

SLIA Annual Meeting Minutes--9/26/2018

Countryside Fire Department Meeting Room

Meeting called to order at 7pm.

Board members present: Gary Goldblatt, Jeanne Peterson, Lynda Throm, Jeri Swanson, Lee Dickinson, and Cliff Gartner.

G. Goldblatt, President, welcomed everyone and thanked the many volunteers of Sylvan Lake including those who help with the website, Shoreline, Garden Club, Eco Chicks and the SLIA board.

Tom Powell moved, seconded by Donn Hamm, to approve the 2017 Annual Meeting minutes. The motion was unanimously approved by voice vote.

Mary Fortman with Openlands (847-548-5989x37) spoke about native buffer zones and Conservation@Home. She explained that residents can request a free grant-supported one hour appointment to learn how to connect with the environment in a positive way on their properties. They will review how to identify native and invasive species and how to treat problems. Properties can also gain certification for clean water and healthy soil. She reminded individuals of the upcoming native plant sale this fall.

ILM representative, Kelley Blake, discussed the work being done in Maple and Ravinia. She described She reported that they are currently hand pulling invasive plants, cutting buckthorn, and using herbicides.

Vice President, J. Peterson, gave her report which included a review of the updated Rules and Regulations. Several members expressed concern over the process used to update the R&R and asked about oversight regarding enforcement. She explained that members were notified that the R&R were being updated and that they are fluid. She explained the enforcement process including hearings. She also explained that a phone directory can be accessed and printed from the SLIA website with a password. She reported that the cost of insurance increased a little.

G. Goldblatt gave the Treasurer's report due to not having a current Treasurer. He explained that volunteers help decrease costs in the neighborhood. He reported that attorney fees have decreased this year but there are 4 members who still owe assessment fees. He explained that with unexpected costs due to erosion problems and falling trees as well as fixed costs that are slowly increasing in the neighborhood we have to think of the neighborhood's financial health; SLIA has been operating at approximately \$11000 deficit the past several years. He believes there are 3 options: reduce services, raise assessments, or decrease reserves. Discussed the budget for 2019. The board answered questions members had. Mike Trahan motioned, Nick Tonkery seconded, to raise assessment fees from \$300-\$400/year as of Jan 1, 2019. 31 yays and 2 nays were counted and the motion was approved. Mike Trahan motioned, Sam Ford seconded, to approve the budget with the updated assessment fees factored in as income and the motion was approved.

Committee Reports: Written committee reports were distributed for members to review. A couple board members and other volunteers also provided short verbal statements.

Parks/Easements/Environment: J. Swanson explained that using fertilizer with nitrates is ok but with phosphorus is bad for the lake's health. She reported that the township will clean up brush twice a year (after cleanup day).

Garden Club: Kelly Dickinson reminded members of the upcoming Garden Club Party at Sheri Liss' home and the bake sale at Oktoberfest.

Shoreline Newsletter: Donn Hamm encouraged members continued contributions for the newsletter.

Oktoberfest: Chris Seidner thanked people who have volunteered for the party 10/6 and requested more volunteers. She stated that they specifically need help with the tent. She explained that they are trying new band and new food options. They are having face painting, hayrides, and a pumpkin decorating contest.

Board member vote: L Dickinson explained that he will be stepping down from the board and was thanked for his volunteer work. J. Peterson was nominated by G Goldblatt, seconded by Donn Hamm. L Thom was nominated by G Goldblatt, seconded by J Peterson. Tom Truffer was nominated by L Dickinson, seconded by Sam Ford. Ed Meltzer was nominated by J Peterson and seconded by Sam Ford. All four motions were approved by voice vote.

Members' Forum:

Mary Haroun asked about placing Book Exchange boxes in the neighborhood. It was approved with her in charge of upkeep.

Al Grandt asked about paddle boat storage. A discussion ensued regarding boat storage policies. Janice Powell motioned, Dan Trahan seconded, to change the Rules to state "no watercraft on the beach 11/15-3/15. It was approved by majority vote.

Donn Hamm asked for an update on the dam project but the board did not have an update.

Next board meeting is October 17, 2018 at 7:30pm in the Countryside firehouse meeting room.

Dave Mizriak moved, seconded by Helena Sullivan to adjourn the meeting at 9:11pm. The motion was unanimously approved by voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,
Lynda Thom, Secretary