

LAKE HELEN – Lake Protection & Rehabilitation District
3rd Quarterly Commissioners' Meeting
Saturday August 13th
at Lake Helen County Park Shelter

The Lake Helen P&R District Commissioners' meeting was called to order by Chairperson Melissa Ferg at 10:30am.

Commissioners Present: Melissa Ferg, Robin Novak-Nelson, Bill Pingel, Fred Stoeger
Commissioners Absent: John Hopfensperger
Guests Present: Kathy Grill, Fred Dunsirin, Mark Brandenburg

REGULAR REPORTS:

- MINUTES FROM THE LAST MEETING:

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

- TREASURER'S REPORT:

Kathy Grill, Bookkeeper for the District, provided the Treasurer's Report, The account balances are:
\$10,213.71 in Savings
\$ 813.72 in Checking
\$ 211.72 from the Boat Launch

Fred made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report. Bill seconded, Motion carried unanimously

OLD BUSINESS:

ANNUAL MEETING FOLLOWUP:

- Future Tax Consideration:
From Annual Meeting Minutes: "A suggestion was made for the Commissioners to consider adding the ¼ mill tax into the next budget and to continue collecting it each year, so that the funds are available for future invasive treatment and project needs. Another suggested that an account balance cap should be considered." The general view was that this is an idea worth considering. However, it would be best discussed at a future meeting.
Bill made a motion to defer discussion until the first Commissioners' meeting in 2017. Robin seconded. Motion carried unanimously. **[FOLLOW-UP]**

- Fish eating safety following May 2014 EWM treatment: Mark Brandenburg stated that he spoke to Tom Mronek of the DNR about eating fish following the EWM treatment. He was told that the chemical sunk to the bottom and the parts per million were so low that there was absolutely no need for concern. The chemical used has been tested and approved for the treatment of lakes.

- Japanese Knotweed reoccurrence: Kathy Grill noted that Japanese Knotweed continues to grow back on the 3202 and 3204 East Lake Helen Drive properties. She described the removal efforts that have taken place over the last three years including the removal work done in conjunction with UWSP in 2013.
Bill to contact UWSP to see if help is available to assist with the removal of this invasive species.
[FOLLOW-UP]

- Property owner listing: The group thought that it would be a good idea to print and distribute a property owner directory including names, Lake Helen Address, and potentially the phone numbers and email addresses. The listing would not only help owners become better acquainted but also could serve as a "Neighborhood Watch" contact list.
Bill to put together an initial list for review at the next meeting. **[FOLLOW-UP]**

OLD BUSINESS:

- Invasive Species
 - Eurasian Water Milfoil: Nothing new. Continue to monitor
 - Clean Boats Clean Waters/Boat Landing monitoring cameras:
Fred volunteered to help Cory Nelson install the cameras this fall. **[FOLLOW-UP]**
- Fish Stocking Update:
Mark stated that the final fish stocking will take place this fall when the water temperatures drop below 68degrees. That is expected to be sometime around mid-October. **[FOLLOW-UP]**
- Welcome Packet for New Owners:
Robin stated that she is working on updating the Welcome Packet that will be distributed to all new property owners. **[FOLLOW-UP]**
- Goals & plans for 2016 & 2017
 - Potential beautification effort: Fred talked about his recommendation to put together a beautification project for next spring. He spoke to representatives at the DNR, Golden Sands, and Portage County. He noted that he still needs to contact Ray Oksuita, Town of Alban Chairman. He noted that the purpose of the project is also to help build a sense of community among the District property owners and their families.
Fred to continue to pursue the project and to present an update on the idea and the approvals that may be needed. **[FOLLOW-UP]**
- Other goals
Bill stated that he would like to meet with Fred, and any other Commissioners who are interested, over the winter months that would like to learn more about the Lake Management Plan and to provide input for updating it. **[FOLLOW-UP]**

NEW BUSINESS:

No New Business.

Next Meeting: The next Commissioner's meeting will be on Saturday October 1st at 9am.

ADJOURNEMENT

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made at 11:35am by Fred. Robin seconded. Motion was carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Bill Pingel, Secretary

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