

HUTCHINS LAKE IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

Minutes from the Meeting of Board of Directors
March 16, 2021, 6:30 p.m. (via Zoom)

HLIA Board

Joe Bianco	1	Allan Kautz	VP
Jill O'Connor	2	Ruthie Malda	Pres
Karen Barnes	3	Randy Vogelzang	Sect
Maureen Sytsma	3B	Scott Clark	7
John Lerg	4	Ruthie Malda	8
Jim Baird	5	Denise Grimaldi	9A –Treas
Jeff and Kym Zwagerman		Vicki Brink	9B
	6A		
Martha Kautz	6B	Vacancy	10

Call to Order – Ruthie Malda called the meeting to order at 6:32 pm

Roll Call – Randy Vogelzang took roll and the following board members were:

Present: Ruthie Malda, Scott Clark, Allan Kautz, John Lerg, Jim Baird, Joe Bianco, Vicki Brink, Denise Grimaldi, Jill O'Connor, Jeff and Kym Zwagerman and Randy Vogelzang.

Absent: Maureen Sytsma, Martha Kautz

Randy Vogelzang reported that there was a quorum for the meeting.

Additions to Agenda - none

Consent Agenda

1. Changes to Agenda and Approval of Agenda.
2. Minutes from last Meeting- (attachment 1)
3. Treasurer's Report - (attachment 2)

4. Summary of Bills – Association dues discussion. Summer camp bills discussion.
- 5.

Approval of Consent Agenda – MOTION to approve consent agenda: Scott Clark moved for approval of consent agenda. Second. (Approved 11- 0)

Correspondence – Randy Vogelzang - The Association received a note from Jim and Kim Dipof discussing that the shallows are expanding and asked if buoys are needed. This was discussed and the process to place buoys was reviewed. There was no consensus to pursue this issue, with board members indicating that navigating the depths of a lake is the boater's responsibility. Ruthie Malda sent an email to place on the agenda an item related to automobile traffic. Denise sent copies of newsletters out to all board members on the lake associations- Michigan Waterfront Alliance, Lakes and Streams and the Treasurer's Report.

Treasurer's Report and Submitting of Bills – Denise Grimaldi- See attached Treasurer's report.

Committee and Representative Reports

CLMP – Jill O'Connor- Jill reported that she has not received normal testing materials from CLMP. John Lerg will handle why we do not have samples and when they come. Jill, and Sarah -who is helping the board with this, will need information.

Chamber of Commerce – Jim Baird – No report

Membership – Denise Grimaldi – Denise reported HLIA had 153 members, and new names were coming in. Ruth encouraged board members to maintain contact with district neighbor members and to be valuable to residents

Public Relations – Jim Baird – No plans for a Poker Run this year since it is too close to COVID restrictions. He suggested a magnet be given to everyone around

the lake with the HLIA name on the magnet. Another idea was to provide a towel with HLIA on it and give it to people around the lake. There was discussion of a possible paddle boat regatta yet this year during which we could give out some gifts. Jim will give thought to this.

Directory – Denise Grimaldi and Joe Bianco – Denise and Joe reported they were making good progress. All members are in the database. To access it members will only need to click a button and it will create a directory. Denise will have to update data for new members in the mail chimp data base. Denise and Joe will continue to work on it. Their plan is to send a directory out before the June meeting. The plan is to complete it on or before June 15.

Discovery Camp – Jill O'Connor – Jill reviewed plans for the June 30-July 1 camp. Current plans for Day 1 are: Focus on paddling and water safety and invasive plants. Allegan County representatives come in for safety instruction. There will be opportunity to learn paddle boarding. Current plans for Day 2 are: Focus is on wonders of wetlands; students will do a booklet and do a scavenger hunt by getting on boats and then have a picnic. Participants targeted are K-3 kids. So far, there are 6 kids signed up – and this is before mailing flyers. The hope is for 10 – 12 kids. Ashly Busscher will be involved and will pick up more of the load. There will be an email blast promoting the camp and Joe will format and send it.

Newsletter – Ruthie Malda – Ruthie reported that she would like to do a quarterly newsletter on the website. Possible discussion item is reviewing what we are spending dues money on, but if anyone has ideas they should send them to Ruthie. Other topics mentioned were the DeGroot property, life jackets, picnic table, and human-interest things.

Lake Board – John Lerg and Jim Baird – John and Jim reported about the lake weed treatments and that the board was doing their job.

Area Directors Report/ Remarks

See below

Unfinished Business

Election Planning – Ruthie Malda – Ruthie advised that elections will be held for Treasurer and VP at the annual meeting. Allan indicated he will stay on as VP. The action item is to publish on the web site notice of elections and provide on the

website the name of the person who members should contact if they are interested in serving. It was decided that the board will go to Fennville Park and hold the meeting there on June 26. If we decide on refreshments, Jim can take care of it.

Quality of Lake Review – John Lerg and Jim Baird – No report, but see above discussion on Lake Board.

Website Update – Joe Bianco – Joe reported on web traffic, directory and membership – He reported that on the emails sent, 55% of recipients opened it and 13% clicked and came to the website. In January we had the highest traffic on our website since the website has been there and traffic quadrupled since last year. There was discussion about paying dues on the website. The directors were encouraged in next 9 months to increase use of the website. There was also a discussion about personal information being on the website and that we would like to get personal information off the website. All agree to the website change.

New Business

Dave and Ann DeGroot's Trail Walk Discussion – Ruthie Malda – It was noted that this development is a topic of discussion around the lake. The DeGroots propose a walkway and trails with property dedicated or open for the public to use. Jill O'Conner is welcomed to coordinate information and let the board and residents know. Ruthie reported that everything went through with the township and they are putting nature trails in, with the new lot owners probably being an association.

Traffic Report - Allan Kautz – Allan reported that a speed limit sign was put in. Martha contacted the Allegan Sheriff, who was cooperative and the department put up a display sign and a tracker study to record the number of cars using the road, which provided an accurate number of cars, totaling 2262 cars during a month. Statistics provided by Allen in his report. See attached.

Information Box at Boat Launch – Ruthie Malda – Ruthie reported that the box has emergency numbers, a map, high speed hours and no wake rules, information about common courtesy. She would also like to include this in the newsletter,

including the lake rules. It was reported that life jackets had not been pulled, and that another life jacket box might be placed near the white fence at the public swim area.

Lending Library – Jim Baird – Jim discussed a lending library be placed at the swimming area. He also discussed the memorial at the swim area, placement of soil and the new table.

Membership Drive - Denise Grimaldi – See above.

Income Tax Reporting - Ruthie Malda – Ruthie reported that she will take care of the 990 filing the Association needs to make.

Karen Barnes as Director Replacing Vikki Barnes – The board welcomed Karen to serve as the representative for District 3A – It was noted that she was one of the women of the lake who helped on the beautification project in past years.

June 26 Meeting – There was discussion about the annual meeting plans – The meeting will be held on a Saturday morning. It was decided that having the meeting in person was preferred and we will hold the meeting in the Fennville park as we did last year. The plan is to get the agenda out on the website before the meeting. Starting time will be 9:30 AM.

Public Input – Sarah Kramer who is an HLIA member provided input. There were questions on what Karen was supposed to do and the board assured that attending the meetings going forward will clarify that.

Next Meeting – June 26, 2021

Adjournment – MOTION to adjourn. Jim Baird moved to adjourn. Second (Approved 11-0)