

MINUTES OF THE
HUTCHINS LAKE IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

Regular Quarterly Meeting of Board of Directors
November 28, 2018, 6: 30 p.m. at Fennville Public Schools

HLIA Board

John Lindahl	1	Allan Kautz	VP
Jill O'Connor	2	Jim Baird	Pres
Victoria Barnes	3	Randy Vogelzang	Sect
Maureen Sytsma	3B	Scott Clark	7
John Lerg	4	Ruth Malda	8
Jim Baird	5	Denise Grimaldi	9A - Treas
Vacant	6A	Vicki Brink	9B
Martha Kautz	6B	Vacant	10

Call to Order – Jim Baird

President Jim Baird called the meeting to order at 6:35 pm.

Taking of Roll – Randy Vogelzang

Secretary Randy Vogelzang took the roll and the following Board members were present:

John Lindahl, Jill O'Connor, Victoria Barnes, John Lerg, Jim Baird, Martha Kautz, Allen Kautz, Randy Vogelzang, Ruth Malda

The following Board members were absent:

Maureen Sytsma, Scott Clark, Vicki Brink, Denise Grimaldi

Additions to Agenda

Loren Barns was inadvertently on the agenda in several places because he had been President. Those references carried over and they were corrected.

Consent Agenda:

1. Approval of Agenda
2. Minutes from last Meeting (attachment 1)
3. Treasurer's Report (attachment 2) Jim Baird reviewed the membership packet and the recruitment objective. The plan is to mail membership dues notices out in February. The return date should be before the Riparian Magazine subscriptions are due so those who want it can be included. Jim noted that the balance of funds on hand was \$4,912.03.
4. Summary of Bills.

MOTION: John Lerg moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Second. Approved (9-0).

Correspondence – Randy Vogelzang

The Association received the following correspondence since the last meeting:

No correspondence from outside parties.

Vogelzang reported on internal board correspondence: From John Lindahl who sent an email on November 20 to Board members about the online course by the MSU Extension "Introduction to Lakes", as well as emails providing copies of his memo on "Buoys in Hutchins Lake" and an email to Vogelzang on October 25 seeking an opinion about the HLIA Bylaws. Also, there were emails received from various members acknowledging the notice for this meeting and an email from John Lerg about the benefits of HLIA membership as well as one by Vogelzang on that subject.

There was discussion about how to receive the Michigan Lakes and Streams Association information which John Lindahl sends out to Board members, and no change was recommended.

Committee Reports

CLMP – Sarah Kramer - John Lindahl agreed that he will mentor her on the process.

Chamber of Commerce / Townships – No assignment.

Membership – Denise Grimaldi – There was discussion about the letter for membership recruitment noted by Jim Baird above.

Public Relations – Jim Baird – Funding of new HLIA envelopes and for the Poker Run is planned and there are plans to give a special HLIA hand towel or other gift to boat parade participants.

Directory – Victoria Barnes – Vicki reported that the committee has not made significant progress since the last meeting. She expressed a need to pull others on the committee together and get the project on track. Vicki will pull folks together. There was consensus to support Vicki's suggestion that each director should go out beginning in April to get unknown/updated information from members and neighbors. She will be working on getting drafts together.

Discovery Camp – Jill O'Connor – No report

Newsletter – No one is assigned to the newsletter since Loren Barnes had taken on that responsibility as President. There was discussion that maybe some form of communication should be produced telling folks about activities on the lake and about the Association. It was suggested that Heather Clark may be interested in taking this over.

Lake Board – John Lerg / Jim Baird – No report

Area Directors Report/ Remarks

Unfinished Business

Computer policy - Vicki Barnes will Prepare the policy

Buoys on Hutchins Lake: The Board had received John Lindahl's memo on the subject. John Lerg led a discussion about buoy placement on the lake and current status. He explained Clyde Township has permits for the launch area on 59th Street

and the swimming area, but Ganges does not have a permit to place buoys at channel. Placement of buoys is the Township responsibility, and it benefits the public users of the lake. John got the information necessary to get Ganges Township going with the buoy permit, and he met with its representative who was an old contact he had had before in his career. He explained to her how to proceed with the permit process and she agreed that this is the correct process, but she also advised that there will be a personnel change in a month and a new person will be assigned to get the permit. John will follow up in February.

New Business

Dues and membership- discussed as noted above.

Water Quality – Related to the work done by the HLIA on water quality, Ruth Malda asked about chemical water quality around the lake and ground. There was discussion that the Association focus has been on weed control but that the Health Department and possibly the County has conducted water quality beyond weed control, especially related to septic tanks. No one was aware of any chemical issues related to the lake water, but it was a noteworthy subject to consider.

There was also discussion about what other tests have been done on the water and that a few years ago the HLIA hired Keizer to evaluate the lake water quality and it provided a report showing that for what it tested, the water was of good quality.

HLIA Objectives for 2019 – tabled.

Public Comment

Loren Barnes appeared as a member of the public to explain his actions as Board President related to the buoy placement and billing to Clyde Township. He had taken on this responsibility for oversight on behalf of the Board as part of his duties as a board officer (President), which he brought up before the board in prior meetings. The Board had discussed who was responsible for the buoy placement and that placement was by the Townships who obtained the permits. Loren washed buoys this past year and discovered they were in bad shape. Loren explained that he ordered 3 new buoys that were US Coast Guard approved buoys, which were more expensive than those that are not approved, and that he had to search to find them. He bought them and gave the bills to the Township and Board Treasurer. He

noted that all new cinder blocks and all new chains were added. The buoys did shift due to waves and currents. This is not untypical that buoys shift. He agreed that it would be good to have more cinder blocks.

The board discussed how to interface officially with the Townships on buoys. There was consensus that an official representative of the Board should communicate with the Townships to make sure everyone is on the same page. It should also be clear that they understand that buoy placement for the public good is a Township responsibility.

MOTION: Vogelzang moved to authorize Jim Baird or, if he is not able, John Lindahl, to ask Clyde Township for its recommendation about how we can help with buoys if they decide to take it on in the future, and for John Lerg to explain to Ganges Township what we are doing about buoys in Clyde. Second. Approved (9-0).

Comments from the Board

None

-Next Meeting – April 18, 2019

Adjournment

MOTION: Jim Baird moved to adjourn. Second. Approved (9-0)