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HUTCHINS LAKE IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the Regular Quarterly Board of Directors Meeting

Held: September 16, 2014, 6:30 p.m. at Fennville Public Schools

President Loren Barnes called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Roll Call:

Secretary Randy Vogelzang called the roll of board members: John Burmeister, Loren Barnes, Jim Baird, Gary Holton, Anne Irwin, Martha Kautz, John Lerg, John Lindahl, Janice Rowland, Maureen Sytsma, Dennise Grimaldi, and Randy Vogelzang were present.

Absent were: Bill Busscher, Scott Clark, Todd Moore and Jill O'Connor.

Agenda Approval:

John Lerg moved to approve the Agenda. Seconded . Approved.

Reading and Approval of Minutes: John Lerg moved to approve the April 22, 2014 quarterly board meeting minutes and the June 9, 2014 special board meeting minutes. Seconded.

Approved. Ann Irwin moved to approve the June 28, 2014 annual board meeting minutes.

There was discussion about all prior meeting minutes being approved at the next meeting which Ann Irwin noted was required by Robert's Rules of Order. There was consensus that the board should approve the motion. Ann Irwin's motion was seconded. Approved.

Correspondence

- *Kieser and Associates bill.* John Lerg received a bill from Kieser which is the water quality consultant hired by the Hutchins Lake Improvement Association ("Association"). John provided the bill to Treasurer Grimaldi for payment. There was no opposition to paying the bill.
- *Inland Lake and Streams Magazine.* Inland Lakes and Stream Magazine sent a survey to John Lindahl to be completed for Hutchins Lake. There was no opposition to completing the survey and John Lindahl advised that he will complete the survey.
- *Recreational Drain.* The Association received correspondence from the Allegan County Drain Commissioner. Loren Barnes deferred discussion on this topic to later in the meeting. (See New Business below.)
- *Picture:* A picture was passed around of a large fish that was sent to Ann Irwin from Barb Mari [sp?] and shared with the board. All generally agreed it was a nice picture.

Treasurer's Report and Submitting of Bills to Treasurer Dennise Grimaldi

- *Kieser and Associates Bill.* It was determined that the bill from Kieser was proper and should be paid, but also that it should be submitted to the Lake Board after payment because the Lake Board will reimburse the Association for bills up to \$2500. This Kieser bill was for \$1275, within the reimbursable limit, and was for the testing of water quality in 2014, which the Association had requested. A question was raised whether we should go to the Lake Board for cooperative testing CLMP for reimbursement, and there was no opposition that it should be done.

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- *Treasure Report* – Dennise reported that the Association’s finances are healthy. It operated under budget last year, made money on directory sales and has more members than ever. A \$7898.54 balance is in the treasury today. Maureen Sytsma moved that the Treasurer’s Report be approved. Seconded. Approved

\$90 CLMP bill. John Lindahl moved that the \$90 CLMP bill be submitted to the Hutchins Lake Board. Seconded. Approved.

Committee and Representative Reports

CLMP - John Lindahl. John reported 2 more readings of the lake water that showed the lake is in better shape for clarity than it has been for some years. The measurements that were related to phosphorus went from 18 feet clarity early in the season, the highest John could remember, to 8 feet later in the year, which was also good.

Chamber of Commerce – Bill Busscher. No report.

Membership – Denise Grimaldi reported that the Association had 163 members, the highest we have had since Denise was Treasure. The Association received \$50 from Holland resident, Steve Stokie, the Manager of the Aquatic Center there. He does did not live on Hutchins Lake but is on the lake frequently and wanted to support it. After discussion, the consensus was this is a testament to the lake quality and the interest the lake residents have to keep the lake quality good, which is a primary mission of the Association.

Social – Janice Rowland. Nothing to report. She will not be on the committee any more but is available to help. Discussion of what is involved to work on committee. It was reported that the boat parade went well. It was also reported that Jim and Ann Baird did an outstanding job with solicitation of gifts, collecting so many prizes from the community for all the activities that there was almost more than could be distributed. Consensus on a great job by the Bairds!. Poker Run went well and Discovery camp also. John Lerg(**correct?**) volunteered to lead the Social committee

Directory – Bob Rensema communicated to the officers that he will continue to prepare the directory for the Association, for which all were grateful.

Discovery Camp – John Lindahl reported that Elenor [**??**] did a good job with camp. She also had good assistance. They worked on sailboats that floated and art projects. There was good education on the pontoon boat around the lake. Allegan Marine Sheriff Deputies had a boat out during the Discovery Camp and they pulled John Lindahl over, probably because of the 14 adults and kids on the boat. He received a 20 minute lecture on many safety subjects and requirements on a boat. Fortunately, all the kids had life jackets. John will ask the Sheriff to come out and give a lecture again to kids at the next Discovery Camp. Maureen worked with the camp and enjoyed it, but she reported that this year the word about the event was not out apparently. There were only 5 kids the first day and 9 the second. In the future, the organizers should advertise that it is a 2 day affair. It was also reported that the pot luck lunch was good.

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Newsletter – Anne Irwin. Anne advised that there was a copy of the Newsletter on the Internet website. She did it twice and solicited advice on what else could be put in it. She noted that it is ready to go. There was a discussion about putting a membership form with it. There was also discussion about timing for the newsletter. It was noted that we need to announce our annual meeting by January, 2015. It was proposed that we should set the meeting for June 27. Loren Barnes said he wanted to get annual and quarterly board meeting schedules out in January. Jim Baird discussed how he put applications for membership with him and the directory when handling out the directories. There was discussion about what information the Secretary will send to members and what information would go out through the social communications like the newsletter. Randy Vogelzang advised that under the Association bylaws, the Secretary is to send out official correspondence from the board and the Association. He will send out official notices and correspondence from the Association, both to other official organizational and governmental bodies as well as Association members. He suggested that he would work with the Social Committee which should be used to provide social information to residents about community matters of interest related to the lake that the lake community would be interested in knowing. The conclusion reached was the Randy Vogelzang as Secretary will be the focal point for receiving all correspondence and communication to the Association, but he would forward information of a social nature to the Communications Committee chaired by Anne Irwin who will be responsible for communicating necessary social information to the Association members. John Lindahl mentioned that he received the Lake and Streams magazine, which he will forward to board members.

Lake Board – John Burmeister: There will be a meeting of the Hutchins Lake Board on October 3, 2014 (this is a different entity from the Association and receives tax revenue to pay for lake quality expenses on the Hutchins Lake). There was discussion about open bidding for treatment of the lake and that there is a fair amount of money with the Lake Board. After discussion there was consensus that the Association should use the Lake Board to pay bills for water quality matters for the Hutchins Lake and the money of the Lake Board should be spent on Hutchins Lake.

Area Directors Report/ Remarks

Lindahl – John advised that the docks are coming out of the lake.

Systema – Maureen also stated that more and more people are leaving from the summer.

Baird – Jim raised a discussion item for the board about the directory. He stated that the directory is really a “gold mine” and we should be looking at ways to make money from it. It was not clear how much money we could make through the directory, but it was suggested that someone should study the potential. We would like to earn more money which would keep dues lower and offset the budget.

Holten – Gary brought up the quality of the directory, noting that there was some information that was incorrect. He urged that we make sure every directory has adequate review of the draft galley copy to make sure that the information in the final published directory is correct. Lauren Barnes noted that his email was incorrect in the directory and provided his correct email: lorenspaul84@yahoo.com.

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Unfinished Business

Dates for future meetings. There was discussion about setting all the dates for the next year at this meeting - for the annual meeting and quarterly meetings. After discussion there was consensus to do that. The following dates were set for the upcoming meetings this year and next year:

December 2 2014, January 19, 2015, April 21, 2015, June 27, 2015(annual meeting), September 22, 2015 and December 1 2015.

New Business

Water Quality Report. John Lerg sent the Water Quality Report to board members. It recorded the second study by Kieser and Associates. The results this year parallel the first report, but that is good because last year's report was good. It is a longitudinal report and doing the same every year actually means that the water quality is improving.

Proposed Recreation Drain – Mr. Greene attended the meeting as a guest from the public to discuss the proposed recreational drain. It is located near Dennise Grimaldi's property and affects the area around Recreation Drive. He has concerns about the drain that he wanted to bring to the Association's attention. One first question was whether this issue belongs with the Lake Board, but it was concluded that it is the Association that is focused on the water quality of Hutchins Lake and it is an issue for the Association. Mr. Greene said he attended the public meeting about the proposed drain. The main issues as he sees it is the County is proposing to build a 4 foot berm near Fenn Valley Winery and it will channel a large body of water. What impact will that have on the lake quality? If this board is interested in water quality it was proposed to send a letter to drain commission and ask what impact it will have on the lake water. Hydraulics and sediments are involved. The drain is called the "recreation drain". It will cover 29 acres. It will impact low lying areas and the flood plain. At the public meeting, Greene did not see any information about whether there was a study that impacted the lake, although it is clear the drain goes into the lake. What is the volume of water and what agricultural sediments will go into the lake? This is run by the Allegan County Drain Commission. Water moves fast and pulls water into lake with whatever it picks up. It was proposed that we should first find out if the interests of Association members are in fact being addressed by the Commission. We can then write a letter if the Association's interests are not being addressed although John Lerg stated the Drain Commission law gives the Commission great power and there would not be much we could do. Political pressure may be an option. But we will first need a meeting with the Drain Commission and we will have John Buemeister meet with Lake Board to discuss this with them. Loren Barns will contact the Drain Commission and find out if there is any information the Commission already had done that would address the interests of Hutchins Lake and Association members.

Bylaws Committee - John Lindahl – The Committee met and reviewed a number of issues. It will continue meeting and will have a redline draft at some point. John asked the board if the committee could send an email to board with the redline of proposed changes to the bylaws and get input to keep it going. The consensus was that would be fine.

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Emergency Vehicle Sign – John Lindahl – During the Discovery Camp a Sheriff Marine Officer asked if we would ask the Allegan County Road Commission to put a sign on the east side of the boat launch to reserve space for emergency vehicles. John moved that we send a letter to Allegan county road commission. Loren discussed whether the whole east side of the road should be reserved. He suggested that we draw a map and bring it to the board so they can review it and make sure it makes sense. Consensus of board was that was a good idea. Maureen stated that we should also consider a sign by the boat launch that within 700 feet you are in the lake. This will be brought to the next board meeting. John's motion was tabled to be brought up at next meeting.

Public Input

None.

Next board meeting is December 2, 2014 at 6:30 p.m. Consensus was this room at Fennville High School worked very well and the \$15 per meeting room rental was reasonable. Next meeting will be at Fennville High School again.

Randy Vogelzang moved to adjourn. Second. Approved. 8:40 p.m.