HAMILTON LAKE ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the Board of Directors

October 13, 2020

The Hamilton Lake Association Board met at the Hamilton Town Hall on October 13, 2020 with the following members present: Cathy Wagenknecht, Peggy Hayden, Val Fetters, Linda Skelly, Jan Miller, Toni Justice, Dave Price, and Janet Albright. Guests present: Scott Banfield, Rick Fetters, and Gary Luechauer. Number in attendance: 8 board members, 3 guests, 11 total.

Cathy Wagenknecht called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Scott Banfield gave a report on the Zoom Meeting with Debbie King (IDNR) September 15 and the DNR Zoom Meeting regarding permits on October 6. He talked about native and non-native plants in the lake and treatment. Topics included: benefits, feasibility control of plant cut-off floating in to shoreline, why rarely allowed to use Sonar, recreation (boating, swimming, fishing), and Fluridone (Sonar) treatment. Fluridone treatment stays in the water several months and treats native and non-native plants; the native is not so susceptible to the chemical. The DNR is conservative in this type of treatment; they worry about what could happen. The down side of Fluridone is water quality and possible algae bloom. An all lake treatment of Fluridone would be done in the Spring. With Non-Fluridone options, herbicides would be applied on top of plants (have to wait until plant is there). As plants die, nutrients appear and there is potential for algae bloom. Debbie says treat 5% (40 acres) of native plants. DNR tend to side with anglers, not boaters. Scott read a 2012 news article regarding the use of Sonar at Webster Lake. The topic of residents treating their own beach area (625 sq ft or ½ whichever is less) was again discussed.

Secretary’s Report: Linda Skelly. The September 8, 2020 meeting minutes were reviewed and approved. Motion for approval was made by Janet Albright and second by Toni Justice. Motion carried.

Treasurer’s Report: Val Fetters. Total income this period $2.37 (interest). Total expenses $16,722.12. Ending bank balance September 2020 was $463,818.12.

Membership and Communication: Ginny DeBrunner submitted her resignation from the board. Transition of Membership Chair, Ginny to Cheryl; was discussed. Discussion and decision was made to purchase a brick for the board walk in honor of Ginny and her longtime devoted service to the Hamilton Lake Association. Membership spreadsheets for each district were distributed for updates and changes. Cathy presented a quote from Graphics 3 to produce our newsletter mailing. Two options, 1st Class and Standard Class were discussed. A motion to go forward with the 1st Class option was made by Peggy Hayden and second by Jan Miller. Motion carried. Cathy will put together the next facebook “Did You Know” reminder not to dump leaves in the lake.

Wildlife: Carl will be back on the lake.

Weed Control: Reference Scott’s report above.

Grievance and General Welfare:

* Environmental Concerns/Water Quality: Spreadsheet reporting test results was handed out. There was discussion regarding Pokagon sewer system hook-up and the camp ground future plan. The Steuben County Lakes Council has done testing after the ½” rain needed was received, but no results yet. There will be a Water Quality Meeting on October 16 at 10:00 a.m. located in the Multi-Purpose Room in the Steuben County Community Center.
* Buoys: Jim Wagenknecht. Buoys are out and stored.

Legislative and Council Coordination:

* Hamilton Town Council: Peggy Hayden. Peggy and Jan attended meeting. Topics included: Parks & Recreation, Police Patrol/Department, and Road Re-Surface Project.
* Steuben County Lakes Council: Cathy Wagenknecht. Topics: Spreadsheet hand-out from Pete Hippensteel and “Soundings” newsletter for a membership of $35.00.
* 101 Lakes Trust: Janet Albright. Talked about the Trine Recreation Area and trying to change brochure.

Old Business:

* Janet Albright talked about “The Marine Monitor”, Hamilton High School newsletter/newspaper. A motion to donate $200.00 to support the program was made by Toni Justice and second by Peggy Hayden. Motion carried.

New Business:

* HLA Newsletter Quote: Reference Membership & Communication report above.
* A Thank-You note was received from Richard & Toni Justice.
* Open Board Position – District #5: Think about nominations. Note: Dave will move representation to District #1.

Next Meeting: November 10, 2020.

Motion to adjourn was made by Peggy Hayden and second by Janet Albright. Motion carried and meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Secretary

Linda Skelly