

2023 Sunset Lake Annual Meeting Minutes October 21st 2023

The annual meeting was held at Hanauer Hall at 10am on October 21st 2023 with all 2023 board members in attendance except Michelle Bearden. Board members in attendance included John Kemp, Joe Kovacs, Brady Hahn, Sue Muschong, Ed Richno, Russ Baldwin, Gary Wilken and Jerry Winterland in attendance. The meeting began promptly at 10 a.m. cst with the pledge of allegiance.

An address from John Kemp was read explaining the annual ballot. John advised that the board is not in charge of fundraising and that if the membership wants fireworks it is up to the membership. John provided a status update on the condition of the roof and mower repairs. The \$25.00 special assessment will not cover all fireworks but is a start. Within his address included the items up for a vote in the 2023 annual meeting. A vote for a special fireworks assessment of \$25.00 per household, a vote for up to \$20,000.00 expense for a new roof at the hall, a vote for an expense of up to \$17,000.00 for a new mower and a vote to move the monthly board meetings to the second Tuesday of each month. Additionally John stated that 6 individuals ran for the board and a maximum of four could be selected on the annual ballot. Candidates included, Valeria Jagiela, Jenny Buhl, Nancy Bitner, Tom Sidener, Michelle Bearden and Dave Johnson. The four individuals with the most votes would be appointed to the board, the one with the least votes of the four would be on the board for a two year commitment to replace the vacancy of Kim Gooding. That term will end in November 2025.

A compassionate final address letter was read from Sue Muschong, advising that Sunset Lake is financially sound as of the 3rd Quarter budget report (which is available on the website). Savings as of 9/30/2023 was \$170,000.00 which includes the two CD's. She states that all six individuals running should be thanked and that they are valued and talents are needed. *Secretary note: Sue should be recognized for her continuous efforts to the lake over the last six years-Thank you Sue.* Sue continued her address mentioning all her favorite golden pond animals she observes on the lake. She ended with a thank you to the membership for allowing her to run for two terms. Sue continued to cover the budget proposal since Michele was absent.

The annual meeting received a total of 191 ballots from mail and in person drop offs. The 191 were divided into six packets of ballots and distributed to all board members in attendance to assist in the tally process. Final tally results went through double verification from Brady Hahn and Russ Baldwin. The results are as follows:

1. Board Member Vote
 - a. Michelle Bearden-159 Votes-Awarded new 3 year term
 - b. Jenny Buhl-129 Votes-Awarded new 3 year term
 - c. Tom Sidener-103 Votes-Awarded new 3 year term
 - d. Valeria Jagiela-97 Votes- Awarded 2 year term (expires November 2025)

- e. Dave Johnson- 93 Votes-Did not qualify
- f. Nancy Bitner-91 Votes-Did not qualify
- 2. **2023 Annual Budget Vote**
 - a. **Passed** with 160 votes to approve the budget and 19 votes to not approve the budget.
- 3. **New Roof Vote**
 - a. **Passed** with 142 votes to approve the expense and 46 votes to not approve the expense.
- 4. **New Lawn Mower Vote**
 - a. **Passed** with 140 votes to approve the expense and 48 votes to not approve the expense.
- 5. **Special Fireworks Assessment of \$25.00 Vote**
 - a. **Did Not Pass** with 108 votes to not approve the assessment and 79 votes to approve the assessment.
- 6. **Date change for monthly membership meetings**
 - a. **Passed** to the second Tuesday of each month with 179 votes to approve the date change and 4 votes not to approve the date change

The meeting concluded at 11:30 a.m. cst

GOOD MORNING ,

I want to thank all volunteers for helping this past year in keeping our lake beautiful. Big Thank You to all the Board Members and to those members running for the Board. Thanks to Sue Muschong for her dedication as Treasurer for the Lake. I want to Thank Gary Wilken for stepping up to fill an opening on the Board. Also, a big Thank You to our Administrator of Leases Amy Walkenbach.

Reminder: The leaves are starting to fall, so let's do our best to keep them cleaned up. Please check your chlorine tubes.

Today we vote: There are 4 positions open on the board. Approval of 2024 Budget, also approval of using savings funds to replace roof on the hall and purchase a new zero turn mower. The Board is asking for a Special Assessment for Fireworks. Board was not intended to be Fund Raising. The members need to decide if they want Fireworks. The Board is asking the members to approve moving the monthly meeting from the 1st Tuesday to the 2nd Tuesday of each month.

As we count the ballots the 4 with the most votes will be elected to the SLA Board. Of those 4, the one with the least votes will complete Kim Goodings vacated seat ending November, 2025, the other 3 will be serving 3 year terms.

Sunset Lake Association is financially sound per our 2023 3rd Quarter Budget Report (which can be found on Sunset Lake's website) and our \$170,000 in Reserve Savings & CD's. As I told the Board earlier this year, our savings are due to the fact that the Board and lake members that step up and volunteer their time at no cost to the lake. For the 6 years I have been on the Board. I have witnessed how giving members are and like me they give of themselves because of their love for the lake.

Just like the 6 members (Michelle Beardon, Nancy Bitner, Jenny Buhl, Valerie Jeager, Dave Johnson, and Tom Sidener) who have stepped up this year to run for the 4 Board openings. All 6 are very qualified and deserve our appreciation. We know when we count the Ballots 2 will not be voted in. But we need to thank them and let them know they are valued and their talents are needed.

I have loved serving Sunset Lake and its members. It was my way to give back for the many blessings I have from living in such a wonderful and loving community. Every time I see the diamonds dancing on the lake, observe the beauty of the 4 Seasons, see the awesome beauty of the sunrises and sunsets on the lake, the beauty of a early morning or dusk pontoon boat ride and of course the geese, ducks, owls, the many many birds and the eagle that dines at our lake. How blessed I feel and at times my heart is overwhelmed with the love I feel for our Beautiful Sunset Lake. It is truly our Golden Pond.