

Hello Everyone,

I wanted to keep everyone apprised of the topics/discussions that took place at the Oakland Twp. Public Hearing regarding the proposed ILIA SAD on Tuesday, June 22, 2010.

There were some very interesting comments made by both Indian Lake Residents and members of the board.

Lake members present:

Scott Baker – Indian Lake Rd.

Eric Goetz - Indianside

Al Beste - Lakeview

Terry Baughman - Kniard

Fred & Delores Sutton - Kniard

Tom Trombley - Kniard

Ivan Steiber - Kniard

Keith Melaas - Kniard

Chester Smiglelski - Kniard

and 3 or 4 more I could not place names to faces.

1) Someone on Miller Rd. got the notice and appeared/spoke to refute their inclusion in the SAD because they don't get lake privileges. Oakland Twp. Board recognized this as an error because this property ID did not appear on the petition, but was mistakenly included on the notice. Oakland Twp. Board to check/correct the error.

2) Scott spoke & reinforced need for the SAD to pay for necessary maintenance/repair of the dam and continued aquatic nuisance treatments.

3) Chester was a "tad" unruly and accused Scott of "misspeaking the truth" about Indian Lake no longer remaining a lake if the dam were to fail, but rather, it would return to it's original/natural state...enough said.

4) Terry, Tom & Al : all really focused on the worsening of the weeds and the previous SAD funds being used primarily for treatments that do not work . Of special note were Terry's comments about the "Duck guy's" spillage into the lake – under some mysterious DNRE permit - that is degrading all possible benefits of chemical treatment in that area of the lake. Boats travel by that area, pick up these "super sewage (he used other word) fed" weeds and transfer them around the lake where they expand their area.

Oakland Twp. Board members were not aware of any such permit to grant this type of waterfowl lake usage. Said they would be interested in knowing more.

Tom wanted to know if the DNRE, being a riparian owner, should be included in the SAD. Marc Edwards (Oakland Twp. Board) said that the State does not pay taxes and would be thereby exempt from the SAD. Only in certain instances where they operate a public access site/park would they contribute to lake improvements. Gave Cranberry Lake example.

5) Marc Edwards (Oakland Twp. Board) repeatedly addressed the need for us to create a Lake Board. Joan Fogler (Oakland Twp. Supervisor) agreed that this would benefit us greatly and afford us with additional powers to help enact change. Marc also stated that we might apply for a community block grant to aid in the necessary dam repairs/maintenance. Marc really tried to push creating a lake board and offered to help us get it started. This lake board would need to include representatives from the following: Addison Twp, Oakland Twp. ILIA, and Oakland County. Perhaps Scott/Myself can contact him to discuss in more detail?

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My overall feeling was that our members who spoke out were not against the SAD in terms of the funds being used for the dam. A few quipped that they would gain additional land if the lake were to recede due to dam failure... But we all know that swamp frontage and lake frontage are two different things. I can't imagine anyone ACTUALLY believing that their home values would increase and they would be happier with muck than they are fishing, boating, etc... No one really wants the dam to fail. This SAD should go through if we can focus on it's use being primarily for the dam.

However, those who spoke seemed discontent with the majority of the SAD funds being used for chemical treatments that haven't shown any significant results. The consensus is that the weeds have gotten worse every year, not better with the chemical treatments at \$13,000 per year.

I feel that the ILIA board should really investigate other lake weed control options. Even if the costs do not go down, the results need to be better.

I am putting together a proposal regarding the purchase of a mechanical weed harvester (I found a very unique & cost effective option) and gathering as much information as possible regarding both chemical and mechanical weed control. I will let you know as soon as I have this ready to present to the ILIA members.

Eric Goetz
ILIA Secretary
June, 22, 2010