

LAKE HELEN – Lake Protection & Rehabilitation District
3rd 2017 Quarterly Commissioners' Meeting
Saturday July 29th
at Lake Helen County Park Shelter

The Lake Helen P&R District Commissioners' meeting was called to order by Treasurer Robin Novak-Nelson, at 10:05am.

Commissioners Present: Glen Bersie, Robin Novak-Nelson, Bill Pingel, Fred Stoeger
Commissioners Absent: Melissa Ferg
Guests Present: None

The group welcomed Glen to his first meeting as Commissioner and thanked John Hopfensperger for his help and service during his three-year term.

REGULAR REPORTS:

➤ **MINUTES FROM THE LAST COMMISSIONERS MEETING & THE ANNUAL MEETING:**

Robin made a motion to dispense reading the minutes from the last Commissioners' meeting and from the Annual meeting. Fred seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Glen noted that one typo needs correction on the Annual Meeting minutes, that being the meeting date.

Robin moved that we accept the minutes from both meetings as distributed with the one correction as noted by Glen. Seconded by Glen. Motion carried unanimously.

➤ **TREASURER'S REPORT:**

Robin Novak-Nelson provided the Treasurer's Report. She included a listing of all of financial transactions that took place during the last three months. . The account balances are:

\$4,715.00 in Savings

\$1,142.52 in Checking

\$ 176.28 from the Boat Launch received in during May, June, and July

Fred made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report as submitted. Glen seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

SELECTION OF OFFICERS:

After a brief discussion, Fred made a motion to have the current officers continue in their roles for another year. Seconded by Glen. Motion carried unanimously.

That means Melissa Ferg remains as Chairperson, Robin-Novak Nelson as Treasurer, and Bill Pingel as Secretary.

OLD BUSINESS:

➤ **BANK ACCOUNT SIGNERS:**

Robin again noted that since Kathy Grill has retired as Bookkeeper, we need to remove her as an authorized check signer and add a replacement. (Robin and Melissa are current signers.)

After a short discussion, Fred made a motion to remove Kathy Grill's name and to add Glen Bersie as the third authorized signer. Seconded by Bill. Motion carried unanimously.

➤ **INVASIVE SPECIES UPDATE:**

○ Plant Survey:

Fred stated that he accompanied a representative from Golden Sands to do a plant survey on Friday July 7th. They spent eight to nine hours on the lake and mapped out 239 points. The general assessment is that the lake looks healthy, but that there still are spots with Eurasian Milfoil that need management.

- Fred to send the report and the map to Bill, to put on the website. **[Fred & Bill FOLLOW-UP]**

- Lake Management Grants:
Fred also noted that he has had discussions with Golden Sands about applying for a Grant for additional EWM removal as well as boat landing monitoring in 2018. **[Fred FOLLOW-UP]**
- Eurasian Water Milfoil: Fred noted that Golden Sands will be back on Saturday August 19th at 9am for another EWM removal session. Volunteers are needed to help with the removal, including divers.
- Japanese Knotweed: Fred stated that Golden Sands recommended getting a group together in August to treat the stand of Japanese Knotweed that is in the ditch and right of way at 3002 and 3004 E Lake Helen Dr. The group agreed to move forward with the treatment on or around August 9th.
 - Fred to make arrangements with Golden Sands. **[Fred FOLLOW-UP]**
 - Bill to send letters to the property owners, notifying them of the plans. **[Bill FOLLOW-UP]**
- Other Invasive Species: Jo Seiser sent a note via the website asking if someone could check out a suspected invasive plant on her property. Fred noted that Golden Sands did check out the plants. They found that there was a spreading weed, but that it was not an invasive species that is of concern for the lake or watershed. Fred will contact Jo and explain the findings. **[Fred FOLLOW-UP]**

NEW BUSINESS:

➤ ANNUAL MEETING FOLLOW-UP

- General View: The group discussed the Annual Meeting, noting that the general view was that it was a very positive and productive meeting. Some residents stated that this was the best meeting ever. Fred's review of the prior year's activities was a high light.
- Property Tax: As a follow-up to the approval of the new budget at the Annual Meeting, including a ½ mill property tax, Bill needs to notify the Portage County Treasurer's Department to add the tax to the 2017 tax bill for the LHP&R Districts properties. **[Bill FOLLOW-UP]**
- Volunteer Help: Bill reviewed the list of volunteer positions that were listed in the Annual Meeting notice. No new volunteers have stepped forward yet to help out with the winter aerators. Fred noted that he is working with Golden Sands to see if there is grant money available to help with the boat launch monitoring.
Fred noted that he will check with Golden Sands to see if we still need to have someone continue to do regular water quality monitoring. **[Fred FOLLOW-UP]**
- Distribution Comments: Robin stated that the Welcome Packet and Property Owner Listing were both set out for the property owners to pick up at the Annual Meeting. No comments or questions were received about either one.

➤ OTHER NEW BUSINESS

- Volunteer Hours: Fred stated that we need to get all volunteers who are working with the invasive species removal or with the lake management plan to fill out a form that will help us track volunteer hours in support of the grant applications.
- Slow No Wake: Bill stated that there seems to be a number of people that are not following the 4pm No Wake cutoff. A discussion followed with all of the Commissioners stating that they've also seen a number of violations. It was agreed that we need to remind property owners to make sure that they tell their guests about this law. Fred said that he will make a comment about this at today's picnic.

➤ **NEXT MEETING:**

Bill noted that we still need to have one more Commissioner's meeting in this calendar year. The group agreed that Melissa should schedule the next one for a date that fits into her work schedule.
[Melissa FOLLOW-UP]

➤ **DEFERRED TO A FUTURE MEETING**

- Lake Management Plan (Bill)
- Lake Walk/Beautification project (what's next?) (Fred)

ADJOURNEMENT

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made at 11:10am by Robin. Fred seconded. Motion was carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Bill Pingel, Secretary

Note: "[FOLLOW-UP]" - indicates an action item that needs action. These items will be on the agenda for the next meeting.