

Harper Lake Association Membership Meeting  
September 3, 2016  
9:00 AM

Board Members Present: Sue Badalucco, Jim Brown, John Gochis, Jeff Toy, Karen Brower and Bill Mullaly. Board Members Absent: Lisa Mullen and Kathy Abbott.

Meeting was called to order at IATA Skinner Park by Sue Badalucco at 9:00 AM.

Each member introduced themselves. New Members: Phil and Cassie Klassen on Aqua Drive.

**Secretary Report**

The minutes from the May 28, 2016 membership meeting were approved by the membership. Jeff Toy motioned to approve the minutes with a second from John Gochis. All in favor.

**Treasurers Report**

The Treasures Report was present by Sue Badalucco. There are 101 residents that have paid their dues for 2016. We had budgeted for 100. Jeff Toy volunteered to canvas the non-paying members to find out why they are not part of the Association. Clothing sales were above budgeted with \$165 in t-shirt sales will be added to the fish stocking fund. The Association's ending balance as of 8/30/2016 is \$17,136.55. The motion to approve the report was made by Jeff Toy and seconded by Jack Davis. All in favor.

**New Board Members**

Please welcome Kevin Storberg and Dawn May. A motion was made to approve the new board members by Phyllis Reyburn and seconded by Julie Mullaly. All in favor.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Asian Milfoil Treatment – 2016

Jim Brown informed the membership that we are in the first year of a five year contract with PLM. There have only been small areas of milfoil detected this year which is extremely good news not only for the lake but also the budget. It is recommended that if you spot any milfoil to either let Jim Brown know and if possible, mark the spot with a milk jug or anything that would float. The best time to spot the milfoil is first thing in the morning or later in the evening when the water is smooth. About a ¼ acre was treated in June and ½ acre in July. A map was presented detailing the areas that were treated as well as the chemicals used to treat the lake. Based on the findings of PLM, we will not be treating the lake in August and agreed by the Association.

Water Quality Test – 2016

A water quality test was budgeted this year and will provide a baseline for future tests. The last test was done almost 5 years ago. Exact date to be determined.

## Fish Stocking – 2016

On May 26<sup>th</sup>, Jim Brown reported that the lake was stocked with minnows and 3” to 6” Blue Gills. The minnows were released at various spots around the lake and there have been reports of schools of minnows around the docks. It is felt by the membership that the fish stocking is making a positive impact on the quality of the lake and will continue as long as funds are available.

## Around the World – July 4<sup>th</sup> Weekend Event

Karen Brower and Jeff Toy felt that the event went very well and was a great family oriented event. We are looking for any comments regarding the event and are looking for suggestions for 2017. One of the improvements for next year will be in the announcing of the winners. It was suggested by Scott Reyburn that maybe do what is called in the boating world a “sunflower”. This is where four boats anchor in the middle and all the other boats tie up to each other in a circle around the four anchored. All the prizes were donated for this event and we will be looking for donations again for 2017. Several members at the meeting would have liked to donate but were unaware of the opportunity. We will be reaching out for donations for next year’s event.

## **New Business**

### Face Book Page and Newsletter

Karen Brower asked if there are any pictures and suggestions for the Harper Lake Newsletter and Facebook page, please let her know. Please forward any pictures and stories that you would like to share with the lake community.

### Clothing

T-shirts have been marked down 50%. Any special orders must be submitted and paid for by September 20<sup>th</sup>. Contact Sue Badalucco for purchases and to place your order.

### History

John Gochis will be stepping down as the official Lake Historian but has volunteered to interview anyone that would like to share any history of the lake or surrounding area. The current history file is set up in a date chronological order providing easy to follow journey through time.

### Annual Membership Event – Weekend of July 4<sup>th</sup>

Sue Badalucco asked for any suggestions for next year’s event. Some of the comments are listed here.

- Keep the dock captains
- Keep the same theme

- Provide prizes through donations
- Event Name “Harper Lake Day”
- “Sunflower Anchoring” at end of event
- Getting several property owners that live next to each other to use their property for the after-event gathering.

Again, if anyone has any suggestions for next year’s event, please let one of the board members know.

#### Presentation – Little Manistee River Watershed Conservation Council

Joyce Durdel made a presentation explaining the purpose of the Little Manistee River Watershed Conservation Council and the importance of managing the watershed for future generations. The Little Manistee River Watershed is a pristine watershed encompassing 145,280 acres in Manistee, Mason, Wexford and Lake Counties. It supports the Michigan DNR egg taking facility that harvests eggs and milt from the Pacific Salmon and Steelhead Trout that are sent to hatcheries to support Great Lake fisheries. The council got involved after the 1986 failure of the Luther Dam that damaged the spawning grounds and filled in the deeper holes by depositing tons of sand into the river. The Council is asking for our support (not monetary) and presented the Board with an Agreement Document for the membership to consider. This was tabled and will be decided on at a later date. They are also looking for anyone that is interested in becoming a member of their steering committee to reach out to Joyce.

If anyone is interested in visiting the Manistee River Weir to watch the harvesting of the eggs, the best time is between Oct 1<sup>st</sup> to the 15<sup>th</sup>. The link below is further information.

[http://www.michigan.gov/documents/dnr/LittleManisteeRiverWeir-brochure\\_438650\\_7.pdf](http://www.michigan.gov/documents/dnr/LittleManisteeRiverWeir-brochure_438650_7.pdf)

If you would like to get involved with the Little Manistee River Conservation Council, below is Joyce’s contact information:

Joyce Durdel – Trustee  
[littlemanwsassy@gmail.com](mailto:littlemanwsassy@gmail.com)  
 231-590-0046  
 P.O. Box 52  
 Irons, MI. 49644

#### Presentation –Elk Township Supervisor

Louis Fitz, Elk Township Supervisor briefed that the Lake County Township Hall has recently installed a 16Kw standby generator and was purchased with grant money and not tax dollars. The Lake County Township Hall can be used during the winter months in the event of an area power outage. Also, Louis explained the townships decision to terminate the agreement providing trash pickup at the four designated locations. Unfortunately, due to misuse and abuse of dropping off unauthorized items, residents and visitors will be responsible for trash removal until an alternative is provided. The last day

for pickup is September 6, 2016. There is a township meeting on September 13<sup>th</sup> to address an alternative. All are encouraged to attend.

Louis Fitz – Elk Township Supervisor

[riversbend@jackpine.net](mailto:riversbend@jackpine.net)

231-266-5040

9182 W. River Rd.

Irons, MI. 49644

A motion to adjourn was made by Kevin Storberg and seconded by Dick Blumenstein. Meeting ended at 10:50 AM.