

**STONY LAKE PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING
MINUTES AUGUST 6, 2016 STONY LAKE INN**

Board members present: Jon VanderPloeg, Steve Schlaudt, Kathy Sullivan, Julie Stivers, Janie Denman, Nancy Migas, Deb Mitteer
Approximately 55 in attendance

Jon VanderPloeg opened the meeting at 9:30 a.m. Board members and POA members introduced themselves. The minutes of the July 18, 2015 annual meeting, distributed previously by e-mail and website, were approved.

Kathy Sullivan gave the Treasurer's report. Revenue received to date \$5205.85. Expenses \$7291.75. With the History Tour still coming up and t-shirts left to be sold, we are on track to breaking even this year.

Janie Denman gave the Finance Committee report and presented the 2017 budget, which was distributed to the membership with the agenda. Basically it is similar to the 2016 budget, and also anticipates breaking even. A motion to approve the 2017 budget was made and seconded, approved.

Julie Stivers presented a bylaw change to make the fiscal year the calendar year. Motion to approve was seconded, approved.

Committee Reports.

Jon reported that the Picnic in the Park was a big success, with great response to the Rev. Robert Jones. About 175 people attended, up from last year about 140. The Pot Luck supper was again a great success. Many thanks to Deb Mitteer for organizing it, and to all who brought food.

T.K. Jones updated the membership on sailboat racing. Would welcome more participation, first races this year had 6-9 participants, some exciting sailing. Sailors from Camp Miniwanca participated but had to drop out early when called back to camp.

Fishing Tournament chair George Patten was unable to attend the meeting, but his report (received after the meeting) noted that there were 23 participants. Adult winner was Logan Nyenhuis with a 24" steelhead. Nolan Zavislak was first place kids with an 18.5" largemouth bass. Aiden Fore was second place with an 18" LM bass. Ryan Carpenter got kids third place with 15" LM bass. Al Treado helped with the tournament this year and spoke at the meeting about the importance of involving kids. He suggested to George this year that we have three prizes in the kids' division, and funded the prizes. Many thanks.

Jeff Larmore reported that the Boat Parade had about the same number of participants as last year. Julie noted that research in the POA archives reveals that if we had had parades each year (we missed some) that this would have been the 30th Boat Parade, and suggested that next summer the theme be "30 Years of Stony Lake Boat Parades."

Nancy Migas reported that there were many more people at the Ice Cream Social (close to 200) again this year but we were prepared with 12 gallons of ice cream and 4 sheet cakes, plenty for all. Great photos by Matt Ferguson on the SLPOA Facebook page.

Janie & Kathy reported on the second Sparkler run. Over 80 volunteers helped make it happen -- many thanks, especially to the Sparkler Committee. There was a 30% increase in registered runners and walkers for a total of 664, with an increase in sponsors from 65 to 85, and a corresponding increase in the donation to Crystal Valley Care Fund, which was \$17,647. Stellar effort by all. Big round of applause. Great photos on Facebook and on the Sparkler website. Next year's date July 2, 2017.

Kathy reported on the 2015 History Tour by Boat. There were 12 tours and 104 tourists. Jeff reported that the 2016 tour on August 20 is on track with 10 boats signed up. Chuck and Linda Dawson are opening their cottage for the house tour, and have prepared a video highlighting their Shirts/Souter family who built it circa 1908. Many thanks to them, and to Bruce & Kathy Fox who opened their cottage, the original Huey home, last year.

John Stivers reported on the Cooperative Lakes Monitoring Program. The water quality parameters are for the most part looking good. He thanked Jim Mitteer and Tom Best for helping with the water sampling. Two new parts to the program have been introduced, a Score the Shore effort to analyze the effect of shoreline development around the lake. Stony Lake scored about in the middle of the lakes in the pilot project, with a fairly developed shoreline. There also have been two stream sampling sessions to analyze the bugs in Stony Creek just below Marshville Dam and just above the Stony Creek dam. Many thanks to Helen Kelly for opening her family's cottage for analysis of the bugs. Volunteers welcomed!

Dave Zoller reported on the water plant harvesting July 6-15. The harvesters had an additional machine this year, a small one that groomed around docks. They harvested 51 acres, 23 loads, in comparison to 60 loads the first year five years ago. It is felt that removing the plant biomass is lessening the nutrient load in the lake, resulting in less plant overgrowth. The pre-harvest survey identified 4.5 acres of Eurasian watermilfoil, nothing to worry about according to our consultant Tony Groves, and those acres were treated with a targeted herbicide. Total spent for harvesting this year was \$18,489.60. Dave hopes to schedule a meeting of the Lake Improvement Board before the end of August. Notification will be sent to members, who are welcome to attend.

Julie reported that the newsletter was twice as big this year as previous years because of increased Sparkler advertising. The Sparkler is covering most of the newsletter expenses and is handling the production of the advertising -- many thanks to Kathy Sullivan who accomplished much of that.

Deb Mitteer reported that there are only 50 t-shirts left from the initial order of 200. They will be available at the History Tour on August 20, or by contacting her.

Jon VanderPloeg introduced the recently formed Water Quality Committee, which was appointed by the Board to address issues including the level of the lake and the need for dam repair. Dave Zoller took over to report on the first meeting of "That Dam Committee" on July 30. The committee includes Jon & Dave, David Tapley, Jeff Larmore, John Stivers and Steve Schlaudt. Visits by the committee to the dam, as well as a previous one by Tony Groves and Dave, have led to the conclusion that something needs to be done to repair trickling water along the sides. It's not a critical problem, but needs to be addressed before it becomes one. They suggest an engineering study. The dam is on Camp Miniwanca property, so they will be meeting with them as well. The committee also discussed the idea of establishing a legal lake level. The idea did not appeal to most of the committee after some research, as it would involve decisions by the judicial system that may not correspond to the wishes of lake residents. They decided to proceed with having a professional survey done to establish what the current

lake level is, to generate a document that can be filed in public records for reference in case of a catastrophic event.

A motion was made and seconded to ask the Lake Improvement Board to participate in accomplishing the engineering study and professional survey. Approved. A letter will be generated from the POA to the Board making that request.

Under old business there was a question about a previous Oceana County plan to put a bike lane along the west end of the lake. Several people said that the grants to fund that project had fizzled.

Under new business, Patti Schlaudt asked if the POA was going to make a community donation, as had been done in the past. The Finance Committee reported that they had considered that, but felt that the Sparkler donation to Crystal Valley Care Fund was a big community benefit. Other possibilities were discussed, including park benches that Benona Township wishes to install in the ball diamond park. Sharon Zoller, Benona Twp. deputy clerk, said that they would cost around \$600-\$700 and the township would like to install three or four. Steve Schlaudt raised a question about the township repair project on the public swimming docks, and the very slow progress of that. A motion was made to send a letter to the township issuing a challenge that the POA would contribute \$500 toward the park bench project if the remaining funding could be raised. The motion was seconded and approved. The letter also will ask the township to expedite the dock repair project.

A motion was made, seconded and approved to adjourn the meeting at 10:44 a.m.