

## February 18, 2017 BLA MEETING MINUTES

**ATTENDEES:** Margie & Dahn Johnson, Tim Osborn, Mary & Art Hansen, Mary Johnson, Tracy Donati, Mary Kowalski, Mike Schirott, Diana & Brian Clark, Tim Michaels. Margie & Dahn hosted.

**CALL TO ORDER:** 9:05 by President Tim Osborn

**READING OF THE MINUTES:** The minutes of the last meeting, November 19, 2016 were read and approved.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Jenna Labash was not at the meeting; however, the Treasurer's report was reviewed and approved.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** none

### COMMITTEE REPORTS:

#### A. Water & Boating Safety:

**Goals for 2017:** There was discussion regarding what we would like to do this year in the area of water and boating safety. It was decided that the BLA will once again work to have boat inspections on the lake, as well as making sure there is a boater's safety class offered at the Conservation Club. Tim Osborn will contact the Cass County Sheriff's department regarding these items.

#### B. Water/Environmental:

**Secchi Testing :** Typically testing is done 3 times per year, prior to Memorial Day, around the 4<sup>th</sup> of July and after Labor Day. Mike Schirott would also like to test once earlier in the spring, before a lot of boats are in, and then again later in the fall.

**Fecal Count Testing :** The Board still needs to get together with Carol Erbe to discuss water testing and determine what to do going forward. As Mary Kowalski is working on goose control, she will reach out to Carol.

**Boat Count:** The annual boat count is usually completed by Mike Crofoot with assistance from Mike Schirott. This is typically done right before the Poker Run.

**Mosquito Spraying:** Tim Miller has agreed to take the lead on mosquito spraying again this year.

**Geese Control:** We are continuing to work on a solution to control the geese on the lake. Mike Schirott talked to a DNR biologist to see if they could provide any help or offer any suggestions. Basically, there is nothing they can do. Our next step is to do what we need to proceed with Goose Busters. Goose Busters' deadline for getting approval to begin the first phase is April 1. We either need to get approval of 70% of the residents on the lake, or get a resolution passed by the township that will allow us to proceed. The next Porter Township meeting is March 14<sup>th</sup>; Mike Schirott will contact the township to see if we can be put on the agenda for this meeting. If we can get on the agenda, we will notify residents via Facebook so that we can have good representation at the meeting. If we cannot get on the agenda, we will send letters to all lake

property owners. Mike and Tim Osborn will work on drafting the Facebook notice and/or letter to residents.

### C. Community Affairs:

**Update on website:** Art Hansen has been working on keeping the website updated. Note that there is a link on the website for Michigan boaters' safety information and testing.

**Seawall for landing updated:** The seawall has been completed. Grass still needs to be planted and we need to find someone to mow. Mike will coordinate.

### D. Membership:

**Advisors:** A new advisor is still needed for Zone 2. Mary Johnson will contact Lisa Dumm to see if she is interested. Zone lists were handed out to the advisors that were at the meeting.

**Update from Mary Johnson:** It is estimated that we ended 2016 with approximately 40% of lake households paying membership dues. Mary has six new member packets ready to go; one was given to the Clarks, who are building on Hilltop. Also, Mary will get current pricing on the round Baldwin Lake Association stickers for possibly reinstating those this year.

**Newsletters:** The following is the schedule for newsletters: March-April (emailed) – to go out early-mid April and include information about Spring Fling, May-June (hardcopy for everyone) – to go out early-mid June and include information on membership, Poker Run, Annual Meeting, July-August (emailed) – results of election, Poker Run, annual meeting, September-October (emailed) – fall wrap-up, reminder to pay dues.

**Advertising:** After discussion, the following decisions were made regarding advertising: businesses who donate to Spring Fling will get listed in the May-June hardcopy newsletter, no business card sized ad; businesses who donate to the Poker Run will get listed in the July-August newsletter, no business card sized ad; for businesses who want to have a business card sized ad in the newsletters the cost is \$100. The deadline to be able to run the ad in all four newsletters is March 31. Tim Osborn and Mary Hansen will contact those advertisers who have had ads in the past.

### E. Social:

**Poker Run:** The Poker Run will be July 22. Four stops are already set, one is needed on the south side of the lake or along Hilltop.

**Spring Clean-up:** The road clean-up will be April 22, beginning at 9:00. Mike Schirott to see about getting more bags and will see if George's/Zimmy's want to offer breakfast.

**Spring Fling:** The date for Spring Fling is April 29. There is a planning meeting for Spring Fling on Tuesday, February 21, at Zimmy's, 6:30. Anyone who is interested in helping is welcome to attend. More information to follow.

**Baldwin Lake 4<sup>th</sup> of July Fireworks:** We are still exploring having Baldwin Lake fireworks. Long/Coverdale Lakes Association knows that we are considering this and will keep our

proceeds from Spring Fling. The costs from Mad Bomber, contacted by Tim Miller, are \$5000 for 12 minutes, \$7000 for 15 minutes, and \$10,000 for 20 minutes.

**OLD BUSINESS:** None

**NEW BUSINESS:** Is anyone interested in going to the Michigan Lake & Stream Associations annual meeting on April 21-22 at Crystal Mountain Resort? The lake association will cover expenses. Please let Tim Osborn know if you are interested.

**OPEN DISCUSSION:** None

**ADJOURN:** The meeting was adjourned at 11:00.

**NEXT MEETING:** March 18<sup>th</sup>, location to be determined