

Horsehead Lake Association Meeting

April 13, 2024

Present:

Karen Bakewell

Terry Bakewell

Jerry Devenbaugh

Dave Haywood

Fred Kuebler

Paul Marcieca

Mike Munsell

Donna Rutter

Tracey Thelen

Dom Theodore

Jade Wilson

Excused:

Kathy Battle

Dan Carpenter

Bruce Costen

Charlie Foster

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order and the Board welcomed guests Lee and MaryBeth McFall as well as Jackie Humphrey. Public comments consisted of a question as to whether or not there were any rules or regulations regarding homeowner lawn fertilization. The Board advised that it has no official stance on this issue.

REVIEW OF MINUTES

March minutes were reviewed. Treasurer asked for two corrections to the minutes.

1. Item two **November Treasurer Report**: The big expense was for *printing* rather than postage.
2. Item 3 **OLD BUSINESS: Membership** -YTD is 149 rather than 21.

With corrections, motion to approve by Dom Theodore, seconded by Terry Bakewell. Unanimous

OLD BUSINESS

1. Treasurer's Report - Karen Bakewell reported the balance in the general fund is \$9273.20 with a reserve fund remaining at \$5,000.00. The Fish Management fund balance is \$4739.13. The Fireworks pass through is \$9887.56. Motion to approve by Fred Kuebler; seconded by Paul Marcieca. Unanimous
2. Lake Ecology and Fish Management - Terry Bakewell reported the water sample was gathered for the phosphorus test. Clarity tests begin in May and take place weekly throughout the summer.
3. Community Outreach -Jade Wilson advised that Skin Deep Studio in Mecosta has offered \$10 coupons for services, to be included in the new resident welcome packet. Tracy Thelen will contact the owner to discuss obtaining the certificates.
4. Membership - There were 28 new memberships, bringing the current total to 177; this is an increase of seven compared to last year.
5. Communication/Newsletter - Discussion was held regarding a potential change in easements and property value uncapping. The Board suggests reading the article entitled 'Marketable Record Title Act Michigan Lakes & Streams Association, INC' which can be found on mymlsa.org for background information. The Board asked the MLSA Conference attendees to get more information and clarification. This topic will then be addressed in the next newsletter.

ACTION: Terry Bakewell and Dan Carpenter to explore this topic at the MLSA Conference in April, then

bring more information back to the Board.

FOLLOW-UP: May meeting.

6. Annual Meeting - Dom Theodore and Kathy Battle continue planning events for the Annual Meeting on August 10, 2024. They have requested guests from the local fire department to attend with fire trucks. The fire department is agreeable but unable to commit until the date is closer.

7. Lake Levels - Water level is currently at 12.16 and will remain at this point if there are no drastic weather changes; i.e., excessive rainfall. This is the typical summer level. It was noted that the Board has autonomy to the dam and it is not controlled by the township; however, the township is kept informed.

8. Goose Nest and Egg Destruction Permits - The number of geese is down this year and there are noticeably fewer nests. If nests are discovered, please report the number of eggs removed and destroyed to Mike Munsell. This has a bearing on future approval for the permit to destroy. The recommended disposal for the eggs is to freeze and throw away.

9. MLSA Meeting - This year it will be held in Muskegon, MI on April 26 - 27, 2024. Attendees representing the Board are Terry Bakewell and Dan Carpenter. As stated above, they will broach the subject of potential change in easements and property value uncapping to gain more information for the Board and it will be discussed at the next meeting.

10. Lake Survey - Discussion was held regarding a possible lake survey. There was one donation received toward this effort. The Board will continue to keep this as an agenda item for further discussion and consideration.

ACTION: Continue discussion at the May meeting.

FOLLOW-UP: May meeting.

11. Re-imagining the Horsehead Lake Logo - A proposal to update and replace the Horsehead Lake Logo was approved. Membership households will be invited to submit a new logo for Horsehead Lake media. A screening subcommittee consisting of Board members Dave Haywood, Donna Rutter and Dom Theodore will finalize details. A motion to approve prize money in the amount of \$250 was received from Dom Theodore and seconded by Dave Haywood. Unanimous

ACTION: Horsehead Lake Logo Subcommittee to report the framework of the contest at the May meeting. Additionally, the Subcommittee will hold a screening of submissions in July and final vote will be held at the annual meeting in August.

FOLLOW-UP: May meeting.

12. Revising Bylaws - There was only one significant topic brought up in the request to review the bylaws: the elimination of the November meeting. The Board determined that this could take place by a majority vote and did not require a complete review of the bylaws. A motion to eliminate the November Board meeting was motioned by Karen Bakewell and seconded by Dave Haywood. Unanimous

NEW BUSINESS

1. Event Sponsorship offer from Skin Deep Studio - Jade Wilson presented the offer received by the

owner of Skin Deep Studio in Mecosta to sponsor a lake event. The Board discussed a potential sponsorship for the Youth Fishing Contest. This would allow the Board to offer goodie bags as there was a shortage last year. The Youth Fishing Contest is gaining popularity and growing in participant numbers. Donna Rutter to contact the owner to discuss this potential sponsorship.

ACTION: Donna Rutter to contact owner of Skin Deep Studio regarding sponsorship of the Youth Fishing Contest and report back to the Board.

FOLLOW-UP: May meeting.

2. Shrink Wrap Recycling Initiative - Mike Munsell reported the bags for recycling of boat shrink wrap are available again this year. The initiative was started by Mary Munsell, who is no longer able to head this effort. The Board thanks her for her efforts in putting the program together successfully. The Shrink Wrap Recycling Initiative has been taken over by lake resident Debbie Adams Hill. Her contact information is on the website and facebook page. Bags are \$7 and can contain 2 - 3 wraps. The full bags can be dropped off at EMS located at 9375 11 Mile Road (M-20), Mecosta, MI. There is a trailer placed for receiving. EMS also has bags available for \$9.

3. Buoy Update - Dave Haywood and Paul Mercieca advised that no repairs were needed and they would be painting on April 14th.

4. Signage - Mike Munsell advised that in the past, the Ferris State University print shop completed the sign lamination. One sign is placed at the buoy and one at the boat launch. It was noted that the fish planting signs were destroyed in previous years, so the Board stopped buying and placing them. Mike Munsell will turn this effort over to Dave and Paul, who will have the signs made up and placed. The signs include both the Mission Statement and the Devenbaugh Fireworks information.

ACTION: Dave Haywood and Paul Mercieca to take over printing, lamination and placement of signage at the boat launch and the buoy.

FOLLOW-UP: May meeting.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on May 11, 2024 with subsequent meetings scheduled for June 8 (Martiny Township hall not available), July 13, August 10 (Annual Meeting @ Martiny Township Pavilion), September 14, and October 12. NOTE: There will be no meeting on November 9, 2024.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn by Dave Haywood; seconded by Tracey Thelen.