

**STONY LAKE PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING
MINUTES AUGUST 4, 2018 CAMP MINIWANCA FOUR SEASONS LODGE**

Board members present: Jon VanderPloeg, Jeff Larmore, Kathy Sullivan, Julie Stivers, Kate Johnson, Ellen Jonker, Ruth Fleming, Libby Brouwer, Nancy Migas, Deb Mitteer
Approximately 65 in attendance

Jon VanderPloeg opened the meeting at 9:30 a.m. and asked Board members and POA members to introduce themselves. Camp Miniwanca Director Matt Loper and Construction Project Manager Andy Mulcahy welcomed the group and spoke about upcoming projects at the camp, including facilitating road repair on Scenic Drive by rebuilding their seawall and planting for dune protection. They also offered to meet with our Water Committee (that Dam committee) to discuss dam issues.

Tammy Carey of the Community Foundation for Oceana County gave a presentation about how members might be involved in philanthropy in our region, and some implications of the new tax laws on charitable giving.

A motion was made by Kay Hannah and seconded by Sue Skomal to approve the minutes of the August 5, 2017 annual meeting, distributed previously by e-mail and website. Approved.

Kathy Sullivan gave the Treasurer's report. Copies of budgets from 2014-2017, and 2018 to date were distributed, along with proposed figures for 2019. A motion to approve the 2019 budget was made by Patti Schlaudt and seconded by Jon Mixer. Approved.

Board Elections

Board members whose terms expire this year who have agreed to serve another term were nominated: Kathy Sullivan, Ruth Fleming and Libby Brouwer. Patti Schlaudt moved to accept the nominations, Megan Bueschel seconded. Approved.

New Board members were nominated: Sharon Zoller and Vicky Nyenhuis. Kay Hannah moved to elect, Kathy Sullivan seconded. Approved

Board officers were nominated: President Jon VanderPloeg, Vice President Jeff Larmore, Treasurer Kate Johnson, Secretary Julie Stivers. Dave Zoller moved to elect, Sue Skomal seconded. Approved.

Bylaw Revision. Patti Schlaudt moved and Sue Skomal seconded to accept the revision to the Bylaws as printed in the agenda.

Change **Article VI – The annual meeting of the Association shall be held on the third Saturday of July, or at the discretion of the Board.**

to

Article VI – The annual meeting of the Association shall be held on the FIRST Saturday of AUGUST, or at the discretion of the Board.

Committee Reports.

Jon reported that the Picnic in the Park was again a success. Deb Mitteer reported that the pot luck also went well, many thanks to Chet's BBQ, who provided the very tasty sandwiches at food cost only. Thanks to our neighbors Chad & Katie Sosnowski for that yummy main course, and to the members who outdid themselves with sides and desserts. A plaque was presented to Sue & Bob Keehne from the SLPOA in recognition of their years of service to the community.

Jeff Larmore reported that the Boat Parade had just four participants, and the Fishing Tournament also had very few. This is probably because of the calendar, with the 4th on a Wednesday and splitting the holiday weekends. The Board will evaluate whether to continue, although the Ice Cream Social will go on. Thank you to the volunteers who helped keep this celebration going.

Kathy Sullivan reported on the fourth Sparkler run. 873 runners and walkers were registered, another new high mark. More had been expected, but registration was also probably affected by the split holiday weekends and the very hot day. She read a Facebook comment that highly praised the organization and community spirit of the run. Over a hundred sponsors and over a hundred volunteers made the event another huge success, resulting in a donation to Crystal Valley Care Fund of \$20,158. She recognized the steering committee who work basically all year round to make this happen, the reason why this race is quickly earning a reputation as one of the best organized and most pleasant runs in Michigan. Kudos to founder Janie Denman and all who participated and volunteered, and to hard-working chair Kathy Sullivan. Next year's 5th Anniversary Sparkler will be on July 7.

Libby Brouwer reported on calendar and hat sales -- all sold out except 8 visors. Thanks again to Matt Ferguson, Libby VanderPloeg and Chris Triola for judging the photography competition. Many hours of work. Julie Stivers reported that the committee is thinking of making next year's calendar feature vintage photos of Stony Lake. More details to follow.

Deb Mitteer and Ruth Fleming reported that memberships are almost the same as this point last year, with 115 paid members as of this date. This includes 2 associate non-voting members. There are 32 who paid last year who have yet to send in their dues, and we have 6 new members. We hope to reach our goal of 130 by the end of the summer.

John Stivers reported on the Cooperative Lakes Monitoring Program. The water quality parameters are for the most part still looking good. He talked about stream sampling sessions to analyze the bugs in Stony Creek just below Marshville Dam and just above the Stony Creek dam, assisted by volunteers from the White River Watershed group and Stony Lakers Helen Kelly and Tom Owczarski. More volunteers welcome -- an especially great activity for young people. He also reported on the water level survey that was completed by Hepworth Surveyors last year at the dam site. A notarized copy of the survey has been filed with the Oceana County Registrar of Deeds. A copy also will be posted on the SLPOA website, stonylakepropertyowners.com.

Dave Zoller reported on the water plant harvesting, in its last days as we were meeting. There seemed to be a bit more plant matter in the lake this year, probably because the harvesting was scheduled a bit later, and delayed again because of equipment problems. It was generally felt that last year's harvest in mid-July was a bit too early. The harvesters took out 13 truckloads (not including Saturday and Sunday work), compared to 8 last year, 23 loads the year before and 60 loads the first year seven years ago, all composted at Rabe Orchards. It is becoming more evident that removing the plant biomass is lessening the nutrient load in the lake, resulting in less plant overgrowth, but there are many factors that influence that, including weather and zebra mussels. Taking the plants out of the lake is very much better than treating them with chemicals, as the dead plants killed by chemical spray become fertilizer for plant overgrowth in subsequent years. The pre-harvest survey identified some Eurasian watermilfoil, which was treated with herbicide. The final report of the Lake Improvement Board for this summer will be posted on the SLPOA website. Dave emphasized again that he should be contacted if anyone has any suggestions, not the harvesters while they are working. He can be reached at dzoller@hotmail.com or 231.861.5606, and noted that neighbors must call while the harvesters are on the lake if they want to make a suggestion. He also said he enjoys being our representative, and that the Lake Board tries to

keep the lake as natural as possible while keeping all the users happy, and that they are pleased with the work of our harvesters. The Lake Board will hold their annual meeting on August 25 at 1:00 p.m. at the Benona Township Hall. Thank you to Dave and the Lake Board for responding to requests to meet before Labor Day.

Old Business

Julie Stivers read a report from John McKinnon about the road repair petition drive he organized at the last Annual Meeting. He presented the petition to improve Stony Lake Road to the Oceana Road Commission in the fall of 2017. There were 130 signatures. He asked if we could be considered for future budget allocations and there was a Q and A. There were three residents at the meeting in support of the petition. He asked if there were other funding avenues and wrote, "to be diplomatic, I was informed that a 'serious accident' might be the only way to prompt response for other sources of funding."

New Business

Charlie Mauk brought up the problem with Muskrat overgrowth on the lake. A chorus of agreement met his remarks. The Board of Trustees will research the issue and report on it next summer.

Ellen Jonker and Jon VanderPloeg announced they are working on an idea for an activity next summer: a Kayak Poker Run (Kayak including any human-powered vehicle, such as canoes, SUPs, pedal boats, rowboats etc.). Enthusiastic interest was expressed.

Liz Early highly recommended a book: The Death and Life of the Great Lakes by Dan Egan.

Tammy Carey pointed out that there is a new Little Free Library across from Benona Park by the little store, constructed as an Eagle Scout project by her son. Please borrow and donate -- it's free!

A motion was made by Patti Schlaudt, seconded by Kay Hannah, and approved to adjourn the meeting at 11:30 a.m.