HAMILTON LAKE ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the Board of Directors

April 10, 2018

The Hamilton Lake Association Board of Directors met for the first regular meeting of the season at the Town Hall Building on April 10, 2018. Co-President, Cathy Wagenknecht called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. Board members present: Cathy Wagenknecht, Valerie Fetters, Tonya Peters, Peggy Hayden, Jan Miller, Jan Biddle, Dennis Germann, Linda Skelly, Cheryl Silverhart, Jim Wagenknecht, and Clint Nester. Guests in attendance: Bill Miller, Rick Fetters, and Gary Marzolf. Eleven board members, two association members, and one guest for a total of 14 were in attendance.

Clint introduced Gary Marzolf of Naturally DASH & Dredge LLC. His company performs Diver Assisted Suction Harvesting (DASH). The company works to address silt problems from bio mass deteriorate. Approximately 60 days after a chemical weed treatment is done, the DASH method removes the deterioration. This includes dead vegetation, seed pods, and new growth. They work in areas up to 25 ft. depth of water. The vegetation waste is taken to a nearby farm and composts in about 7 months. The cost is approximately $1800.00 / acre. He has done regular work on Perry Lake (Fairview, Michigan). The company also sells equipment to perform this method.

After the presentation, the regular agenda resumed.

Weed Control: Report by Clint Nester. Applied for LARE Grant in January. The Grant is $39,000.00 total ($30k weed spray, $5k aquatic vegetation mgm’t, and $4k mapping). Clint presented the 2018 weed treatment bids from 5 companies. After discussion, a motion was made first by Jim Wagenknecht and second by Tonya Peters to accept the bid from Aquatic Enhancement & Survey, Inc. (Scott Banfield). Motion carried. There was more discussion regarding the DASH method. It seems this would be costly. It may have better results on a sandy bottom lake, ours is muck bottom. Our plan has been working. The question came up, what would IDEM and the DNR say?

Membership and Communication: Trine is working on our data base & web-site. We need to advertise local and post on face book the annual meeting scheduled for June 16.

Wildlife: The swan and geese are nesting now.

Grievance and General Welfare:

* Environment Concerns: CAFO and Water Quality. Discussion took place regarding a March 2018 meeting between Pete Hippensteel, Noah Schmucker, and Michael Holman. Communication has been established. Cheryl spoke about 2 apps available to mention in the minutes and/or on the website: 1) Bloom Watch and 2) Great Lakes GLEDN.
* Buoys: Placement is scheduled for April 25, back up date April 26. Purchased new “No Wake” buoys, replacing old ones.
* Pontoon: An e-mail vote was taken and approval made to purchase a re-furbished 22 ft. pontoon from Stan Atha. Price is $2,000.00. Pontoon has new decking, tubes, etc. The old pontoon has holes in the toons, floor is shot, and railings are shot. In trade for the old pontoon, Clarks Landing Marina will transfer cables, engine, and etc.

Treasurer’s Report: Report by Dennis Germann. Total income $41,759.00. Note: Weed spray & membership invoices went out earlier this year. Noteworthy expenses: Buoys $2,330.00, Aqua Vegetation Mgm’t for last year $4,700.00 (Note: we will get back $3,760.00 for last year). Total expenses $10,236.00. Bank balance as of 3/31/18 is $329,051.00. Estimated 2018 Aquatic Weed Contract is $100,000.00. Tonight, Jan Biddle turned in $560.00 for HL Stickers sold late fall and winter. The stickers were sold at the Party Store and the Town Hall. It is time to order flags and decals. Color this year is Lime Green with White Lettering. Need to order 700 flags. Dennis distributed a copy of a letter from the DNR regarding regulations on docks and seawalls. Copies should be made and distributed at the annual meeting and posted on the web-site. Dennis asked the board if we wanted to donate again this year $500.00 to the Steuben County Lakes Council for water testing. A motion to do so was made by Tonya Peters and second by Peggy Hayden. Motion carried. Also it was voted to make a donation to the Hamilton Baseball League. A motion to donate at the $200.00 Level, receiving recognition on the Sponsor Board was made by Jan Biddle and second by Peggy Hayden.

Cathy Wagenknecht is putting together a welcome packet for new residents to Hamilton Lake. Items include: Welcome Letter, Newsletter, Web-Site Information, List of Directors, Membership Form, DNR Boating Laws, Chamber Information, Brief History of the Lake, HL Directory (Lions Club), and Lake Map with District Board Representatives.

Legislative and Council Coordination:

* Hamilton Town Council: Peggy Hayden will attend meetings.
* Steuben County Lakes Council: Report by Jim Wagenknecht. 1) Continue to do water quality testing at 64 sites. 2) Lake Gage is having a Carp Rodeo. 3) Jimmerson Lake is dredging & pulling out stumps. They are using a company out of Missouri. 4) Snow Lake, no grant for weed control. 5) CAFO.
* Chamber of Commerce: Jim Wagenknecht will attend meetings.
* LED Sign Committee: New this year. Jan Biddle will serve on committee. Purpose – Determine content/what goes on sign. This is a town community sign.

**Old Business:**

* Board of Directors: The following have agreed to serve on the board:

Jama Watkins District #1

Jan Miller District #2

Cheryl Silverhart District #4

A motion to vote these representatives on the board was made by Jim Wagenknecht and second by Jan Biddle. Motion carried. We now have and are starting the 2018 season with a full Board of 15 Members.

**New Business:**

* Annual Meeting: June 16, 2018. Contact DNR and Pete Hippensteel about attending as Guest Speakers.
* Raffle: Lily Pad. 18ft. Cost is $375.00 + shipping, and $45.00 for a storage bag. A motion to make purchase was made by Peggy Hayden and second by Jan Biddle. Motion carried. Peggy volunteered to get 1,000 tickets printed and handle ticket sales.
* Boat Poker Run: July 28, 2018 (last Saturday of July). Committee is working on it and will be meeting later this month.
* Logo: Clint inquired if HLA has a logo, and what format it is available (digital)? Discussion took place.
* Shirts: Peggy suggested board members get shirts. Several seemed interested. She will look into options and pricing.
* Dennis Germann announced that this is his last year on the board and is looking for a replacement as treasurer.
* Cathy Wagenknecht shared that there is a meeting on April 24 regarding rain barrels. Information offered by the Purdue Extension Office. Also Clear Lake Conservancy is hosting “Rain Gardens”. Register with the Steuben County Water & Soil.

A motion to adjourn was made by Jim Wagenknecht and second by Peggy Hayden. Motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 8:36 p.m.

Secretary

Linda Skelly