

Watkins Lakefront Owners Association

Minutes

May 17, 2022

Attendance: Attendance sheet is attached

Call to Order: The Meeting was called to order at 7:05

Review of Previous Meeting Minutes: The March and Special April meeting minutes were approved.

Treasurers Report: Greg Frontier reviewed the financials. Basically, the financials are going to plan with no unusual items to note. The financial report was approved.

Communications: The web site is being maintained as planned. The Access code is being updated weekly. On the topic of for sale items, this will be on the Website in a case by case basis – send communication to the Web Master (Mike Hauswirth) The group discussed having the Gate codes through June 2022 sent to the directors for ease of reference during the transition. This will help people get their boats launched in 2022 prior to the individualized codes are implemented.

Lake Board Report: The Inland lake improvement board met recently, the Lake board approved the release of funds (\$52K) to WLOA – there is an article in the Lakefront Lifestyle Magazine that describes the value of the Inland Lake Improvement Board. The full article is copied below – re-printed with permission.

Water Quality Report: The e-Coli testing will be done in 2022 as in previous years - four times per year – sampling 5 different sites. The association is focusing on control of Cat Tails. A discussion on the effectiveness of the green matting used on the Eason canal for the control of Cat Tails. The discussion extended into ideas to facilitate a flow through system on the canal. The conversation ended noting the permanent solution would be very expensive and where funding is currently not available.

Weed Harvesting and Claudia Park Report: Harvester is functional and will be active Week of May 16. The Truck is ready for use – and we needed some new tires. Some minor repairs on the harvester was performed and now the equipment is up and functional.

Activities Committee Report: No Report

Boat and Park Committee Report: Kevin Reported on some improvements to the site. Until the new access System is installed the Access Codes will be changed weekly.

President's Report: Items were covered in Old and New Business sections.

Old Business: Draw down of the lake was discussed. It has many advantages. Steve Miller is still working with the DEQ to set up a meeting to discuss this action. Plan is October 15, 2022 to drop the lake level 6 Inches and then return to normal April 15, 2023.

There is a coordination problem where the Pump is operating and the gate to release the water to the river are both functioning at the same time. This means we are pumping in on one end and releasing at the other.

Geese – 27 eggs have been destroyed and 6 nests. There are 6 Goslings that are still around that did not get harvested.

The new directory is still in progress with a target date of End of June. This will be the last paper copy. All the future will be On-line.

The Spring Newsletter was sent out and well accepted.

The Diesel Engine for the harvester has been reviewed and we have purchased commonly failing parts in our inventory. In the future, we need to budget for an Engine replacement with more available parts and service technicians.

New Business: Greg Frontier is retiring as the Treasurer and Ken Harrison will be Greg's replacement effective June 2022. This was unanimously approved.

Lakewood dredging project has been cancelled.

Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 7:45

2022 WLOA Board Meeting Schedule

- ✓ January 18, 2022
- ✓ March 22, 2022
- ✓ May 17, 2022
- July 19, 2022
- September 20, 2022
- November 15, 2022 (We may need to change this date – Deer Season.)
- January 17, 2023.

2022 WLOA Board Meeting Attendance

(please initial meeting date column after your name)

Officers				Meeting Date					
Phone	Area	Name	Office	3/22/2022	5/17/2022	7/19/2022	9/20/2022	11/15/2022	1/17/2023
431-5202		Steve Miller	President	X	X				
933-2733		Dave Kramer	Vice President	X	X				
674-2166		Greg Frontier	Treasurer	X	X				
797-3246		John Casey	Secretary	X	X				
Directors									
Phone	Area	Name	Area	3/22/2022	5/17/2022	7/19/2022	9/20/2022	11/15/2022	1/17/2023
755-1233	1	Charlie Warren	Claudia and South Shore						
217-0647	1	Pam Torracco	Claudia and South Shore						
674-3558	2	Dave Hansz	South Shore		X				
599-7357	2	Cathy Gable	South Shore		X				
904-6676	3	Jeff Moss	South Shore		X				
730-2304	3	Jennifer Dickow	South Shore	X					
933-2733	4	Dave Kramer	Eason	X					
613-5726	4	Jim Ayres	Eason	X	X				
431-5202	5	Steve Miller	Eason	X	X				
330-9359	5	Ian Perry	Eason		X				
618-0078	6	Rod Lema	Covert						
408-6010	6	Cindy Boschert	Covert	X					
674-2166	7	Greg Frontier	Watkins Lake Rd		X				
674-0837	7	Paul Klapproth	Watkins Lake Rd		X				
891-1487	8	Duane Serowoky	Lakewood		X				
207-8862	8	Pat McDonald	Lakewood Dr & Finley Ave	X	X				
767-7767	9	Lindsey Broadwell	Lakewood Drive						
736-0439	9	Aaron Monier	Lakewood		X				
	10		Forest Ave						
506-7642	10	Andrew Sheets	Forest Ave						
219-5161	11	Mike Broadwell	Forest Ave & Horseshoe Dr						
866-8884	11	Bruce Jessionowski	Forest Ave & Horseshoe Dr		X				
Committees									
Phone	Area	Name	Committee	3/22/2022	5/17/2022	7/19/2022	9/20/2022	11/15/2022	1/17/2023
674-0837	7	Michael Hauswirth	Web Manager	X					
674-0811	5	Michael Hauswirth	Weed Harvesting Mgr	X					
767-7767	11	Lindsey Broadwell	Activities Committee						
674-3684	6	Patty Kutil	Lake Board Rep						
346-4950		Kevin Lynch	Boating and Park Comm						

2021 WLOA Board Meeting Attendance

Riparians/Guests

Phone	Area	Name		3/22/2022	5/17/2022	7/19/2022	9/20/2022	11/15/2022	1/17/2023
346-4950		Kevin Lynch	Southshore	X					
420-3646		David Shaw	Covert	X	X				
734-635-5508		Lisa Lee	Eason		X				
513-285-6461		Stephanie Peck	Eason		X				
848-5536		Ken Harrison	Covert		X				

Life on the Lakes: The importance of the inland lake improvement board *May 01, 2022*

"as reprinted from the May 2022 edition of Lakefront Lifestyles magazine."

BY HUNTER K. AVIS

Special to Oakland Lakefront

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We frequently receive questions from lakefront property owners regarding a need to establish cohesive management of their respective inland lake. The desire for governance, and the ability of a board or association to conduct assessments and raise funds for special lake projects is often in response to the need to control an undesirable condition arising on the lake.

In 1995, the Michigan legislature specifically addressed the needs of lake residents (and municipalities) with the passage of Part 309 of the Natural Resources and Protection Act ("NREPA.") This section of the statute devoted to "lake improvements" sets out the process for the formation of a lake improvement board ("Board") to manage the lake in a variety of settings. Specifically, the NREPA allows for a Board, created by the local governing body, to protect the public health, welfare and safety, and for the conservation of the resource, or to preserve property values around the lake to take steps necessary to remove and properly dispose of undesirable accumulated materials (nuisance aquatic vegetation) from the bottom of the lake or wetland by dredging, ditching, digging, or other related work (see MCL 324.30902.)

Once authorized and formed by the governing body, the Board will ultimately consist of a mixed panel of government actors and private citizens to determine the practicability, engineering feasibility, project financing and preparation of assessment rolls for lake improvements. Once formed, the Board must, by statute, consist of certain members, including: a member of the board of commissioners, appointed by the chair of the board of commissioners in each county where the lake is located; two local representatives from each local unit of government (City, Village, or Township) where the lake is located (noteworthy, if the lake is in more than one local unit of government, each unit appoints one rep); the county drain commissioner; and a property owner on the lake appointed by the Board.

The process of forming a board varies, depending on whether the lake in question is public or private. In the case of public lakes, the local unit of government can on its own volition, institute a motion to the governing body to form a Board, or 2/3 of the riparian (abutting) owners on the lake may sign a petition and submit it to the local unit of government. In the case of private lakes, a Board may only be formed by a petition of 2/3 of riparian (abutting) landowners to the local unit of government.

If you have any questions about the petition process or boards in general, we are here to help.

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