

HAMILTON LAKE ASSOCIATION
Minutes of the Board of Directors
May 12, 2020

The board met at Jim and Cathy Wagenknechts on May 12, 2020 with the following board members present: Cathy Wagenknecht, Valerie Feters, Cheryl Silverhart, Peggy Hayden, Jan Miller, Skip Markland, Karen Piekarski, Janet Albright, Richard Justice, Linda Skelly, Ginny DeBrunner, Tonya Peters, and Jayma Watkins (via telephone). Toni Justice was also present. There were 13 board members and 1 association member present.

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

Secretary's Report: Linda Skelly. The March and April board minutes were presented as e-mailed. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Peggy Hayden and second by Jan Miller. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Valerie Feters. Total weed spray income for April was \$37,642.40. Total Donations were \$6,318.80 (\$5,000 from the Town of Hamilton). Interest income \$2.50 and LARE Grant \$4,000.00. Total income for April was \$47,963.70. Total Expenses for April was \$491.00. The ending bank balance as of April 30, 2020 was \$534,088.45. A motion to approve the report was made by Skip Markland and second by Richard Justice. Motion carried.

Membership and Communication:

- Membership: Ginny DeBrunner. There was discussion related to member correspondence.
- "Did You Know" Campaign: Per Cheryl, this will start in May.
- Website: Per Karen, the website is up and running again.

Wildlife Control:

- Goose Round-Up: Jayma Watkins. Jayma reported that Dennis Heiber applied for the permit. Dennis did the round-up last year along with HLA volunteers. We learned that this year, Dennis can only volunteer. Jayma contacted 3 licensed goose round-up organizations regarding cost:
 - 1) Kokomo: \$800 service charge + \$25/head.
 - 2) Pennville: \$259 service charge + \$25/head.
 - 3) Woodburn: \$0 service charge + \$25/bird with a minimum of 32 birds. *OH*Janet Albright said she spoke with Tom Shank (out of Wauseon), who operates a pest control and goose operation. After discussion, it was decided to have Jayma ask Dennis if we could rent his equipment and the HLA would conduct the goose round-up and in the mean time check further with Tom Shank. The round up would probably take place mid to late June. Later during the meeting, Jayma called and reported that we could rent equipment from Dennis Heiber in the amount of \$350.00. We need to find a preserve to transport the geese. HLA will contact Lance, a DNR representative out of the Pigeon River; Mongo, Indiana area to get this information. A motion was made by Skip Markland and second by Peggy Hayden to rent equipment from Dennis Heiber in the amount of \$350.00 for the HLA annual goose round-up. Motion carried. It was noted that next year we will file for a permit to oil goose eggs. It was also noted that Dave Price and Paul Hayden would oil the eggs next year.
- Swan Permit: Cathy reported it took two months; however, the permit was granted and has been turned over to Carl Voglewede, USDA Wildlife Specialist. Years 2014 through 2019, Dave Price got the permit; however, he has taken his name off the permit.

Weed Control: Cheryl Silverhart. Initially we were denied to treat the curly-leaf pondweed. Due to extensive communication between Scott Banfield and the INDR, treatment was re-considered. It was a month late getting the permit approved; however, on May 6 all curly-leaf was treated. Per Debbie with DNR, eurasian watermilfoil is the biggest concern with the DNR. Hamilton Lake is 1 of 2 lakes in Steuben County that do not have starry stonewort. HLA pays 100% for treatment of curly-leaf. The treatment cost \$52,000.00.

Grievance and General Welfare:

- Buoys: All buoys are in. After discussion, a motion was made by Peggy Hayden and second by Tonya Peters to give a \$30.00 gift certificate from Lakers Restaurant to Larry Starr as a gift of appreciation.

Legislative and Council Coordination:

- Hamilton Town Council: 4th of July fireworks and parade have been cancelled. There will be a parade on July 4th conducted by the Legion. Double H (Justin Stouder) is having a fireworks display. No announcement at this time regarding Summerfest in August. A spontaneous boat parade, not sponsored by anyone may take place on July 4. Jan Biddle will get with Mary Vail to find out more information.
- Steuben County Lakes Council: Cathy reported they held a Zoom meeting. Black Creek counts are good, and e-coli are low. DNA water quality test sites cost \$200/site. Hamilton Lake has 4 DNA sites. Other testing sites cost \$145/site. Discussion took place regarding a one-time donation to the SCLC toward water quality testing above and beyond what we pay for membership dues. Last February we donated \$500.00. A motion to donate \$500.00 was made by Skip Markland and second by Jan Miller. Motion carried. Trine University re-scheduled Earth Day to September; this will take place at Buck Lake Ranch.
- 101 Lakes Trust: Janet reported they met in March. Topics included the bird house contest and the writing competition "I have wings and I can fly".

Old Business:

- 2020 Flags and Decals: After discussion it was decided that the color this year will be orange with navy print. All were in favor. Ginny will get a number for quantity to order. Peggy will order decals.

New Business:

- Poker Run: Tonya reported that the application was filed and the permit was granted. The state will waive the fee if there is an amendment to the permit. The permit cost \$300.00 and it was suggested to amend the permit to next year. If the event were to be held ~~we would not ask for~~ ^{this year,} donations for T-shirt sponsorship. After further discussion, a motion was made by Skip Markland and second by Richard Justice to cancel the 2020 HLA Poker Run. Sadly the motion carried.
- Annual Meeting: The Tow Hall would be limited to a person capacity. We would anticipate approximately 100 people. After discussion a motion was made by Tonya Peters and second by Peggy Hayden to cancel the annual meeting. Motion carried.
- We will continue to educate our membership through the "Did You Know Campaign". We may also have to send out a mailing to inform members of what is happening with the lake.
- Kayak Classes: They have been cancelled, along with all kids programs.
- Welcome Packets: Cathy along with Richard and Toni Justice and Janet Albright will work on the welcome packets.

- Photo Contest: There are over 4,000 people on our facebook. This has been tabled.
- Board of Directors: With the annual meeting being cancelled, it was suggested to keep the same slate of Board of Directors. Sadly, Ginny DeBrunner announced that she would be resigning.

A motion to adjourn was made by Peggy Hayden and second by Tonya Peters. Motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 8:12 p.m.

Next meeting is June 9, 2020.

Secretary
Linda Skelly