

Big Star Lake Association Meeting
March 5, 2015, 6:30pm
Health Care Associates, Grandville, MI

In Attendance: Tom Hoffman, Kurt Sanders, Bob Mateja, Kris Zeinstra, Bernie Woltjers, Jeff Fraiser, Scott Tilma, Lisa Tilma, Sue Kelley (recorder)

Missing with Cause: Larry Treece, Dick Hayes, John Drake, Scott Kinney

Call to order from Tom Hoffman.

Approval of September 2014 Minutes; Motion to approve from Jeff Fraiser, seconded, approved.

Presidents Report: Information sent in by Larry Treece

- Getting our budget in shape. This will be discussed further when we discuss the financials with Lisa Tilma.
- Continue to upgrade and update the website including selling of some website advertising.
 - Have we collected on any ads that have been placed in the newsletter?
 - No, we need to do better to keep track of this.
- Get our event dates down solid and posted.
- Membership drive and data. Possible add a \$100 level membership that gets you mentioned at all BSLA events. Some members might be willing to do so and contribute more if we asked.
- Form a committee to sort through John Drake's flash drive history data. Decide what to keep and what to put on the website. We have had this information for about 9 months. Have web master then put it on website for storage. Estimate 10-20 hours minimum at \$60 per hour for the web master to do this. Once this is done we have preserved the history we have collected.
 - There is a lot of good information in this, not all on the flash drive. Some information is not good or shouldn't be given out to the public.
 - Should we talk to LuAnne DeVries who runs the BSL history site? She would want help.
 - Jeff Fraiser is willing to look through the stuff for 2 reasons:
 - He wants to learn more BSL history
 - He knows legally what should be available to the public
 - He will dictate most things and categorize it
- I have asked Restorative Lake Services to advise us on lake levels. Going forward, it is my understanding that we may have a 3" leeway on the level if we wished to keep level higher. What is best for the lake is the question!!! Road commission Jay S will work with us on this and I did speak with him this week about early monitoring of levels.

Submitted by Sue Kelley
March 9, 2015

- Meet the Marine Offices as Mike Neuman retires, as well as new DNR office Josiah K. Tom Miller is working with Mark D to get walleye stocks in 2015. We are getting good fish reports even through the ice.
 - We should do something for Mike Neuman. Recognition, a plaque would be great and give it to him at the July meeting.
 - Bernie W has been talking to Mike and he will have someone for Boater Safety this year.
 - If Mike N does the boater safety class this year (after he retires) should we put it in the budget to pay him? Yes—amount to be discussed in the financial section.
- Lake Township has had a calm few months. Property values are edging back up.
- Snowmobile trails have had a lot of activity and are in good groomed shape.
- Supervisor Don Britten has contacted Michigan State and the State of Michigan will have inspectors here in the spring regarding the Gypsy moths.

Treasurer Report: Lisa Tilma

- No written report to hand out
- There are several areas of question:
 - Dick Hayes (not here)—BSL apparel. There are no sales totals, revenue or expense.
 - Leave it at \$0
 - Ski Show—Canceled for the last couple years, take it off the budget
 - Golf Outing—John Drake and Dick Hayes (neither here)
 - Lisa was not provided a list of revenue or expenses.
 - LCCF, we paid out \$1164 from the 50/50. What should we put for 2015? Vote is to put it in the budget at \$1100.
 - We need to have more money info for the 2015
 - Website Expense—we need to find out what the estimated cost for 2015 is. Numbers are high for the launch in 2014 but should be less this year with no set up.
 - Tom Hoffman will contact Peter on 3-6-15 and get back to Lisa
 - Misc column was listed at \$300 for 2014 and had \$0. Should we leave it the same? Yes
 - Fireworks buoys? Are we going to need them and should we include this in the fireworks budget? More info when Bob M talks.
 - Mucky Harbor buoys? The DNR or township won't pay for them, we could go back to the township. Price is about \$500 if we need to buy them. We need to research if they need to be replaced or not.
 - Dues 2014--\$20,283 that was a bit below budget. 2015 line has been brought down to \$20,000.
 - Fireworks, leave \$1000 for sponsors
 - Interest, lower to \$50
 - Newsletter: No collections have been made on past letters; we need to get better about this.

Submitted by Sue Kelley
March 9, 2015

- Contributions were the same.
- Water testing—do we want to test for ecoli?
 - Cost would be approximately \$200 for 20 tests. Most expensive part is getting some of the equipment.
 - Jeff F says that we should do something. We are supposed to do due diligence to the lake, that is what we are here for. The county/township would have to enforce.
 - Bernie will get more specific costs on equipment.
- Newsletter
 - This needs to be done online; the cost for printing is very high.
 - Our data just isn't ready to do this yet. This must get done soon.
 - Membership apps will still need to be mailed to make sure that everyone gets them.

Membership: Scott Tilma

- Trying to find a software package so that we can purchase one time. All cloud based require a monthly fee which is too expensive.
- Excel seems to be too cumbersome for good searching.
- A main problem is that our members do not always send good info with the checks so searching in Excel is too hard.
- Would what Scott is looking for allow a directory? Yes but probably won't do it because people are too worried about personal information getting out.
 - Should a directory be members only?
- Per Scott, excel is not user friendly for input and output. Right not he and Lisa do duplicate work.

Larry Doyle—former board member, here to talk about Natural Gas.

- He is here talking to the board to get some info for DTE.
- Closest gas line is at 76th and M37.
- The person for information on this was in Grand Rapids but is now in Traverse City. They didn't know that anyone was looking to have it come towards the lake. She said, "Realistically it won't happen this year, but maybe next year." Larry is doubtful.
- There are about 500 homes lake front and about 250 back lots inside the black top.
- They would serve 76th St as well. How many outside? We don't know.
- Potentials? It's possible some might leave heat on and visit in the winter rather than turning it off due to the lower cost.
- We need to provide an estimated usage. This should go in the newsletter and see what kind of response that we get. We also need to mention this at the annual meeting.
- DTE could come out and look at the area in April, when snow clears.
- Those that have propane heater would have to have it "re-jetted". The cost of this should be able to be saved quickly.
- We want to know connect fees/service fees.

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March 9, 2015

- BSLA will let Larry continue with this until it becomes more prevalent.
- Larry Doyle should be in contact with one BSLA member, Larry Treece.
- Ljdoyle66@gmail.com Please include him in emails for now and when the next meeting.

Fireworks—Bob Mateja

- The contract written for \$9800
- They are giving us some extra after last year's incident.
- The show also should have cost more due to the show being on the 4th.
- There will be some Italian shells this year that last longer.
- There will not be memorial shells this year due to the cut off date for ordering (April 1).
- Jean O is working buoy's that were requested last year on. The DNR in Cadillac is basically non-existent in the winter. Hopefully we will need no more than 4.
- Clean up is included in the fee, it is going to be dirty this year. Volunteers are great!
- Bob was laid off this winter. The new job that he is looking at may not allow him the day off. Jean O will take over for him if need be.
- Motion to approve—approved.

Road Race—Tom Hoffman

- Date has been set, it is on the website and will be listed in a MI runner magazine.

Road clean up—Dick Hayes

- Dick's not here

Boat Parade—Lisa Tilma

Boater Safety—Bernie Woltjer

- June 27
- There will be a certified instructor, we could check with the Coast Guard Auxiliary.
- Tom H will get something for Mike Neuman to give to him at the Annual Meeting.

Fishing Report—Tom Miller

- Not here

Old Business

- First Aid Box—this has been approved, who is doing that
- Membership Data base—this needs to be done!
- Newsletter
 - Joy is retired. Who is going to take this over?

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- Each board member needs to try to come up with someone who might do it. Not someone on the board.
- Do we need a new printer? Anchor printing is whom we are using, but the cost is high.
- The spring newsletter gets mailed out May 1. Articles need to be in by April 1.
- We need to shop around for a printer.
- Should we make the newsletter smaller? 50% would probably want a hard copy not just on line so smaller might be good.
- Could do a condensed print version and a full online version.
- Restorative Lake Services wants our mailing list from us. She doesn't want to pay for her own from the township. We won't give it to her.
- New Business:
 - Bernie—Lake monitory group sent the data and the report is on our lake only. We have the summary from 2004-2008 then picked back up a few years later.
 - We need to continue to monitor.

Motion to adjourn.