

SILVER LAKE IMPROVEMENT CORP. ANNUAL MEETING

OLD GREEN OAK TOWNSHIP HALL

MAY 26,2022

Meeting called to order by President Chris Williams at 7:30 PM.

It was confirmed that there was a quorum of members present.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited by the membership.

Welcomed new members:

New members introduced themselves.

Board of Directors Introduced themselves:

Chris Williams- President, Andy Eisenberg- Vice President, Lois Mahoney- Treasurer, Mary Bakhaus- Secretary, Greg Gessert- Past President, Dale French- board member, Erin Radley- board member, Ross Ridenour- board member, Jon Kuznicki-board member, not present.

Election of Directors:

Up for reelection:

Chris Williams

Lois Mahoney

Andy Eisenberg

Jon Kuznicki

All but Jon agreed to run for Director positions, which left a director position open. Chris Williams nominated Manuela Hyatt for the board. She agreed to run. No other nominations were presented. Tom Mahoney made a motion to close the nominations for directors, seconded by Sandy Gessert. Motion passed.

Chris Williams, Lois Mahoney, Andy Eisenberg and Manuela Hyatt were all unanimously elected to the board for a 2-year term.

2021 Annual Meeting Minutes:

Mary Bakhaus handed out printed copies of the 2021 Annual meeting minutes. Greg Gessert made a motion to accept the 2021 meeting minutes as presented, Kathy Butcher seconded, Motion passed.

Financial Report:

Mary Bakhaus handed out printed copies of the 2021 budget and actuals along with the proposed 2022 budget. Lois reviewed the 2021 actuals and told the members the financial were audited by Bill Brandon. Roger Ratkowski made a motion to accept the 2021 actual budget, Dan Studer seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Lois reviewed the 2022 budget. She specifically pointed out the difference between the 2021 budget and the 2022 budget for weed management by the DASH Program and PLM. The total

2022 budget for weed management declined by \$3,750. It was mentioned that Dale French would cover the reasons for the differences in his PLM Report. Sandy Gessert made a motion to approve the 2022 budget as presented, Bill Brandon seconded, motion carries.

Lake Level Report:

Dale reviewed the history of the Dam and its purpose of controlling the lake level. He mentioned that the Dam is located at the south-east corner of the lake. The by-laws state that the Dam is to be closed March 1st and opened October 31st. The reason for the opening in Oct. is to reduce the water level, to reduce the pressure on the sea walls caused by winter ice. It is closed in March to capture the spring rains. Dale mentioned that the lake level is the highest he's seen in 36 years. He mentioned that the Dam is a spill over dam, so even if the dam is closed, if the water is high enough it will spill over the top and flow out. Currently, the water is not over the top.

Lake Water Quality:

Weed Control-Dale:

PLM report. SLIC has been using PLM for the past 15-20 years to help control the invasive weeds in our lake. SLIC initially used a natural/non-chemical approach to control the invasive weeds using weevils, but it was ineffective. PLM was then contacted to spray the weed patches in the spring to knock down the Eurasian milfoil. They also check the phosphorous and e-coli levels for us in the spring. Last year, SLIC tried a new non-chemical approach called the DASH Program: Divers Assisted Suction Hose. This is a process where the weeds are sucked up into onion bags and removed from the lake. The divers were here for 7 days. There were 100 bags of weeds removed from the lake. Chris disposed of the weeds on his property and Chris allowed the divers to park their boat and trailer and stay on his property for 7 days.

Thank you, Chris.

SLIC first heard of the DASH Program from Higgins Lake. They actually bought their own specialized boat, and they pull weeds all summer long as their lake encompasses 10,000 acres. Dale went on to mention, that chemicals are a band-aid, they only knock the weeds down. Dale and Greg did a survey of the weeds this Oct. and couldn't find any patches. PLM also surveyed and noticed less patches. PLM stated that "DASH did a fantastic job". PLM is currently on an on-call basis. \$8,000 is in the budget as a backup for 2022. SLIC will not be using the DASH program this year. The board, specifically Greg, has investigated having other lakes in the area use the DASH program, as the price goes down with more lakes involved. He has also contacted the Township about the program.

Dale mentioned another invasive weed, starry stone wart. It takes a different chemical to treat. The DASH program cannot be used to control this weed.

Greg mentioned that SLIC secured a special permit to use the Dash program and the permit is good for 5 years.

It was mentioned that native weeds are good for the lake. They are good for the fish and the lake's oxygen levels.

E. COLI Report-Greg:

PLM took 29 different site samples for e-coli. The e-coli levels were very good. Greg took 25 samples from different areas around the lake. The levels were very, very low. They have never been at a high enough level to close the lake for swimmers. Greg stated that the lake was exceptionally clean.

If anyone sees a problem area, contact Greg and he'll take a sample. He mentioned that people should pick up pet waste and to not feed the waterfowl, as they contribute to e-coli contamination.

MUSKRAT REPORT-Dale:

The Muskrat trapper comes in the fall. He usually traps around 12-18 muskrats a year. Last year he caught 17. He is usually here for a week. The Muskrats do damage to boats and seawalls. They have been seen all around the lake, so no specific area. Contact Dale if you have a problem with them.

PLANNING COMMITTEE-Greg:

Committee members: Greg, Andy and Tom Mahoney

Greg mentioned that SLIC welcomes non-board members to join committees. Greg spoke with Green Oak Township clerk Michael Sedlak about exploring sewers on our lake and he was supportive of the idea. Greg also spoke with Township Supervisor Mark St. Charles about having septic systems inspected before a sale can be finalized. This would be something that has to be brought to the county and explored.

Greg mentioned that 35 acres has been donated to the Township for a park and a cemetery. The entrance will be off Marshall Road near Silverside Dr. and brought to our attention because of the potential for increased traffic.

The planning committee did a member survey several years ago and they may do a survey again.

The committee explored the idea of having a Black Out Night on the lake once a month to see the stars. They may explore this idea further with the Social Committee.

Greg asked Mark St. Charles about the possibility of paving the rest of Silverside Dr. and St. Charles said no.

There was further discussion on sewers. A number of years ago, sewers were explored. A petition was passed around to determine the cost of putting in sewers and there were enough signatures to move forward for the Township to get bids. However, once the cost was determined, a second petition had to be signed to approve sewers around the lake and there was not enough interest once the costs were known. One of the problems facing the acceptance of sewers is that the lake is remarkably clean and continues to be.

Andy asked if the members would like the board to explore the possibility of sewers around the lake, and the majority of members raised their hands. There was not a formal motion made.

SOCIAL COMMITTEE-Erin

Committee members: Erin and Jon

Erin reviewed the Social Events for 2022. She mentioned that updates would be on SLIC'S new website.

The summer kick-off party would be at her house 9586 Silverside at 7 PM on June 3rd. Please bring a dish to pass.

June 11 and 12th free fishing weekend.

July 3rd boat parade starting at 1:00. Theme, favorite children's movie. Let Erin know if you're coming. Meet at SW corner of the lake. Also on the 3rd will be Ice Cream boats starting at 12:00. The Rice's and Phipp's will be manning their boats with delicious ice cream treats.

July 9th. Meet in the middle at 7:00 PM

July 23rd. Non-motorized race.

Aug. 5th-7th: Children's fishing challenge. The cost was raised to \$10 this year for participation.

August 13th: Meet in the Middle 7PM

Sept. 10th: Meet in the Middle 7PM

She mentioned that they may be planning a fall event. Perhaps a poker run.

BOATER SAFETY-Mary

Committee members: Mary, Chris, Jon, Greg, and Roger Ratkowski

Committee voted to have SLIC sponsor Boater Safety classes. Mary explored the idea with Lieutenant Knapp of the Marine Division of the Livingston County's Sheriff's office. It has become a more involved process than years past. We will need a commitment from at least 10 people, we will need a firm date and location and once we have those details, we need to submit our request to the DNR. Lt. Knapp said it takes around 30 days for approval. We were not able to secure a location that fits within the DNR's time frame for 2022 of Mid-March to Mid-May for free classes.

The members indicated by a show of hands that they would like the committee to explore boater safety classes next Spring.

Mary mentioned that currently Wilson Marine is sponsoring classes. June 20th and 22nd are full but July 23rd is open. The cost is \$10 and starts at 9 AM. You can pre-register at Michigan.storefront.kalkomey.com.

The website address will be on SLIC's website, which is in your packet that was passed out.

Also on our website is the Handbook of Mi. Boating laws, along with a summary of state laws that are relevant to our lake. Printed copies of the Handbook were handed out at the meeting. Roger Ratkowski will also have printed copies available at his house on Firwood Dr.

Mary mentioned as a reminder, if you were born after June 30,1996, you are required by Mi. law to pass an approved boater safety course and to carry your certificate on your boat. For PWC, if you were born after Dec. 31,1978 you are required by law to pass an approved boater safety course.

The committee also discussed sponsoring a CPR class. We also discussed enforcement issues as we have gotten several complaints, but since board members are not officers of the law, we suggest that if you see highly unsafe behavior, call the Green Oak police. They will come investigate. If you see something, say something to the proper authorities.

WEBSITE UPDATE-Jon

Since Jon could not be at the meeting, he asked that the following be read. Mary read the following:

Good Evening, SLIC members and friends. We are proud to announce that we now have a live website! Please check out www.silverlakeimprovementcorp.com at your own convenience. It contains many important and interesting tidbits relating to our lake community. Thanks to some negotiations between SLIC and our host, Go Daddy, our website domain name has been purchased for 10 years and the website hosting has been paid up for two years, all under budget.

Actual cost of the website and hosting for the current year is \$319.48. Hosting will need to be renewed next in May 2024. Budget \$150-\$200 for website hosting and maintenance in CY2023. I actual expect the actual expense to be zero, but in case something unusual or out of our control happens, we are covered. Plus, we established the budget line for website expenses in future years. The introductory cost was \$83.88/year which is only available to new customers. I believe the non-discounted rate is currently about \$110 but our GoDaddy rep advised that this rate has been increasing lately. Hopefully, \$200 will cover one year of hosting renewal for the foreseeable future.

If anyone discovers any errors on the website or would like to make a suggestion, please send an email to Jon at SilverLakeImpCorpWebmaster@gmail.com.

Even though Jon is not continuing as a full board member, he is willing to help maintain the website content, with board direction, so that it continues to be a valuable resource to our community.

Lastly, we would like to give a special thanks to the following people who helped with the Website creation process along the way: Lois Mahoney, Mary Bakhaus, Erin Radley, Greg Gessert, Steven Showerman, Jonathan Gessert, Lyn Bock and Chase at GoDaddy.

Respectfully submitted, Jon Kuznicki

Mary publicly thanked Jon for all his hard work for creating a terrific website.

WELCOME COMMITTEE-Greg

Committee members: Greg and Sandy Gessert

Greg mentioned that it was a struggle to get the Welcome books to new members. He and Sandy have tried numerous times but many times the new members were not at home.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS-Chris

Boat Ramp: Debbie Wirwille will continue to let paid members use her/ Frank's niece's ramp. Cost is \$10 in \$10 out. You can get the key from Chris or Debbie. Debbie can't enter into a lease agreement with SLIC until she takes full possession of the property.

NEW BUSINESS-Chris

Chris mentioned that it takes around 6 months in advance to get the New Township Hall for a meeting. The Old Township Hall is free for us to use. There is additional parking next door. The

Historical Society maintains the building so it was mentioned that SLIC should consider making a donation. Rick Eccles made a motion for SLIC to donate \$200 to the Historical Society for 2023. Seconded by Rice. Motion carries.

FISH STOCKING-Chis

Chris said the Red fish are doing well. They are good to eat. He plans of stocking croppies this year in the fall.

Meeting adjourned by President Chris Williams at 8:56 PM.

Respectfully submitted by,

Mary F. Bakhaus
SLIC Secretary