

THE HUTCHINS LAKE IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Directors
November 16, 2021, 6:30 p.m.

HLIA Board			
Joe Bianco	1	Allan Kautz	VP
Jill O'Connor	2	Ruthie Malda	Pres
Karen Barnes	3	Randy Vogelzang	Sect
Jody Vogelzang	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	Vacant	10

Call to Order – Ruthie Malda

Ruthie called the meeting to order at 6:36 p.m. (waited for a couple more people so we would have a quorum)

Roll Call – Ruthie Malda

Ruthie took roll and the following board members were:

Present: Ruthie Malda, Joe Bianco, Jill O'Connor, Karen Barnes, John Lerg, Jeff and Kym Zwagerman, Scott Clark and Denise Grimaldi.

Absent: Jody Vogelzang, Jim Baird, Allan Kautz, Martha Kautz, Vicki Brink and Randy Vogelzang.

Ruthie Malda reported that there was a quorum for the meeting.

Additions to Agenda – Ruthie Malda

There were no additions to the agenda.

Consent Agenda

1. Changes to Agenda and Approval of Agenda

2. Minutes from last Meeting (attachment 1).
3. Treasurer's Report - Balance: \$3,162.53. We have 168 members (attachment 2).
4. Summary of Bills – Denise reported that we would pay MI Lake/Stream Assoc. ½ -year dues to be current, then \$220.00/year beginning in May 2022. \$400.00 will be paid for buoys.

Approval of Consent Agenda – Ruthie Malda

MOTION: Motion was made to approve agenda and seconded. Approved (8-0).

Correspondence –

There was no new official correspondence received since the last meeting,

Treasurer's Report and Submitting of Bills – Denise Grimaldi

See above under Consent Agenda

Committee and Representative Reports

CLMP – Randy Vogelzang and Jim Baird will assist with secchi disk readings in the spring. Jody Vogelzang is looking into MICorp (attachment 3).

Membership – The 2022 Membership Drive will begin in January 2022. The letter was presented along with the “return” form and approved. (attachment 4). Jim Baird will have the letter and form printed along with return envelopes and Denise will process the mailing. This will take place on or around January 15, 2022.

Public Relations – Jim Baird (absent) reported to Denise that he would like to have magnets made up to go out with the membership letter to help promote the HLIA.

Directory – Joe Bianco and Denise Grimaldi have completed the on-line directory. Each director has been asked to email a copy of the completed directory to each resident in their district. We are not going to email this from our

MailChimp account because this is not allowed through MailChimp and also not a secure way to publish personal information. Anyone will be able to update their information in the directory at any time. If anyone would like to receive a printed version of the directory, they will need to ask the district director and one will be printed for them. Requests can also be made through the HLIA website.

Discovery Camp – Jill O’Connor – Jill reported that this would be her last year with the Discovery Camp. She said the space was getting cramped and that another site would have to be made available.

Newsletter – Ruthie Malda – Ruthie will provide information regarding current items of interest. A quarterly newsletter would be adequate to keep residents informed. Ruthie will send it to Joe who will coordinate distribution. Joe asked for any photos that he could incorporate into the newsletter.

Lake Board – John Lerg and Jim Baird – John discussed the recent assessment which is for the contractor and which reflects a 7% increase in cost and administration.

Area Directors Report/ Remarks

There were various questions:

John Lerg wants a summary for the residents as to what dues are for and that they are not required. Mostly for weed control. This will be included in the next newsletter.

Joe Bianco will add membership information to website.

Buoy Placement – Randy Vogelzang has secured a contract for this service.

Speed Control System – Allan Kautz (absent) has been asked to head up a task force to determine the best system should the HLIA decide to purchase one. Jeff and Kym Zwagerman are on board to help on this task force.

Online Directory Process – Finished!

Life Jackets – Jim Baird (absent) has been responsible for the life jackets. Since they are now removed from both sites, we need to confirm with him that he has stored them for the winter.

Membership Drive – Jim Baird will provide the materials, Denise Grimaldi will process the mailing and collect dues.

Lake Quality – John Lerg – Worked on the lake this summer. Levels of phosphorus and nitrogen stayed about the same. Second disk readings were about the same. Still have zebra mussels. Per Joe Bianco's questions, John explained how zebra mussels multiply. Stay informed on how to treat if possible.

New Business

We will postpone the introduction of Jody Vogelzang, District 3B, until our next meeting March 15, 2022.

Denise Grimaldi explained the transfer from our current Huntington bank account to the Allegan Credit Union. The monthly fees have gone up to \$10 per month. She reported she wrote 17 checks so far this year. We will save on bank fees. The credit union is located downtown Fennville so location is also a factor. Denise will be able to make this happen by the end of the year. She will provide the necessary legal information and also will be requesting Randy Vogelzang to become the second required signature on the account. A vote was taken in favor of making this change 8-0.

DeGroot Project Committee Report – John Lerg, task force leader. Lisa Winterstruum and 3 others were present to ask questions regarding the DeGroot project. John took the lead and began explaining what the task force is about and what they have accomplished so far. They have collected concerns from area residents. They have contacted the DeGroots and entered into an agreement as to what information is available and what studies have already been done. The questions were regarding the wildlife/forest area and the environmental effects.

John talked about the bald eagle concerns and the Indiana bat. Neither the eagles nor the bats are affected by the changes that are being made to the land. The Michigan Conservancy does not have an interest in accepting the donation of the wetlands because it does not cover a broad enough area. The DeGroots shared with John that they are continuing to make changes to the project as things develop. One woman present expressed her concerns that the DeGroots should be communicating with the residents surrounding the area. Ruthie explained our responsibility as a board and reminded everyone that the DeGroots are willing to speak with anyone personally regarding the project.

The discussion with John Lerg carried over into **Public Input**.

Adjournment

MOTION: Ruthie moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded. Approved (8-0).

7:40 pm

Next Meeting March 15, 2021, 6:30 pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Kym Zwagerman
District Director 6A
Ruthie Malda
President

*Personal note – I'm sorry I did not get the names of the 3 additional residents in attendance. One gentleman and one woman asked a couple questions, another gentleman did not speak. John was very knowledgeable and respectful when talking with them and answering their questions.