons at the actual event at the Abbott's. It was also suggested that maybe all balloon fights should be discontinued on the lake.

Motion to adjourn by Roger Zeh. Second by Nancy Randall. Meeting adjourned at 10:00 AM